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CII presents Economic Agenda for Action to the new Government

CII presented its suggestions on an 'Economic Agenda for Action' to the Government, outlining some interventions that are required to make the Indian economy more resilient and competitive. The suggested agenda stresses on policies to promote employment and growth across the key sectors of agriculture, industry and services, with a strong focus on driving investment in infrastructure and manufacturing

The economy has had to face significant challenges over the last year due to the onset of the global economic crisis. During this period, CII worked steadfastly with the Government, suggesting ways to deal with the impact of the crisis on the Indian economy.

CII believes that the economy is now turning around, and the crisis can be turned into an opportunity if the right policies are now followed. With a new government in place, and significantly, one with a strong mandate, CII took up the opportunity to prepare a comprehensive economic agenda and present it to the government.

The agenda has been presented by CII to Dr Manmohan Singh's new government. It was also released by Mr Venu Srinivasan, President, CII, in New Delhi on 29 May.

Releasing the paper, Mr. Srinivasan said, "It is imperative that the Government takes concrete steps in strengthening policies to promote employment and growth across the key sectors of agriculture, industry and services, along with driving investment in infrastructure and manufacturing. We would volunteer for an opportunity to work with the Government in a spirit of collaboration."

Welcoming the new UPA Government, Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said, "We urge the government to take the lead in creating an enabling environment on the roadmap for economic recovery. Our recommendations in the 'Economic Agenda for Action' are targeted at supporting government initiatives in that direction'.

Addressing the resilience and competitiveness of the Indian economy, CII's key recommendations include monetisation of fiscal deficit and reducing the interest rates, to counter large government borrowings which are negating the efforts of the RBI. The report noted that the Government would have to undertake policy measures for the short term as well as for the medium and long term, and has accordingly presented its suggestions.

While the CII report is comprehensive and covers most sectors of the economy, CII believes that the government should focus on some key sectors in order to overcome critical bottlenecks. Broadly, the greatest challenges faced by the economy today are the following:

- First, the spending on **infrastructure** needs

to be stepped up significantly. Otherwise, infrastructure bottlenecks, be it in roads, ports, airports or urban amenities, will constrain economic growth and curtail the aspiration of the people. Additional spending on infrastructure is also a good way to kick-start the economy due to the strong multiplier effects it will generate through an immediate increase in employment.

- Second, India needs to emerge as a strong player in the **manufacturing** sector on par with its strength in services. This is the best way to ensure inclusive growth in an economy where the skill levels of a large percentage of the population are not very high. The Indian manufacturing sector needs to emerge as a strong and competitive player in order to face global competition.

- Third, it is necessary to increase productivity in the **agriculture** sector, which provides employment to over 65% of the population but generates only 17% of GDP. This will not be possible till some of the surplus labour is absorbed outside agriculture. But measures to link agricultural produce to markets both through the creation of physical infrastructure and by removing restrictions on the movement of produce will go a long way in developing a strong rural economy.

Towards much-needed reforms in agriculture, the paper calls for effective redesign of the Model APMC Act for particular sectors such as mandis and horticulture for uniform implementation. It also recommends moving



Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, and Venu Srinivasan, President, CII, at the release of the CII 'Economic Agenda for Action'

towards a common market for farm produce. CII has called for the incentivisation of private investment in agriculture, agri infrastructure and extension services, and has urged the government to create policies geared for building linkages between farms and markets. Food safety and quality regulations

should also be implemented, added CII.

- Fourth, it is imperative to improve literacy levels and enhance **vocational training** of a larger percentage of the population through emphasis on education and skills. Today, the unemployability of the youth is a bigger crisis than unemployment itself. As many as 53% of employed youth suffer from some degree of skill deprivation, while only 8% of youth are unemployed. There is a disconnect between the output of the educational institutions and the requirements of industry, which needs to be bridged.

A large number of recommendations in the CII report pertain to the social sector. In skill development, CII believes that education must be linked to employability with courses available at the 6th-8th grade levels. It also believes that liberalisation of the higher education

sector must take place through self-accreditation, overhauling UGC, educational loans, and autonomy to set fees.

In addition to the challenges outlined above, there is also the immediate challenge of **reviving the economy**. For this purpose, the report recommends further reduction in policy rates, a one-time monetization of the fiscal deficit, immediate

Key Recommendations at a Glance

- Quick disinvestment of profit-making PSUs to assist fiscal management
- Reduce repo and reverse repo rates by at least 50 basis points to 4.25% and 2.75% respectively
- Monetise fiscal deficit
- Reduce interest rates by at least 50 basis points
- Labour reforms: Amend Chapter V B of the IDA Act – Raise the limit from 100 workers to 500
- Allow Government to acquire land for industrial purposes and establish land banks for non-cultivable land
- Raise FDI limit in insurance to 49% and allow 26% FDI in pension fund management
- Implement GST at 12% by April 2010
- Liberalise Higher Education

implementation of specific infrastructure projects, reviving the disinvestment plan in public sector units and providing some incentives to the exports sector.

In particular, CII is concerned that high borrowing levels of the government may prevent interest rates from coming down in line with the fall in inflation. Therefore, the government must pay attention to fiscal management, to ensure that the increase in the deficit that was necessary to fight recessionary conditions does not become permanent.

A key suggestion is to fast-track projects such as the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP), Dedicated Freight Corridors, ports and airports, through a single window agency. Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) and low-cost housing and urban infrastructure under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) are other top priorities identified by CII for expenditure and action.

The paper urges the government to promote public-private partnership in infrastructure by easing norms and financing mechanisms. It also moots the establishment of Land Bank Corporations to acquire non-cultivable land to ease land acquisition.

In the **power** sector, CII suggests concerted initiatives to alleviate the constraints, with immediate changes to pricing and tax policies and longer term measures, such as coal sector reforms, for adding capacity.

The paper calls for the Electronic Data Interchange to be enabled at all customs stations and concessional marketing assistance loans for reputed exporters, especially in the SME sector. Incentives for investments in Africa and Latin America would help boost exports in new markets.

CII has strongly recommended the introduction of GST of 12% by April 2010 in order to increase the share of manufacturing in the economy and also in generating employment. The paper calls for a National Manufacturing Policy focusing on domestic value addition and promotional measures that would help meet targets for employment and technology. Private sector participation in defence production should also be encouraged by creating a 'level playing field' between private and public manufacturers and increasing projects in the 'Make' category.

In a special section on **MSME competitiveness**, the

paper asks for funds to be designated for technology adaptation and full depreciation on IT equipment to mitigate the effects of the economic crisis on this group. Other procedural and administrative matters must also be rationalised by the Central and State Governments and local bodies. According to CII, to reach advanced country levels, there is a strong need to stimulate industrial technology, R&D and innovation through facilitative fiscal policies and incentives, through the adoption of a comprehensive approach.

CII has called for the designation of infrastructure status to Healthcare and Tourism, and recommends granting industry status to retail. The report highlights the concerns of key services sectors that can play a critical role in the economy, including healthcare, tourism, retail, telecommunications, design and entertainment.

Noting that higher broadband penetration has the potential to create 25.85 million jobs by 2014, with 20.68 million of these in rural India, CII suggests that taxation and fees in the sector must be re-examined, among others.

CII calls for raising the FDI in insurance to 49% and in pension fund management to 26%. Pending legislation in banking, insurance and pensions must also be

expedited. The paper accords precedence to financial inclusion through liberal branch expansion and a national biometric identity card. The corporate debt market must be expanded and increased access to international debt markets facilitated, suggests CII.

CII recommends the increase in the public expenditure on health from 0.9% to 3% of the GDP and incentivisation of private sector participation.

Appreciating that many initiatives of the government have started impacting the economy positively, CII believes that this is a good opportunity to take further steps towards strengthening the Indian economy and its various sectors.

This is an important moment in the history of the Indian economy – a time when India can establish its unique model of growth and development. With the right policies in place, it will not be difficult to attract capital, which will be drawn to centres of growth. The CII 'Agenda for Action' underscores Industry's keenness to partner the Government's endeavors to bolster the economy, towards more sustainable and inclusive development in the years to come. ■





CII Pre-Budget Recommendations call for an 'Investment Budget'

- Fiscal Prudence
- Capacity Creation
- Fueling Consumption
- Promoting Investment

CII's Pre-Budget Memorandum, presented to the Ministry of Finance, has recommended that Budget 2009-10 should be an 'Investment Budget' to enable India to deal with the global economic crisis and aim at leading the economy to a 8% plus growth in the coming year. Action would need to be taken on fiscal prudence, capacity creation, promoting investments and fuelling consumption, stressed the memorandum, adding that external forces are unlikely to provide a facilitative environment for India's economic growth in the near future, and that the impetus for the economy would need to originate internally.

Notably, recognizing the stress on fiscal situation, CII has not called for lowering of key excise and direct tax rates. Instead, it emphasizes that India needs to undertake large 'Innovative India' **investments in physical and social infrastructure** that would accelerate internal growth momentum, so that gross capital formation in Infrastructure reaches 11% of GDP by 2011-12. Further, an infrastructure monitoring and implementation agency

needs to be set up to raise efficiency of expenditure, suggested CII.

The CII memorandum additionally emphasizes promoting investments by sending a clear message to investors that India's tax policies are consistent and have continuity. Investment allowance should be re-introduced to encourage front-loading of investments. However, to simplify and streamline the tax structure, CII suggests that surcharges, cesses, FBT and MAT should be abolished.

To **fuel domestic consumption** as a growth accelerator, the CII memorandum calls for easing individual tax exemption limits by a further Rs 50,000 and removing retirement fund limits. It suggests that limits allowed under section 80C to Individuals and HUF should be raised to Rs. 2 lakh, provided the additional Rs. 1 lakh savings is in infrastructure bonds.

This Union Budget should also continue the focus on **education and skill development**, which have been highlights of previous Budgets, stresses CII.

In particular, allocation for the National Skill Development Corporation could be increased to kickstart new initiatives for youth. In addition, technological capital needs a boost through increasing the R&D expenditure to at least 1% of GDP. To encourage companies to undertake in-house scientific research and commissioned R&D, the weighted deduction of 150% of the expenses incurred on scientific research should be extended to all sectors for a further period of at least 10 years.

CII suggests that additional public funds for these initiatives could be mobilized through **disinvestment in select PSUs**, attracting foreign exchange by issuing sovereign-backed bonds, and widening the tax base as well as maintaining the pace of efficiency in tax collection. The Government could consider setting up a task force for examining widening of the tax net for corporates and individuals without increasing the tax burden on existing assesseees. Tapping of black money in the economy as well as overseas needs to be addressed, while redirecting non-merit subsidies to productive investments for asset creation could also be considered.

The key **direct tax recommendations** of the CII memorandum include increasing depreciation rates for plant and machinery from 15% to 25%, and introducing an Investment Allowance package for businesses for cost savings. For export units, removal of the sunset clause for STP units under section 10A and EOU under section 10B is suggested. Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) for technology upgradation for MSMEs needs to continue and be extended for all possible technical upgradations / modernisations.

The CII memorandum also suggests that an alternative dispute redressal mechanism be established at the earliest. Any anti-avoidance measures to prevent abuse of tax treaties, which involve changes in existing tax basis or positions, should be made effective prospectively after giving sufficient lead time for the company to exit.

On the **indirect taxes** front, the CII memorandum strongly stresses that Goods and Services Tax should be implemented on schedule on April 1, 2010, adding that a single unified rate of 12% would spur creation of a unified single market. In preparation for introduction of GST, CST rate should be brought down to 1%.

Further, there should be no change in peak customs duty at 10%, given the current global economic slowdown. The CII submission recommends reduction of customs



duty from 5% to 'nil' on non-coking coal, petroleum coke and scrap of copper, zinc and lead, reduction of customs duty from 5% to 2% on naphtha and liquified propane, and reduction of customs to 'nil' on inputs used for manufacture of orthopedic implants.

The CII memorandum also calls for continuation of 8% excise duty in general, and reduction of excise duty from 16% to 8% on medicines covered under the Medical and Toilet Preparation (M&TP) Act. Service tax payment in case of comprehensive annual maintenance contracts should be simplified by charging on a specified percentage value of the contract, suggests CII.

Selected Recommendations

Tax Proposals - Indirect

Goods & Service Tax (GST)

- Adhere to schedule of introduction of GST w.e.f 1st April 2010 and for this purpose, announce a time schedule for each important step such as Issuing a White Paper on model and rate of GST for public comments, Placement of draft GST Bill for clearance by Parliament; and Finalizing the GST legislation and Rule.
- The most preferred option is a unified, single rate of 12% for GST. This would be the biggest stimulus package for economic revival and the first step towards unification of the Indian market.

Customs Duty

- No change of peak rate (most common rate) of 10% in view of the slowdown of the economy
- Existing customs duty rate slabs of 10%, 7.5%, 5%, 2% and nil in general to continue

Excise Duty

- Continue with the general rate of 8% Excise Duty

Central Sales Tax (CST)

- Reduce rate from 2% to 1%.

Tax Proposals - Direct

Corporate Taxation

- Goodwill should be included as a depreciable intangible asset.
- Eliminate the cascading effect of DDT by deleting clause (c) of subsection 1A of Sec 115(O).
- Fringe Benefit Tax to be abolished or to be allowed as a credit against income tax or MAT payable.
- MAT should be abolished, or at least the increase

in the rate should be withdrawn i.e. to be brought down to 5%.

- Depreciation rates for plant and machinery to be raised from 15% to 25%.
- Special depreciation scheme i.e. 100% depreciation, once in a block of three financial years, be considered in respect of ICT equipment and software consumption in MSMEs.
- Surcharge and cess to be abolished, so as to have one single rate of taxation.
- To help industry make some headway through difficult times, an Investment Allowance package to be introduced, which would mean considerable cost savings for businesses.



Corporate Restructuring

- The benefit under Section 72A to be extended to financial companies and other service sectors
- Relaxation in the conditions required to be fulfilled under Section 72A for facilitating restructuring.
- The benefit of Section 72A to be allowed for a longer period i.e. 12 years in place of 8 years.

Research and Development

- To encourage companies to undertake in-house scientific research and commissioned R&D, the weighted deduction of 150% of the expenses incurred on scientific research should be extended to all sectors for a further period of at least 10 years.
- To create a central R&D fund for undertaking the much needed research requirement of SMEs, a weighted tax deduction of 200% may be allowed for contribution made by industry to this fund.
- Weighted deduction of 150% on agri-inputs, crop development and agriculture extension by private companies
- Consider the seed sector (production, processing and distribution) at par with infrastructure industry and provide benefits under Income Tax Act 80 IA & 80 IB
- Research on Seeds, including hybrid and transgenic Seeds, may be provided 150% Income Tax exemption
- Facilitate and incentivise consumer value creation through taste and convenience innovation. Allow 3 years' accelerated depreciation of 200% on R&D for new units in Food Processing and Packaging
- Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) for

technology upgradation for MSMEs to continue and also be extended for all possible technical upgradations / modernisations.

Exports

Removal the Sunset Clause for STP units under Section 10A and EOU under Section 10B.

Infrastructure

- Infrastructure facility to include rural based initiatives, hotel industry, gas, transportation and distribution projects for the purpose of deduction under Section 80-1A.
- The tax benefit under Section 80(1A) available to assesseees developing infrastructure facilities, should be extended to a third party, that has procured such development assignments from SPV.
- Tax exemption under Section 10(23G) on the interest and long term capital gains in the hands of infrastructure capital companies derived from lending/investment made in approved eligible infrastructure projects, to be reinstated.
- Fiscal benefit available under Section 80-IA to power projects should be extended further till March 31, 2015.
- Benefit under Section 80 IA should be extended to private sector companies who have invested in modifying the existing transmission and distribution network of State governments, which they have acquired.

Others

- MAT, if not abolished overall, should be removed from infrastructure companies.
- Encourage the participation of the private sector the in development of the healthcare industry
- Any anti-avoidance measures to prevent abuse of tax treaties which involve changes in existing tax basis or positions to be made effective prospectively after giving sufficient lead time for the company to exit.
- Wealth Tax to be abolished.
- The amendment via the Finance Act 2008 to the definition of Charitable Purpose and Taxation of Industry Association to be dropped.
- Commodity Transaction Tax to be withdrawn.
- Explanation to Section 73 related to deemed speculation loss ought to be deleted.
- Alternative dispute redressal mechanism to be established at the earliest. ■

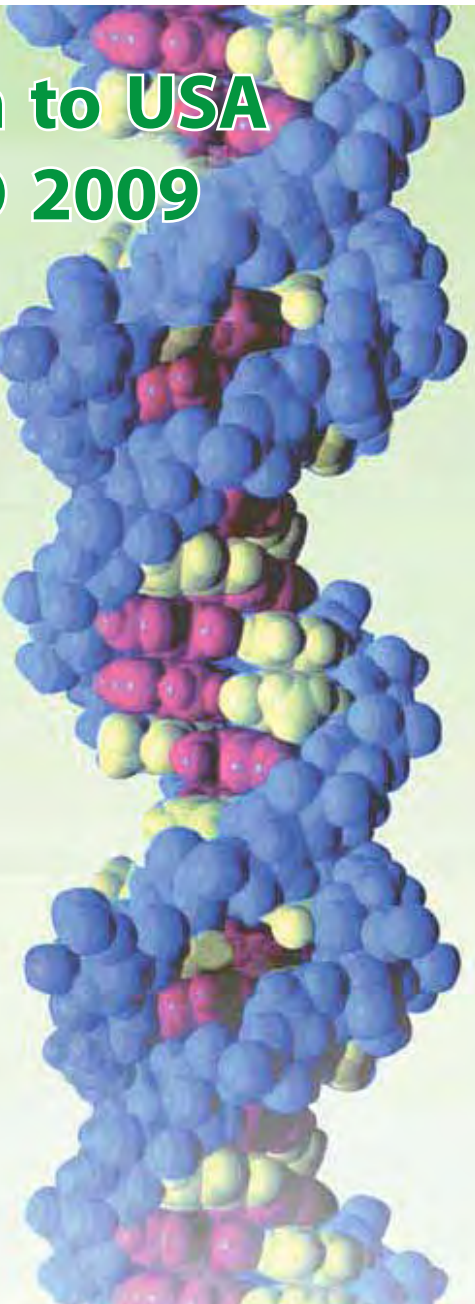
Biotechnology Mission to USA & India Pavilion at BIO 2009

The Confederation of Indian Industry organised the 'India Pavilion' at BIO 2009 in Atlanta, USA, between 18-21 May, in association with the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and the Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE). The BIO International Convention is the world's largest annual event for the Biotechnology industry. A 40-member industry and government delegation participated in the 8th CII Biotechnology Mission to USA, coinciding with BIO 2009, led by Mr Ramesh Adige, President, Corporate Affairs & Global Corporate Communications; Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.

Around 26 exhibitors from the Biotech industry, Research & Development organisations, Law firms and Biotech parks participated in the India Pavilion, receiving a good number of enquires from US and other international companies for business development and research alliance.

CII had productive interactions with officials of the John Hopkins University, resulting in mutual consent for launching of online certificate programmes in the areas of Clinical Trials and Biotechnology. CII also had discussions with authorities of the National Institute of Health (NIH) and Emory University to promote clinical trial initiatives in India. The NIH has expressed interest in signing a MoU with CII to promote Clinical Research.

The mission members visited the Parker H Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience, Georgia Tech, one of the top Bioengineering schools in USA. At the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), America's premier research centre operating under the US Department of Health and Human Service, they interacted with Dr Henry Falk, Director, Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention. The Indian team also visited the Emory Winship Cancer Institute and the Emory Vaccine Centre (EVC). Day one of the



CII Biotechnology mission members at the Disease Control and Prevention Centre with Dr Henry Falk, Director, Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention (extreme left)

mission ended with a reception hosted by the Georgia Indo American Chambers of Commerce (GIACC).

On Day 2, the mission members had an interactive session with representatives of the Center for NanoBiotechnology, Alabama State University (ASU). ASU has expressed interest to sign a MoU with the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, and CII, for a scientist exchange programme and research collaboration. Thereafter, they met members of the Georgia Innovation Crescent (GIC). CII will sign a MoU with GIC later this year to promote research alliance and technology transfer among Indian companies and GIC members.

India Session

CII organised an India Session on 19 May on 'India: Insight into success stories of Clinical Research.' Dr SP Vasireddi, Chairman & Managing Director, Vimta Labs Ltd and Chairman, ACRO (India), chaired the session, which was addressed by Dr P K Tandon, Senior Vice President, Genzyme Corporation, and Mr Venkat Jasti, Managing Director, Suven Lifesciences and Chairman, Pharmexcil, among others.

India Evening

A networking evening on 19 May at the India Pavilion, was addressed by Ms. Banashri Bose Harrison, Minister Commerce, Embassy of India, Washington DC, and Dr. Lynn Johnson Langer, Director, Biotechnology, John Hopkins University, USA and president-elect of Women in Bio2009, the Guests of Honour. The networking evening was a good opportunity for Indian exhibitors to develop business contacts.

Indo-US HTCG Meeting

On the sidelines of Bio 2009, the Indo-US High Technology Cooperation Group (HTCG), and the Biotechnology and Life Sciences Working Group met on 20 May, where a private public sector session was followed by a government to government session. The discussions focused on topics like the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Plans for India, Business Climate in India, IPR, and Skill-building. The key outcome of the private-public session was that a consortium would be formed between the two Governments and CII would facilitate the promotion of research alliance and technology collaboration between the two countries.

Ms. Harrison led the meeting from the Indian side, with Ms. Holly Vineyard, Dy Assistant Secretary for Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, US Department of Commerce, from the US side. ■



Ramesh Adige, Mission Leader, CII Biotechnology Mission, and President, Corporate Affairs & Global Corporate Communications, Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd and Dr Vijay Chandru, Chairman and CEO, Strand Life Sciences, inaugurating the India Pavilion at BIO 2009



Indian delegates with representatives of the Center for Nano-biotechnology, Alabama State University



Banashri Bose Harrison, Minister, Commerce, Embassy of India, Washington DC



Dr. Lynn J Langer, Director, Biotechnology, John Hopkins University, and President-elect, Women in Bio 2009



At the India Session: Dr P K Tandon, Sr VP, Genzyme Corporation, Venkat Jasti, MD, Suven Lifesciences, & Chairman, Pharmexcil, and Dr S P Vasireddi, CMD, Vimta Labs Ltd and Chairman ACRO (India)



The Confederation of Indian Industry has been effectively positioning the Indian entertainment industry on the global landscape, through participation in events such as the prestigious Cannes Film Market.

This year again, CII organised the participation of several Indian entertainment companies at the Cannes Film Market from 13-22 May. The companies showcased their upcoming projects through market screenings.

CII, along with the UB Group, also organised an 'India Party' at the spectacular 'Le Grand Jardin'- the private residence of Dr Vijay Mallya, Chairman, UB Group, on the island of St Marguerite at Cannes.

India showcased its soft power in a grand style at the event which was graced by the who's who of global showbiz — who were mesmerized by the music, dance and Indian aura.

The India party provided networking opportunities with business and creative professionals from the entertainment sector across the world.

Ms Sushma Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Mr Ranjan Mathai, Ambassador of India to France, Mr Bernard



from top:

Ranjan Mathai, Ambassador of India to France, Jerome Paillard, Executive Director, Marche du Film and Dr. Vijay Mallya, Chairman, UB Group

Film personalities Deepti Naval and Manisha Koirala

Film personalities Hrithik Roshan and Barbara Mori

Brochand, Mayor of Cannes, Mr Francis Lamy, Prefect of Nice, Mr Jerome Paillard, Head of Marche Du Films, Mr Christian Jeune, Festival De Cannes, Mr V B Pyarelal, Joint Secretary (Films) I&B Ministry, S.M Khan, Director, Directorate of Film Festival of India and Dr Vijay Mallya, attended the India Party.

Several film personalities including Mr Subhash Ghai, Mr Rakesh Roshan, Mr Hrithik Roshan, Ms Barbara Mori, Mr Ashok Amritraj and Ms Manisha Koirala attended the India Party at Cannes. Key representatives of Indian film companies, the UK Film Council, the European Producers Club, film commissions, buyers and sales agents also gathered at the event.

Over 50 Indian companies visited Cannes with a clear focus to buy, sell and co-produce films and offer offshore services in India.

from top

Prasoon Joshi, Reliance Big Entertainment, Hrithik Roshan and Asit Mittal, Producer, Shivkala Motion Pictures

V B Pyarelal, Joint Secretary (Films), Ministry of I & B, with Mrs Pyarelal



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'India's IT Prowess should be reflected in the Defence Domain'

India's image as a global leader in IT should be reflected in the national defence domain. The IT industry therefore, needs to come up with indigenous products for the transformation of defence, by developing futuristic products for the military and also make a global impression by exporting such capabilities, declared Mr. A K Antony, Union Minister for Defence. He was speaking at Defcom India 2009, organised by CII and the Integrated Head Quarters of MoD (Army), Corps of Signals in New Delhi on 27 May.

The seminar, with the theme of 'Informatics for Defence Transformation and Technology Development in the Information Age' saw the participation of over 400 delegates and 100 plus companies. The Defence Minister also inaugurated a complementary exposition, which showcased 41 companies. The conference was supported by virtual connectivity with army officials in Pune, Udhampur, Kolkata, Lucknow and Chandimandir.

Mr. Antony called for integrating the public and private sector for a positive shift in defence production, urging a move from a 'Buy' to a 'Make' strategy. The Government would lay more emphasis in categorising projects in 'Make' category, he added.

The Minister stated that the transformation of the defence services is a continuing process. In the context of the present military scenario, transformation requires developing parallel capacities; evolution of new products; audit and analysis of systems; capability achievement by developing new hardware and software for the sector, he said.

Gen. Deepak Kapoor, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, ADC, Chief of the Army Staff, noted that the dimension



A K Antony, Minister for Defence, flanked by (L-R) Gen Deepak Kapoor, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, ADC, Chief of the Army Staff, Lt Gen P Mohapatra, AVSM, Signal Officer in Chief and Sr. Col. Commandant, Integrated HQ of MoD (Army), Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII, and Jt Chairman and MD, Jubilant Organosys Ltd and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII

of war has changed from platform-centric to network-centric warfare. This calls for a strong information grid and enhanced capabilities of situational awareness, backed by a fail-proof communications network for the Armed Forces, he said, inviting industry to develop innovative solutions at an affordable cost.

Lt Gen P Mohapatra, AVSM, Signal Officer in Chief and Sr. Colonel Commandant, Integrated HQ of

MoD (Army) said that, in the information age, the concepts of precision and battlefield transparency should be supported by synchronised army information infrastructure. The ICT development canvas in the defence sector is very large, with manifold issues like information sharing, security concerns, pan-India presence, standards and framework, he observed. The foremost step is to identify and select appropriate technology, backed by in-house introspections and simplicity in operation and maintenance, etc.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Mr. Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII, and Joint Chairman and Managing Director, Jubilant Organosys Ltd, said the private sector should be encouraged to enter defence, as the public sector alone will not be able to absorb the huge amount of offsets to be generated in the coming years. We need to combine the skills of public and private sector into a partnership to achieve self-reliance in defence production, he said.

Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said that industry urgently needs to define and refine the concepts of the defence industry's communication needs. CII hopes that this seminar would provide industry a futuristic outlook on the military's communication technology needs, he added. ■



Driving Growth during Economic Crisis

The Global Industrial R&D Conclave was organised on the occasion of National Technology Day

CII and the Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (GITA) in partnership with the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, organised the Global Industrial R&D Conclave on the occasion of National Technology Day, on 11-12 May, in New Delhi. The central theme of the conclave was 'Strategies to drive growth and boost R&D in times of economic crisis'.

The Conclave focussed on issues such as strategies of industry, government initiatives to stimulate innovation and attract investment, industry-academia-government partnership and Venture Funding.

The Embassy of Sweden and the Embassy of Finland partnered CII for the event. A delegation of senior representatives from VINNOVA, the Swedish governmental agency for Innovation, participated the Conclave.

Mr. Ajay Chowdhary, Chairman CII National Committee on Technology & Innovation, and Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, HCL Infosystems Ltd, in his welcome address, stated that technology and innovation are crucial for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Distinguished speakers from countries with a high Global Innovation Index, including Finland, Sweden, Israel, and UK, as well as India, spoke of their countries' initiatives to stimulate R&D and innovation in the paradigm of the economic crisis.

Amongst them were Prof. SK Brahmachari, Director

General, CSIR, India, Dr. R Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Mr. Petri Peltonen, Director General, Innovation Department, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Finland, Mr. Anders Sjoberg, Charges d' Affaires, Embassy of Sweden, Ms. Haya Miller, Deputy Managing Director, MATIMOP, the Israeli industry centre for R&D and Dr. Sylvia Schwaag Serger, Director & Head, International Collaboration and Networks, VINNOVA, Sweden.

Technocrats from leading global innovative firms like Rolls-Royce, Intel, Research In Motion, Boeing, TCS, ABB, Vaisala Oyj, Infosys Technologies Ltd., Moser Baer and Nokia Siemens Networks discussed how R&D investments and innovation strategies can help companies remain leaders in this competitive world. Distinguished speakers like Mr. Samuel Carlson, World Bank, Dr. Devang Khakhar, Director, IIT Bombay, and Mr. Saurabh Srivastava, Chairman, Indian Venture Capital Association shared their thoughts on encouraging and supporting commercial research.

CII and DST have promoted GITA to manage and promote bilateral/multilateral industrial R&D cooperation with other countries. The Global Industrial R&D Conclave has been institutionalised as an annual event, from this year onwards, to coincide with National Technology Day, and bring together the R&D community to discuss opportunities and challenges in the contemporary context.



Dr. Y P Kumar, Head International Cooperation, DST, India, Anders Sjoberg, Chargés d' Affaires, Embassy of Sweden, Prof. S K Brahmachari, Secretary, DSIR & DG, CSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, India, Dr. Petri Peltonen, Director General, Innovation Dept, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Finland, and Ajay Chowdhry, Chairman, CII National Committee on Technology & Innovation, and Chairman & CEO, HCL Infosystems Ltd



Confederation of Indian Industry



Seminar on, “Accreditation of Hospitals”

4th July 2009, Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

One of the most prominent components of the quality healthcare is the Accreditation of Hospitals, which is still in its nascent stages in India. To have a closer look and in-depth deliberations on the current status of Hospital Accreditation and its processes, CII in collaboration with QCI/NABH is organizing a **One-day Seminar**, “Accreditation of Hospitals” in New Delhi.

The Seminar will be a great opportunity to get the comprehensive information and insights about the Accreditation of Hospitals and issues related to it and will be addressed by the leading experts from QCI/NABH, Policy Makers and Regulators. ***The programme has been especially designed to address the Accreditation needs of the Hospitals, Smaller Hospitals and Nursing Homes.***

The Confederation of Indian Industry cordially invites you to **Participate and Nominate** Doctors, professionals, senior managers/executives from your organization.

Sessions:

Session I: Background for the preparation & Presentation of CII Report, “Accreditation of Hospitals in India”

Session II: Need and Status of Accreditation and Accreditation bodies in India

Session III: Accreditation: Different Perspectives

Session IV: Process for obtaining Accreditation

Delegate Fee:

Category	Delegate Fees	Per Delegate	3 or more delegates per organization
(A)	CII Members	Rs 2,500/- (This includes 10.3% Service Tax)	10% discount on total amount
(B)	Non CII Members	Rs.3,000/- (This includes 10.3% Service Tax)	10% discount on total amount
(C)	NGO's / Educational Institutions	Rs.1,200/- (This includes 10.3% Service Tax)	NA

For further details please contact:

Ms. Vaishali Srivastava

Confederation of India Industry

India Habitat Centre, Core 4A, 4th Floor, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110 003
Tel: +91 11 4150 4514 - 19 (Ext. 317) ● Fax: +91 11 2468 2229 / 2465 3407
Email: vaishali.shrivastava@cii.in

IP Audit for SMEs

An Intellectual Property Audit is an assessment of a company's assets. CII-APTDC has initiated a process of IP Audits to help SMEs identify their IP and use it to maximum business advantage, to grow into larger companies not only locally but also globally



Many SMEs do not have the knowledge, money and resources to conduct a full Intellectual Property (IP) audit in their businesses. They find it difficult to build an IP portfolio describing a calculated value of their IP assets. These SMEs thus also lose out on the benefits that they could accrue from their IP assets.

The Andhra Pradesh Technology Development Centre conducted an IP Audit of three SME companies in Pune and Nashik on 12-14 May. The Audits were held to help the SMEs identify the sectors / processes where their IP lies, and to inculcate an environment of nurturing IP within the organization. The three companies were K.K. Nag Ltd, Rishabh Instruments Pvt. Ltd and Sipra Engineers Pvt. Ltd.

The Audit was conducted under the Visionary Small & Medium Enterprise (VSME) programme, a component of the unique Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing (VLFM) programme designed to vitalize identified SMEs into locomotive/high growth VSMEs. VLFM is a path-breaking initiative to create a critical mass of Visionary Leaders for India's manufacturing sector. It is culmination of the Joint Co-operation Agreement signed between the Prime Ministers of India and Japan in December 2006.

An IP Audit is defined as a systematic review of the IP assets owned, used or acquired by a business. Its purpose is to uncover under-utilized IP assets, to identify any threats to a company's bottom line, and to enable business planners to devise informed strategies that will maintain and improve the company's market position.

The first step in the Audit process was to identify the readily identifiable IP of the three companies involved. Assets falling into this category include any registered trademarks, copyrights, designs or patents owned by the business, any licenses to third parties and any licenses from third parties, including cross-licenses. Also included in this category are items such as in-house work manuals, databases, recipes, franchise agreements, publications and product/process know-how.

A tailor-made questionnaire was distributed in the companies to assess IP awareness across various sections of the organization. The information sought via the questionnaire related to:

- Inventory of products and services
- Inventory of the company's IPR
- Full list of IPR registrations and pending applications
- All contractual documentation relating to IPR
- List of past, current and contemplated litigation
- List of any known or suspected IPR infringement
- Company policies to prevent IPR infringement
- Protection of trade secrets / confidential information & employment contracts.

Thus, an IP Audit can identify a company's strengths and weaknesses and is an extremely useful tool to assess the IP environment across an organisation. Such audits also guide organisations to systematically identify and develop their IP for business benefit.

For more information on how an IP Audit can help your organisation; please contact: subodh.kumar@cii.in



Taking Indian Manufacturing to New Heights

A delegation of 44 senior leaders from India's manufacturing sector, who are undergoing CII's Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Programme visited Japan from 24-31 May. This was the last module of the five module programme that started in July last year. The objectives of the Japan visit were:

1. Learn from Japanese manufacturing management
2. Learn from Japanese process-oriented society
3. See India from outside in perspective

With focused planning from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), along with the team from CII, these objectives were well met.

Learn from Japanese Manufacturing Management

Visits to the Plants of Makino and Toyota Industries, understanding history and management of the Shinkansen hi-speed rail system, and visits to the Sony Museum and the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology provided insights into Japanese Manufacturing Management.

The visit to Toyota Industries, the most symbolic of Japanese manufacturing and to Makino, the mother machine manufacturing company, as well as interactions with very appropriate groups of people, helped participants gain valuable insights and learnings about Japanese Manufacturing.

The visit to the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology described the progress of manufacturing technology in Japan and at Toyota, as



Prof. Shoji Shiba guiding the VLFM programme participants at the Asa Kusa Temple, Tokyo

did the visit to the Sony Museum.

The interaction with Shinsei Bank showed how the application of simple manufacturing principles enabled a bank to move from bankruptcy to becoming one of the top banks in Japan. It was also a proud moment to meet a team led by an Indian, that had achieved this breakthrough!

Learn from Japanese Process-Oriented Society

The on-site visits to Asa Kusa Temple City, Ginza shopping area, and the exploration of Nagoya city provided insights on how the manufacturing culture has percolated into daily life in Japan. Each visit strengthened the participants' understanding of this unique aspect of Japanese life.

The presentation on the history and management of the Shinkansen rail system by demonstrated how a dream and a commitment to achieve that dream by an organization could transform the entire economy of a country! The journey on the Shinkansen from Tokyo to Nagoya was itself a unique experience.

See India from the Outside in Perspective

The interaction with Mr Rick Dyke, Former President, Teradyne Inc, and Mr. T. Okui, former President, Harley Davidson Japan, provided the opportunity to see India from an outside-in perspective.

While the interaction with Mr. Dyke provided a unique view of work cultures and best practices in three countries: US, China and Japan, the presentation of



Participants compiling their learning while travelling on the Shinkansen Train System

Mr. Okui was an eye-opener on breakthrough management strategy. Mr. Okui shared his leadership mantra:

- Never give an excuse for no results
- Do ordinary things in an extraordinary way
- Keep it simple, small and speedy

The Indian visitors were profoundly moved by a poem written by Mr Masaru Ibuka, founder of Sony Corporation (see box). In a similar spirit, the Indian delegates too defined their roadmap for the implementation of learnings, clarifying their own paths with a high level of motivation to lead India's manufacturing sector to newer horizons.

The Japan Visit marked the completion of training for the 2nd Batch of CII's Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing



VLFM participants with JICA Officials

programme. Under this programme, CII had committed that, over a period of three years, a pool of 150-200 senior leaders would be skilled to lead India's manufacturing sector into the future. CII along with its partners, IIT Madras, IIT Kanpur and IIM Calcutta, has already created a pool of over 160 such leaders.

CII will launch the 3rd Batch of the VLFM Programme from 22 July 2009 in Mumbai and from July 29, 2009 in Gurgaon. With the training of this third batch, CII would have exceeded its commitment to government and industry, by creating a pool of 250 Visionary Leaders!

"All People Possess Creativity;

We experience fulfillment in creating new things: Creativity is not limited to creating new machines; Haiku & Waka poetry & novels arise from Creativity too.

As we create new things, it is important to clarify our own path in taking on the challenge of doing whatever has not been done before.

Motivation arises as the energy to drive us forward"

- **Masaru Ibuka**, Founder, Sony Corporation

'Government committed to empower MSMEs'

The Government is committed to empower the MSMEs through a series of developmental, promotional and policy initiatives, aimed at making Indian MSMEs globally competitive, averred Mr Dinesh Rai, Secretary, Ministry of MSME, at an interaction with CII MSME members in New Delhi on 27 May.



P Mahto, Additional Economic Advisor, Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME), Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, Dinesh Rai, Secretary, MSMEs, and Salil Singhal Chairman, CII National MSME Council & Chairman, Secure Meters Ltd

The Ministry of MSME is actively considering launching a 'Helpline', in the form of a 24x7 toll free number, as well as establishing an 'Advisory Cell' to help entrepreneurs register their grievances and access information about various policy and procedures for launching a new enterprise/sustaining an existing one, he said.

Mr Rai described various schemes available under the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) to facilitate capacity building for MSMEs, with the Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME). He said that the Ministry was working on adapting and implementing the abridged version of the SIMPLER Law as prevalent in Brazil to reduce the number of litigations and the compliance cost of the existing taxation framework. Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said that

CII, with a strength of approximately 5700 MSME direct members (69% of the total membership), has, in the past and will in the future as well, ensure greater involvement of the MSME members.

He said that CII is working closely with banks to facilitate funding for SMEs, as well as with other bodies to ease procedural issues.

Earlier, Mr Salil Singhal, Chairman, CII National MSME Council, said that CII has undertaken a study on simplification of operational and regulatory framework for MSMEs. CII also proposes a governance code on procurements and payments to be universally applicable to all industry sectors, whether they are micro, small, medium or large, or belong to the private or the public sector, to overcome the issue of delayed payments, he said.

CII Institute of Quality's 8th Anniversary Day

'Quality should permeate all walks of life'

Quality should permeate all walks of life so that even people at the grassroots level get to enjoy the fruits of the quality movement in India said Mr K N Shenoy, Past President, CII, and Chairman CII-IQ, at the Institute's 8th Anniversary Day celebrations on 9 May in Bangalore. "The Quality Movement promoted by CII Institute of Quality has made a significant contribution to the growth of Indian industry and, today, there are several examples of global excellence in Corporate India," he added. "It is a never-ending journey and the benchmarks keep changing."

The CII Institute of Quality is continuously working to bring in new practices and take the Quality movement to

all sectors of the economy, including Services, Education, Healthcare and Governance, said Mr Shenoy.

This year, three eminent personalities were felicitated for their significant contribution to the pursuit of Excellence and Quality. Mr G Madhavan Nair, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation, (ISRO) was honoured for his outstanding leadership and application of the philosophy of Quality Philosophy in the field of Science and Technology for Development. Often referred to as India's Steel Man, Mr B Muthuraman, Managing Director, Tata Steel was felicitated for his outstanding leadership and contribution to the Quality Movement in India, while Mr S Viji, Managing Director, Brakes India Ltd and Trustee, Kuruvila Jacob Memorial Educational Trust, was recognised for the Trust's pioneering efforts in infusing Quality in the field of Education.

Mr Muthuraman was stern in his warning to those companies which did not follow the 'culture of Quality' in the present recessionary period. He advised companies to immediately adopt a three-pronged strategy – standardisation of processes, continuous improvement and innovation to deliver quality products, if they wanted to stay afloat in these 'difficult times'.

Mr Nair commended CII-IQ for tirelessly partnering with

companies to promote the concept of Quality. He said that as far as ISRO was concerned, Quality was the key which has made the agency attain a top position in the global space map.

Mr S Viji said that creating an initiative in a non-competitive manner has brought about excellence in educational Institutions. He said that simple standards

like maintaining attendance, constant parent-teacher interaction, completion of homework are all that are required to bring about a drastic revolution in the education sector.

This year's 'Anniversary Day Lecture' focused on car maker Maruti Udyog Limited's experience in assembly-line

management which has greatly helped the company to remain strong, despite severe competition from domestic and trans-national auto majors. Mr Rajiv Gandhi, Chief General Manager, Maruti Udyog, who delivered the Lecture said that by 'adopting over 1,000 fool-proof critical processes, the company has achieved significant cost-cutting and also improved quality products tremendously'. Further, 'right automation, employee-friendly HR policies and constant re-engineering/redeployment have considerably helped the company gain an upper hand, that too in the difficult period of recession', he said.

The Anniversary Day witnessed another significant development in the launch of the first of its kind initiative on 'Road Safety' in Namma Bengaluru. The Road Safety Initiative is a project that encourages the adoption of a Voluntary Code of Conduct for Road Safety under the People Move People Project (PMP). It is aimed at preventing deaths/injuries caused by road accidents through a structured approach detailed in the Code.

Another path breaking initiative was the launch of the Online Business Excellence Self Assessment Tool. This tool will enable organisations to do quick, effective yet comprehensive self assessment of the quality of the organizational enablers and results.



S Viji, Managing Director, Brakes India Ltd and Trustee, Kuruvila Jacob Memorial Educational Trust, G Madhavan Nair, Chairman, ISRO, K N Shenoy, Past President, CII, and Chairman CII-IQ and B Muthuraman, MD, Tata Steel

Business Excellence Self-Assessment Tool



Prof S Sadagopan, Director, IIT-Bangalore, K N Shenoy, S R Rao, Executive Director, EXIM Bank of India and N Srinivasan, Special Adviser, CII-IQ

The principal objective of the CII Institute of Quality is to enhance the competitiveness of Indian Industry and other sectors of the economy which impact the nation's growth. CII introduced the EFQM Business Excellence Model to India, and instituted the CII-EXIM Bank Award for Business Excellence in 1994, as a comprehensive framework for deployment and evaluation of excellence in businesses. Since then, both the Excellence Model and the Award have been steadily gaining momentum. More than 100 companies have already benefited from the use of the Excellence Model.

To measure their progress in their journey of Excellence, organisations need to engage in serious introspection on their practices and performance, through what is called a Self-Assessment process. The CII Institute of Quality launched a web-based Online Business Excellence Self Assessment Tool on the occasion of its 8th Anniversary Day. The tool will enable an organisation to do a quick, effective yet comprehensive self-assessment of the quality of its enablers and results.

The salient features of the Self Assessment tool are

- evaluates excellence over 32 dimensions
- benchmarking of an organisation's status at five levels of maturity
- each level of maturity is articulated in easy-to-understand language
- goes beyond assessment and provides a roadmap for the next cycle of improvement
- quick and easy assessment methodology
- offers a pictorial outcome of the assessment
- fosters team building and cross-functionality
- accelerates improvement efforts through enhanced ownership of findings

CII Institute of Quality offers the Self Assessment Service at three levels.

1: A quick and short 'Do it yourself' framework, where

the managers of the organisation can do the self assessment, without any external support.

2: A more exhaustive framework, which is better used with facilitation from CII-IQ.

3: An advanced and detailed framework to be used jointly by internal assessors and CII-IQ counsellors.

For more details please contact n.deep@cii.in

Code of Conduct for Road Safety



Release of the voluntary Road Transport Safety Standard

Reports suggest that every 6 seconds, someone is killed or injured on the road. Nearly 1.2 million lives are lost from road crashes, with figures expected to rise further! Poignantly, road accidents claim more lives than AIDS, Malaria or TB, affecting mostly young and healthy people.

Road accidents can be prevented by adopting simple road safety measures. To create awareness on Road Safety and to train people, CII, Shell and Global Road Safety Project (GRSP) have joined hands to launch a Road Safety Initiative, which proposes a drastic change in the way the transport sector operates across India.

The first of the initiatives called 'Safe Fleets' was introduced in Namma Bengaluru at the CII Institute of Quality's 8th Anniversary Day. The project encourages the adoption of a Voluntary Code of Conduct for Road Safety under the 'People Move People Project'. This aims at preventing deaths/injuries caused by road accidents by developing a set of Road Transportation Safety Management Standards.

The Voluntary Code covers all issues and practices relevant to road safety including development of management systems for businesses and transporters within their organisations. It includes driver management, vehicle management, journey management and contractor management.

Adopting this initiative offers intrinsic benefits. It not only promotes safe driving, but also creates more safe drivers on the roads, who, in turn, prevent road crashes.

For more details please contact rajesh.parim@cii.in

CII Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre, Hyderabad

Green Cementech 2009

The 5th edition of Green Cementech, held on 7-8 May in Hyderabad, had the theme 'Make Indian Cement Plants World Class in Green.'



Busi Sam Bob,
Principal Secretary,
Industries and
Commerce,
Andhra Pradesh

In his keynote address at the inaugural session, Mr Busi Sam Bob, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Andhra Pradesh, urged cement manufacturers to develop and absorb the latest technologies to play a key role in the sustainable development of the country.



H M Bangur,
President, CMA, &
MD, Shree Cement

Mr N A Viswanathan, Secretary General, Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA), reiterated CMA's total commitment towards reducing global warming and protecting the environment.



N A Viswanathan,
Secretary General,
CMA

The inaugural session witnessed the launch of the service brochure on 'Green House Gas Emission Inventorisation,' by Mr Bob. The GHG Inventorisation service aims at facilitating inventorisation of GHG emissions in cement manufacturing facilities. This includes putting in place the GHG inventory of the cement plant, establishing specific GHG emissions per ton of clinker/cement, and identifying and implementing opportunities for reducing the GHG intensity.

On Day 2, Mr H M Bangur, President, CMA, and Managing Director, Shree Cement, called for a comprehensive national policy on utilization of fly-ash to enable the cement



Release of the 'Manual on Waste Heat Recovery in Indian Cement Industry' at Green Cementech 2009

manufacturers' to source fly-ash at reasonable cost and produce the more eco-friendly pozzolana cement.

The event also featured an exclusive interactive session with Pollution Control Board members on the application of alternative fuels and a panel discussion on Waste Heat Recovery technologies. A 'Manual on Waste Heat Recovery in Indian Cement Industry' and the 'Cement Formulae Hand Book' were also released on the occasion.

The two-day event brought over 180 delegates from India and abroad to discuss the latest trends and technologies in cement manufacturing, energy efficiency in the Indian cement industry, climate change and carbon mitigation opportunities.

Lean Accounting

The CII-Total Cost Management (TCM) Division organised a Conference on Lean Accounting on 25 May in Chennai.

The conference focused on the:

- emerging framework of lean management
- scope and role of performance measures, including management accounting
- building awareness on lean principles, practices and tools to eliminate waste, while maintaining thorough financial control
- supporting a lean culture in organizations
- accounting processes that support lean transformation



Interactive session with Pollution Control Board Members

MSG launched in Goa




N Sriram and K G Gupta, both Past Chairmen, CII Goa Council and Prakash Jalan, Chairman, CII Goa Council

The Mission on Sustainable Growth (MSG) initiative was launched at the CEO's Meet on MSG in Goa on 29 May. The core purpose of the Mission is to champion the conservation of natural resources in Indian Industry without compromising on high and accelerated growth.

As a first step of this initiative, a CII-Code for Ecologically Sustainable Business Growth has been developed to seek voluntary commitments from top management on reducing the consumption of energy, water and other natural resources and promoting ecologically sustainable growth in their companies.

At the CEOs Meet, Mr K G Gupta, Past Chairman, CII Goa State Council and Chairman & CEO, GKB Ophthalmics Ltd, described the Mission and Code. Thirty-two companies signed the Code at the Meet, taking the total number of signatories across the country to 308 companies. ■



Confederation of Indian Industry

Directory of Members

The latest edition of the **CII Directory of Members 2009** is now available. The Directory contains comprehensive information of over 7000 member organisations - large, medium and small – both from the public and the private sectors, as well as MNCs /associations affiliated to CII, which together form the powerhouse of India's economic growth.

The Directory, in a CD format, is priced at **Rs 5,000** per copy (plus Rs 50 for courier and handling charges). There is a discount of Rs 1000 off the regular price for CII members, who would pay **Rs 4000** (+Rs 50) per CD.

You may buy your copy

1. Online from our website www.cii.in
2. In person from CII offices at New Delhi, Gurgaon, Mumbai, Chennai or Kolkatta
3. By sending a cheque/ demand draft payable at New Delhi in favour of 'Confederation of Indian Industry' to the address below. *(Please remember to cite your membership number, if you are a CII member.)*

CII Publications

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CII Institute of Quality

.... Your Quality Training Partner

Training Calendar July 2009

2 – 3 July, Delhi 4th Food Safety and Quality Summit
4 July, Bangalore Refresher Programme for CII Trained Assessors
8 - 9 July, Bangalore Workshop for SMBs: Improving Operational Efficiency through Quality
13 - 17 July, Bangalore Environment Management System LAC
15-17 July, Pune Workshop on Assessment for Business Excellence for Small & Medium Businesses
21 - 22 July, Bangalore Workshop on Business Planning
21 - 22 July, Chennai Calibration of External Auditing Skills
21-24 July, Delhi Workshop on Assessment for Business Excellence for Large Business Organisations
22 - 23 July, Bangalore Business Process Management
23 - 25 July, Pune Six Sigma Green Belt Certification Programme (Module 1)
29 - 30 July, Delhi Producing Zero Defect through Statistical Techniques (SPC + MSA)

For further details, please contact:
v.subramanian@cii.in

Visit us at : www.cii-iq.in



CII – Cluster Programme Continues to Spread



Cluster kick-off at Vadodara

Encouraged by the successful implementation of the first open cluster and the launch of the advanced cluster in Vadodara, CII launched the second open cluster with the participation of nine companies, with a formal kick off on 21 May.

This is the fifth cluster formed in year 2009. The number of clusters formed by CII and its strategic partners has now reached 152 impacting 1225 companies.

During the course of 12 months, the companies will accrue substantial benefit in critical areas of improving quality, productivity, waste elimination, break down reduction, change over time reduction and improvement in inventory turn over ratio.

Six Sigma Green Belt Certification Course

The CII-L M Thapar Centre for Competitiveness organized the 2nd batch of the Six Sigma Green Belt Certification Course from 11-13 May in Pune. The course trained the participants to identify the root cause for manufacturing problems/ customer complaints/ field failures, make radical improvements in process, and increase profits by achieving zero defects.

Cost Reduction Strategies in Manufacturing

A training programme on Cost Reduction Strategies in Manufacturing via the Toyota Production System was held on 8 May in Dehradun. The programme highlighted that one of the most important strategies to improve the bottom line and stay ahead at all times is to reduce the cost of production without compromising on quality.

Manufacturing Excellence Mission

To promote best practices in the manufacturing sector, the CII-L M Thapar Center for Competitiveness mounted a Manufacturing Excellence Mission to world class companies in Gurgaon/ Noida on 14-15 May. The



CII Manufacturing Excellence Mission

companies were Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, the Sandhar Group of Industries and Moser Baer India Ltd.

Energy Management & Competitiveness



Energy Management Workshop in Pune

A training programme on Energy Saving Techniques, held on 19 May in Pune highlighted the latest techniques for effective energy management and detailed energy audits to sustain an energy efficient culture in the work place.

Activity Based Costing - A Strategic Approach

A powerful tool for measuring performance, Activity Based Costing (ABC) is used to identify, describe, assign costs to and report on agency operations. A more accurate cost management system than traditional costing, ABC identifies opportunities to improve business process effectiveness and efficiency by determining the “true” cost of a product or service. A workshop on ‘Activity Based Costing - A Strategic Approach’ was held on 23 May in Gurgaon.

Communication and Presentation Skills

An interactive workshop on Developing Communication and Presentation skills was held on 25 May in Dehradun. ■

The Global Fund for HIV – AIDS, TB & Malaria & The Friends of South & West Asia

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was created to dramatically increase resources to fight three of the world’s most devastating diseases, and to direct those resources to areas of greatest need.

As a partnership between Governments, civil society, the private sector and affected communities, the Global Fund represents an innovative approach to international health financing.

Since its creation in 2002, the Global Fund has become the main source of finance for initiatives to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, with approved funding of US\$ 15.6 billion for more than 572 programmes in 140 countries. It provides a quarter of all international financing for AIDS globally, two-thirds for tuberculosis and three quarters for malaria. The funding of the Global Fund has had tremendous impact on these three diseases, as the chart demonstrates.

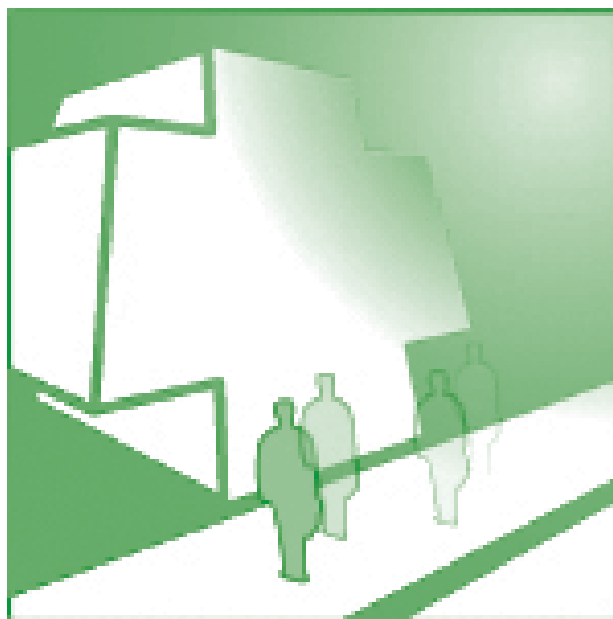
Scale Up on Target

Top Three Indicators	Results (End 2008)	% Increase over 1 year	% of End 2008 Target Met
HIV: People on Antiretroviral Treatment	2,000,000	43%	111%
TB: Treatment using DOTS	4,600,000	39%	102%
Malaria: Insecticide treated bed-nets distributed	70,000,000	54%	100%

Funding

The Global Fund gets unprecedented financial commitments from all stakeholders. Though significant, the contributions to the Fund represent only part of the US \$15 billion that experts estimate is needed each year to prevent and treat HIV, TB and malaria effectively on a global scale.

The Global Fund accepts contributions from governments, individuals, businesses and private foundations. Also, there is the Innovative Financing team, which works on



building new partnerships to raise additional resources from non-traditional sources.

Global Fund’s General Principles

The Global Fund was founded on a set of principles that guide its work, from governance to grant making:

- Operate as a financial instrument, not an implementing entity.
- Make available and leverage additional financial resources.
- Support programmes that reflect national ownership.
- Operate in a balanced manner in terms of different regions, diseases and interventions.
- Pursue an integrated and balanced approach to prevention and treatment.
- Evaluate proposals through independent review processes.

Establish a simplified, rapid and innovative grant-making process and operate transparently, with accountability.

Friends of the Global Fund

To raise awareness and advocate for increased support, the Fund has set up several ‘Friends’ in different parts of the world. Such ‘Friends’ have been established in

USA, Africa, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, Pacific, South and West Asia, etc.

Friends of South & West Asia (FOSWA)

FOSWA has been founded to help publicize the objectives and activities of the Global Fund as widely as possible in South – West Asia. It endeavors to interact with all sections of society, governments both central and provincial in the countries in South Asia / Iran, NGOs, civil society, medical doctors, specialists and academics, and take advantage of their knowledge, expertise and strength to address issues related to communicable diseases like HIV / AIDS, Malaria and TB.

It shall also carry out research studies on the socio-economic impact of these diseases covering all the countries in the region with a view to recommending appropriate action by all concerned. In time, FOSWA shall endeavor to document best practices in the country/ region.

The uniqueness of the Friends is the fact that it is a private sector-led fund with its Secretariat in the Confederation of India Industry (CII). The countries covered in the region are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri

Lanka. The Board comprises of Industry and NGOs from all the nine countries. An Advisory Council of experts on public health guides and advises the Board. Mr. Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, has been elected Chairman of the Board.

The Global Fund believes the private sector can play a key role in GF activities. Participation could be by funding but more importantly, through provision of services. The Global Fund also provides a large market for service providers and suppliers of products such as medicines.

Activities of the Friends

The Friends plans to organize regional health programmes in various countries with participation from the representatives of the Friends, who would carry out studies to learn the socio-economic impact of these diseases, and bring out a publication on best practices in the Country/Region, etc.

In India, a National Seminar on Health Systems has been planned in August.

For further information, please contact
Mr. S Sen, Principal Advisor, CII, at s.sen@cii.in

Skills Upgradation of Emigrant Workers

CII and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) signed a MoU on 8 May on 'Skills Upgradation and Pre-departure Orientation of Potential Emigrant Workers'.

The objective of the scheme is to upgrade the skills and provide proper pre-departure orientation training to all intending emigrant workers so as to enable them to get better and more remunerative jobs in the overseas employment market.

The target beneficiaries would be potential emigrant workers holding Indian passports and the employment visa of an overseas employer. They would comprise existing workers in various trades, ITI pass students, returnees, and housemaids.



The MoU has been inked to

- Implement the Skills Development and Skills Upgradation Initiative in India
- Frame market-driven schemes. This is envisaged as a self-sustainable initiative in the long term
- Provide training that connects directly to work
- Impart consistent skills upgradation training on a sustainable framework
- Ensure stringent quality assurance and consistency through independent assessment and verification from specially trained occupational specialists

The scheme will be implemented through various vocational training providers under the government, public and private sector and industrial establishments.



NATIONAL NEWS

Launch of Guwahati Chapter

Young Indians launched its 17th City chapter in Guwahati on 8 June.

CHAPTER ROUND UP

Bhubaneswar

A Yi Net was launched at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar, on 9 May. Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman, Yi, signed the MoU with Dr. P N Razdan, Pro Vice Chancellor (SoT), KIIT University, in the presence of Dr. Achuyta Samant, founder Chancellor of the University.



Nalin Kohli, National Convener, BJP Media Cell, Atul Anjan, Secretary, National Council, CPI, Rahul Kanwal, Executive Editor, Headlines Today. Bhairavi Jani, Yi National Co-Chair, Rahul Chawla, Yi Delhi Chair, Meera Sanyal, Chairperson & CEO, ABN Amro Bank and Randeep Singh Surjewala, Power, Public Health & Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Haryana



Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman, Yi National & Aditya Dash, Chair, Yi Bhubaneswar chapter sharing the MoU with Dr. P N Razdan, Pro Vice Chancellor (SoT), KIIT University

Chandigarh

A week long CII -Yi Voter Awareness Campaign was held to address the general apathy to elections and to engage the people in the campaign. Street plays, interactive quizzes, a signature and poster campaign, formation of human chain, were some of the initiatives used to sensitise the youth on the importance of voting.

Chennai

Yi Chennai Chapter, under the Employability initiative, and in partnership with Dr. Reddy's Foundation, inaugurated its LABS programme on 18 May for 100 under-privileged youth. The programme provides vocational skill training to students in hospitality, retail and white goods servicing.

Delhi

A learning session on 'The Challenges before Young India,' on 9 May, took the format of a political debate with

representation from different political parties, moderated by Mr. Rahul Kanwal, Executive Editor, Headlines Today. The speakers included Mr. Randeep Singh Surjewala, Power, Public Health & Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Haryana; Mr. Nalin Kohli, National Convener, BJP Media Cell; Mr. Atul Anjan, Secretary, National Council, Communist Party of India and Ms Meera Sanyal, Independent Candidate, Mumbai South Constituency, and Chairperson & CEO, ABN Amro Bank. The session was recorded and telecast by Headlines Today.

Hyderabad

A session on Pranic Healing on 15 May introduced the fundamentals of this simple yet powerful and effective no-touch energy healing methodology. Pranic Healing is based on the principle that the body is a 'self-repairing' living entity with the innate ability to heal itself.

On 26 May, the Yi Hyderabad chapter organised a guided tour to ADP Pvt. Ltd, with an interaction with key individuals of the company.

Indore

A two day learning session on Yoga on 16 -17 May, taught members the principles of Yoga and lifestyle management.

Pune

Yi Pune launched the 3rd Yi Students Net at Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies (SCMS), constituent of Symbiosis International University (SIU), on 29 April. On 4 May, the 4th Yi Students Net was launched at the International Institute of Information Technology (I2IT).



Africa

South Africa

Mr Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, called upon Ms Maite Emily Nkoana-Mashabane, the newly appointed South African Minister of International Relations & Cooperation on 24 May in Pretoria, South Africa.

Ms. Mashabane is South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation since May 2009, taking over from Ms. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma. She is also a member of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress (ANC). She served as High Commissioner to India from 1999-2005.

The relationship between India and South Africa is very warm, very close and very special. India and South Africa have a shared history. Political goodwill has now been translated into greater economic engagement and an increased two way trade and investment, with the President of South Africa describing India and South Africa as 'friends for all seasons'.

South Africa is India's largest political ally and trading partner in Africa. Bilateral trade has grown rapidly over the last few years and touched almost USD 6.3 billion during 2007-08. A number of bilateral agreements have been concluded in diverse areas ranging from defence, culture, science and economic cooperation, extradition, Information & Communications Technology and, most



Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, greets Maite Emily Nkoana-Mashabane, Minister of International Relations & Cooperation, South Africa

recently, merchant shipping and maritime transport.

The two countries, as members of IBSA (India Brazil South Africa) are also making an efforts to further broaden South - South Co-operation.

CII, in partnership with the High Commission of India and the India Brand Equity Fund will organise the 2nd Conference on 'Doing Business with India' on 23 July this year in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference is CII's effort to showcase India as a favorable investment destination.

Asia

China

Economic indicators - April 2008

PMI (manuf. sector)	: Up 53.5% (continuous rise for 5th straight month)
New loans	: \$86.65 billion
Retail sales	: Up14.8%, to \$136.8 billion
Industrial output	: Up 7.3%
FDI	: Down 22.5% to \$ 5.89 billion
FDI (Jan-April)	: Down 21% to \$27.67 billion
CPI	: After bottoming at -1.6% in February, rose to -1.2% in March and -1.5% in April
PPI	: Continued to fall from 2.4% in November to -6.6% in April.

Foreign Trade Down

China's exports fell 22.6% to \$91.94 billion and imports were down 23% to \$78.8 billion. Exports in the four months to April were down 20.5%, and imports went down 28.7% over the same period.

Steel Output Cap

China plans to cap its crude steel output at 460 million tons in 2009 and at around 500 million tons in 2010, as it pushes the world's biggest steel industry to get into shape. The country also plans to close steel making capacity of 25 million tons and iron-making capacity of 72 million tons in the next three years.

Chiang Mai Initiative

China, Japan and South Korea finalized details of an emergency \$120 billion liquidity fund to help 13 Asian economies counter the global economic downturn. The three nations will contribute on a 2:2:1 ratio - \$38.4 billion from China and Japan and \$19.2 billion from South Korea - making up 80% of the fund, known as the 'Chiang Mai Initiative'.

Purchase Teams to Europe

The Chinese government will send several business delegations to Europe to repeat a February shopping trip where they spent \$13.6 billion on contracts in Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Switzerland, to oppose trade protectionism with concrete action. Europe is the largest export market of China.

Car Sales Grow

China's automobile sales probably reached a record high of 1.15 million units in April as the government's stimulus plans began to pay off. April would be the fifth straight month of growth for the industry. With sales reaching 2.68 million in the first quarter, China has become the world's largest auto market.

Rapid FDI Development

China would directly invest between \$150 - 180 billion in foreign countries, while attracting between \$80 - 100 billion of FDI this year. This may be the first time that China's direct investment overseas will exceed the direct investment made by foreign countries in China.

Technology R&D

China will support eleven national research programmes with at least \$9.2 billion in one and a half years to achieve breakthroughs in key technology development like advanced numerically controlled machine tools, trunk-line aircraft, new-generation broadband wireless mobile communications networks, high-end central processing units and software.

Iron Ore Imports

China imported a record 57 million tons of iron ore in April, an all-time high, up 9% from a month ago and 33% greater than last April, as the industry grappled with falling domestic ore output and slumping steel exports. This was the second month running that inflows exceeded outflows for the country, which has been a net steel exporter since 2005.

Overseas Assets Soar

China's foreign financial assets rose 23% in 2008 to \$2.92 trillion. Of this amount, nearly 67% was foreign exchange and gold reserves.

Trade with Taiwan

The Chinese mainland will send three delegations to Taiwan in the next three months to purchase goods ranging from craftwork, processed food and raw material to mechanical parts, worth \$8-10 billion.

Iron Ore Price Index

China unveiled its first iron ore trade platform, Rizhao International Iron Ore Trade Center on 25 May in Shandong Province, signaling that the establishment of the country's iron ore price index is under way.

China Congratulates Indian PM

China extended congratulations to newly re-elected Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mr Ma Zhaoxu, said on 25 May. Mr Yang Jiechi, Chinese Foreign Minister, sent his best wishes to Mr. S.M. Krishna, India's new Minister of External Affairs, and expressed his desire to work closely to 'push forward' bilateral ties.

IBF Interaction in Shanghai

CII IBF China, in association with the Consulate General of India, Shanghai, organised an interactive session with Ms Jian Heping, Vice Chairperson, Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce (SMCC) on 26 May. SMCC

is responsible for bringing out policy, laws, regulations in connection with implementation and execution of international trade and FDI. It is also involved in anti-dumping investigation and major trade disputes.

Ms Heping said that Shanghai contributes one fourth of China's foreign trade and 30% of tax revenue, making it one of the most important economic centres of the country. She said that the Government is encouraging overseas investments in marine, aircraft engineering, pharma, IT and new energy sectors.

Mrs Riva Ganguly Das, Consul General, Shanghai,



Riva Ganguly Das, Consul General, Consulate General of India, Shanghai, with Jian Heping, Vice Chairperson, Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce

informed that more than 100 Indian companies are operating in East China, most of them based in Shanghai. Close interaction with the Commission will not only help taking up issues of common concern but also keep them updated on the various policy changes for encouraging trade and investment, she said. More than 25 representatives of Indian companies based in Shanghai attended the meeting.

Fiji Islands

Health Minister's Visit

CII organised B to B meetings for Dr. Neil Sharma, Minister of Health, Government of Fiji Islands, during his visit to India from 26-28 May. The Minister met with CII membership from the healthcare sector particularly the Medical Technology Industry.

Japan

Current Account Deficit

Japan logged its first current account deficit in 13 years in January, as exports dived and imports tumbled.

GDP Falls

The Japanese economy contracted at an annualized pace of 15.2% in real terms in the first three months of this year, recording the biggest shrinkage for the second quarter in a row, due to a sharp drop both in exports and domestic demand.

Firms Post Massive Losses

Japanese companies have posted huge losses in their

earnings results for fiscal 2008, with the country's nine major electronics manufacturers suffering a combined net loss of 2.22 trillion yen. Eight major financial groups also posted a combined net loss of 1.56 trillion yen for fiscal 2008, which ended in March 2009.

South Korea

Cash Subsidies

The South Korean government will provide cash and coupons worth 6.09 trillion won (\$4.09 billion) to the poor as an emergency relief package, the Ministry of Strategy and Finance said.

Per Capita GDP Expected to Dip

South Korea's per capita GDP is likely to mark a sharp drop to \$15,000 this year if the economy shrinks 4% with the weakening local currency and the deteriorating economic conditions. Per capita GDP in 2008 was \$ 17,707.

Economy Grows 0.1% in Q1

The Korean economy grew 0.1% in the January-March period on the government's fiscal spending and a slower fall in exports, compared with a 5.1% quarterly fall in GDP for the final quarter of 2008. From a year earlier, however, the economy shrank 4.3%, the worst performance in nearly 11 years.

US\$2.38 billion Trade Surplus

South Korea posted a \$2.38 billion trade surplus in the first 20 days of April as imports dropped faster than exports amid a protracted economic downturn.

South East Asia

Southeast Asia / Asean

- Industrial property markets in the Asia-Pacific region deteriorated from October 2008 to March 2009. Colliers International expects further declines as firms shelve expansion plans or downsize premises in response to sluggish global demand. Rents, land and capital values in the region's cities are forecast to decline by as much as 30% over the next 12 months, with the exception of Jakarta and Shanghai.
- The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) will set up a regional centre in Thailand to combat animal disease epidemics in ASEAN member countries. This would benefit ASEAN members in terms of developing proper measures in preventing, containing and eliminating animal epidemics, as well as improving the quality of food and animal products.

Brunei

- The Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB) has signed a venture capital fund agreement with Singapore-based business angel, Accel-X Pte Ltd, which will manage \$5 million of capital investment funds for BEDB. BEDB's funds will be reserved only for investments in Brunei-based high-tech companies in ICT, interactive digital media and engineering. The fund is open to 'every potential start-up company in Brunei'.

Cambodia

- The UNDP ranked Cambodia near bottom among countries in Southeast Asia on its competitiveness in the global economy. The country also figured last in its regional higher education training scores. UNDP says the country has a serious lack of qualified workers,

while lax rules and regulations keep investors away. Cambodia is one of the poorest countries on the globe. The communist-run economy had, until last year, enjoyed several years of double-digit economic growth. Yet underemployment is high, with some 30% of its people living on less than 50 cents a day, and 40% of the population has not completed their primary education.

Indonesia

- Indonesia's economy grew at an annual rate of 4.4% in Q1 2009, weakening from the 5.2% growth posted in Q4 2008. Still, the economy was the fastest growing in Southeast Asia in Q1 2009, with local spending fuelled mainly by the government's US \$ 6.9 billion stimulus package. The government expects the economy to expand 4-4.5% this year. [Indonesia is one of the least external-demand-dependent economies in the region.]
- The Asian Development Bank expects Indonesia's growth to be below trend, requiring more support for the economy. Southeast Asia's largest economy probably grew at the slowest pace in a decade, as exports slumped and commodity prices plunged from record levels. Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati said the country is now reliant on domestic consumption to rekindle growth as shipments abroad and investment fall.
- The Indonesian central bank reduced its key rate further for a 6th straight month to help sustain consumer spending as inflation slows.
- Indonesia's annual rate of inflation eased to 7.31% in April from 7.92% the month earlier.
- The National Coordinating Investment Board has slashed its growth forecast for both foreign and local direct investments to 9%, based on low actual FDI inflows in April.
- The Indonesian government plans to offer more generous incentives for investment in the oil refining industry. These will include import duty exemption on refining equipment and guarantee for bank loans toward building of the plants. It has also been recommended that state oil-and-gas firm, Pertamina, be involved in new projects only as an off-taker.
- Vice President Jusuf Kalla said state-owned enterprises are not allowed to use imports in view of the ongoing crisis, adding that 'all government programmes must be void of anything imported' to empower Indonesia's domestic industry.
- Indonesia, which produces about 20% of the world's tin supply, has pledged to limit the metal's production

in order to shore up prices and restrict environmental damage on the Bangka Belitung islands, where most of the mines are. The production quota for tin will be discussed in parliament.

- ArcelorMittal has decided against making a potential \$10 billion investment for a 40% stake in Indonesia's state-owned PT Krakatau Steel.
- Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL) is eyeing acquisitions in emerging markets, particularly China, Brazil, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Egypt, South Africa and Mexico.
- K S Oils has reportedly acquired palm plantations in Indonesia and Malaysia. It has acquired 20,000 hectares of palm plantation land in Indonesia and will make an estimated investment of Rs 3,700 million over 3 years. K S Oils expects some 80,000 tons of palm oil from the Indonesian plantations to be supplied to its manufacturing and refining plants in India. The acquisitions are part of the company's plans to secure raw material supplies and insulate against price fluctuations.

Laos

- Laos plans to sell its first foreign-currency bonds to finance electricity projects, in efforts to become less dependent on international aid. The nation may sell as much as \$72.5 million of 5-year to 15-year notes backed by royalties from hydropower plants, said an ADB official advising the Laos government.
- Laos is seeking global investors to help it pay for new infrastructure projects and create jobs for its 7 million citizens, nearly half of whom are younger than 16. The landlocked nation plans to open a stock exchange by October 2010 and join the WTO two years later.
- The ADB forecasts Laos' GDP will grow 5.5% in 2009.

Malaysia

- Malaysia's total trade in Q12009, valued at RM 210.27 billion, fell 24%. Exports fell 20% while imports shrank 28.9% in the period. March's trade also registered a surplus of RM12.5 billion – the 137th consecutive gain since November 1997. International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said it was still too early to predict a recovery even though trade figures have been growing on a month-to-month basis. He added that sharp declines in imports could signal that companies may be significantly delaying capital investments which will be detrimental to Malaysia's manufacturing capacity to capitalise on future demand recovery when the global economy recovers.

- B4U Network launched its hybrid B4U channel in Malaysia on 1 June. The Bollywood entertainment channel would be a dedicated feed especially for Malaysia and the rest of the Asia Pacific. It is available on Astro's non-Indian package.
- Regional mobile content and applications developer, M3 Technologies (Asia) Bhd, plans to launch online stores in India, Indonesia and China in June.
- The Malaysian government has put a freeze on issuance of foreign hypermart licenses until the year end, to address the issue of unused permits. Of 107 licences issued to foreign operators, only 78 stores are operational.
- Mudajaya Group Bhd's associate company in India, RKM Powergen Private Ltd, has entered into a 12-year power purchase agreement with PTC India Ltd for the supply of 700MW round-the-clock electricity from phase 2 of an independent power plant project in Chhattisgarh.
- Malaysia's Scomi Engineering Bhd and India's Geodesic Technique Pvt Ltd are joining hands to build a 59 km monorail system in Bangalore worth US \$2.4 billion. Geodesic says both technical and financial proposals submitted have been accepted by the Karnataka government.
- KFC Holdings (M) Bhd (KFCH) has accepted an offer from India's KFC franchisor - Yum! Restaurants (India) Pvt Ltd – to operate KFC restaurants in Mumbai and Pune. KFCH will invest an initial US \$6 million to expand its Indian operations as well as set up a wholly-owned subsidiary in both the cities. It aims to have 10 outlets in Mumbai and 2 in Pune by end 2010.
- AirAsia Bhd says it has no plans to form joint ventures in India and China.
- The Malaysian cabinet will defer implementing a levy hike on foreign workers until the economy improves. The doubled levy on foreign labour does not apply to foreigners working in the construction and plantations sectors, as well as domestic helpers.

Myanmar

- Tata Motor's heavy turbo truck manufacturing and component production factory in Myanmar is expected to commence by December this year.
- Construction of an international airport in Myanmar's administrative capital, Naypyidaw, is underway. The airport will be able handle 10.5 million passengers annually upon completion.
- India's state hydroelectric firm NHPC is set to invest \$5 billion in two river hydroelectric dams in western Myanmar. The projects will have an electricity generating capacity of 1,800 megawatts which would help power up India's Northeast as well. The two governments have only signed an MoU on the developments so far.
- US President Barack Obama has extended economic and other sanctions on the Burmese military regime for one year. The sanctions, first imposed on Burma in 1997, were to have expired 19 May and are believed to have denied the military regime tens of billions of dollars per year.

Singapore

- Singapore's economy contracted by 14.6% q-o-q, on a seasonally adjusted annualised basis, in Q1 2009, compared to the decline of 16.4% recorded in Q4 2008. Y-o-y however, real GDP shrank 10.1% in Q1 2009. All major sectors of the economy were reported to have experienced further declines, except for construction and financial services. The Ministry of Trade and Industry said that it will maintain the GDP growth forecast for 2009 at -9.0% to -6.0%.
- The IMF forecast Singapore's economy will shrink 10% this year and contract a further 0.1% in 2010.
- Singapore's non-oil exports (NODX) fell 1.3% m-o-m, on a seasonally adjusted basis in April, marking the 12th month of annual decline.
- Singapore CPI inflation slowed significantly to 2.1% in Q1 2009, down from 5.4% in Q4 2008, mainly due to a downward correction of global commodity prices. Inflation is expected to trend downwards in the coming months. The government maintains its CPI inflation forecast at -1.0 to 0 per cent for this year.
- Companies incorporated and listed in Singapore will have to fully follow the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) by 2012. Finance Minister, Tharman Shanmugaratnam said the alignment of rules will 'further reinforce Singapore's role as an international business and financial hub'.
- Fitch has given Singapore's DBS Bank, United Overseas Bank, and OCBC Bank a clean bill of health, maintaining its outlook at 'Stable' and credit rating at 'AA-' for the three banks.
- The Singapore government has set aside an initial S\$1 billion to help kick start its plans for sustainable development over the next 5 years. Part of this sum will go towards helping businesses reduce upfront costs of investing in resource-efficient buildings, systems and processes, as well as to fund a new Green Mark

Incentive Scheme to retrofit existing private-sector buildings to boost energy efficiency. [More details on the government's blueprint for sustainable development are available at www.sustainablesingapore.gov.sg.]

- Mercer's annual survey on quality of living ranked Singapore 19th from its 32nd placing last year, putting the Republic in the top spot among Asian cities. The island nation also took 1st place for quality of city infrastructure. Followed by Munich and Copenhagen. [The Mercer survey is a useful reference for companies to compare countries when establishing hardship pay. For more information, see <http://www.mercer.com/qualityofliving>]
- The Singapore Exchange (SGX) is developing a fuel oil futures contract to be launched later this year. Traders say the futures contract would add depth to the market and provide an alternative to OTC swaps, and increase transparency in pricing.
- Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched its e-visa facility in India effective 1 April, enabling Indian business and leisure travellers to secure travel permits to the Lion City in a single working day.
- Ascendas India Trust reported a 13% growth in total property income for 4Q 2008/09 to S\$30.8 million. Its portfolio of 4.8 million sq ft of completed space is evenly distributed in Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad. Occupancy rate for the portfolio is 98%.
- Singapore's DBS Group sold its 2.7% stake in HDFC on 7 May. The divestiture raised Rs. 12.9 billion for the bank.
- Asia Pacific Breweries has inked an agreement to acquire a 33% stake in Asia Pacific Breweries – Pearl Private Ltd (APB Pearl) from Jaipuria Beverages & Food Industries, for Rs.134.65 million, making APB Pearl its wholly-owned subsidiary.
- The Singapore Commodity Exchange (SICOM) and India's National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) plan to allow cross-trading and clearing of selected products on both exchanges. Both companies will sign a 'heads of terms' agreement that would also allow SICOM (which currently focuses on rubber only) to create derivative products based on NCDEX's agricultural commodity index. Other proposed areas of collaboration include the development of new products and cross-membership access.
- Singapore Airlines handed over its thrice weekly Singapore-Hyderabad service to its regional airline, SilkAir, from 15 June.
- Metax Engineering Corporation and Tamil Nadu Water Investment Company have mutually decided to terminate a contract to build, operate and maintain reverse-osmosis

plants at Mangalam-Eastern common effluent treatment plants in India, to limit cost overruns.

- K S Oils' wholly-owned subsidiary, K S Natural Resources (KSNR), has been awarded International Headquarters status by the Singapore Economic Development Board in recognition of K S Oils' plans to make KSNR the nucleus of its international operations. The company is also engaged with the National University of Singapore to facilitate R&D across the company's value chain including developing sustainable palm plantations in Southeast Asia and create manufacturing efficiencies in its plants in India. The SGX-listed company aims to generate annual revenue of \$1 billion by 2014 through its Singapore unit.
- Singapore-listed Noble Group has been awarded a 30-year contract by the Paradip Port Trust to build, operate and transfer a mechanical facility for handling iron ore at Paradip Port. The Hong Kong-based supply chain manager has joined hands with India's MMTC and Gammon Infrastructure Projects to design the berth and associated infrastructure.
- Singapore-headquartered Chemoil Energy Ltd's \$10 million joint venture with Adani Enterprises has reportedly captured 5% of the bunker market for international ships in India in its first three months of business. Based at Adani-owned Mundra port, ChemoilAdani plans to extend its bunker fuel supplies to the Gulf of Kutch and Gujarat, which houses some of the world's largest refineries, owned by Reliance, Essar and Indian Oil Corporation.

Thailand

- Thailand slipped into recession as its GDP fell 7.1% in Q12009, as spending and exports (which make up 60% of Thai GDP) slumped amidst the global downturn. Consumer confidence fell to its lowest level in 7 years while political rifts that led to civic unrest dented investment, consumer spending and tourism revenue. Economists expect the economy to return to growth by the year's final quarter.
 - Thailand's exports recorded a 25.2% y-o-y fall in April, but the central bank surprised markets by keeping its key interest rate unchanged in May.
- Analysts are however seeing a sustained pick-up in manufacturing output, confirming a tentative trend of recovery. Factories ran at an average 56.6% of capacity in April, while shop floors ran at 54.6% capacity in February. Early customs data further suggests that Thai exporters have started rebuilding depleted inventories in April.
- The Board of Investments reported that electrical and electronic product orders had climbed 80% in Q1 2009,

after Q4 2008 saw exports of electronic goods and electrical appliances tumble 32.4% and 30.4% respectively. Demand came particularly from markets of the Middle East, Asia, Russia and Eastern Europe. Analysts say it would become clearer by the next quarter whether the revival was just a temporary blip or reflects sustained demand.

- The Thai consumer spending index fell 2.6% in Q1 2009 - its first dip since the Asian financial crisis started in Thailand in 1997. GDP fell 11% in 1998.
- Three hundred and five factories in Thailand were reported to have shut down in the first 4 months of 2009, resulting in 29,327 workers being laid off.
- The Finance Ministry will push Thailand to be a gold trading hub in Asia, with the hope of attracting over one trillion baht a year in foreign investment, according to the Gold Traders Association.
- Thailand increased its excise taxes on beer and liquor in a bid to boost revenues by 6.3 billion baht a year. The ministry is restructuring its overall tax system, and excise taxes on other products could also be increased.
- Thailand, the world's second-biggest sugar exporter, said output fell after drought damaged cane harvests. Production dropped 8% from 7.8 million tonnes a year ago.

The Philippines

- The Filipino central bank cut its overnight borrowing and lending rates to 4.25% and 6.25% on 28 May. The latest move to ease monetary policy placed the total rate cut since December to 175 basis points.
- Consumer prices in the Philippines climbed 4.8% y-o-y in April. Core inflation, which excludes volatile fresh food and energy prices, was up 5%. The annual inflation rate in the National Capital Region slowed to 2.2% in April from 3.2% in March.
- Philippine imports tumbled 36.2% y-o-y in March as its single biggest import – electronic components (mostly assembled for export) - plunged 40.7%. [The Philippines supplies about 10% of the world's semiconductor manufacturing services, including the assembly of mobile phone chips and micro processors.]
- The Philippines plans to produce 9,000 MW of renewable energy (twice its current level) in 10 years after the government approves implementation of the Renewable Energy Act. The projects, from geothermal, hydropower, solar, wind, and oceanic waves energy, are anticipated to attract as much as \$10 billion in new investments.
- Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co (PLDT) is eyeing acquisition opportunities in India that could see

investments of up to \$2 billion. The Philippines' largest listed company said it was already in discussions with several firms in India.

- President Gloria Arroyo has urged Indian businessmen in the Philippines to convince airlines in India to operate direct flights between India and the Philippines to boost trade and investments, noting that there already is an air agreement between the two countries.

Vietnam

- The IMF has cut its forecast for Vietnam's economic growth in 2009 to 3.3% from a previous 4.8%.
- Standard & Poor (S&P) affirmed Vietnam's sovereign ratings based on the country's economic growth prospects and restructuring efforts, but has kept a negative outlook citing the vulnerability of its banking sector. S&P warned that Vietnam remains vulnerable as a low-income economy susceptible to severe shocks. The agency cautioned that the government may be required to provide support to the banking system should the economic downturn continue. The country's fiscal deficit was at 4.7% of GDP in 2008 and 5.5% in 2007.
- The Vietnam Steel Association (VSA) is unfazed by the dumping probe initiated by India, claiming that its steel companies do not manufacture the products under investigation. The association said some trading firms had imported the products last year and re-exported them to foreign markets, including India, when prices fell. VSA's chairman Mr Pham Chi Cuong said it would be difficult to initiate dumping investigations against the trading firms as they had exported steel to India for just a brief while. He added that the traders were not members of VSA.
- Overseas buying interest for India pepper futures are taking a hit as Vietnam sells cheap owing to crop surplus.
- Vietnam's FDI commitments in May reached only \$530 million, marking a January-May slump of 76.3% compared with last year.
- Essar Steel has put on hold its proposed project in Vietnam amid the prevailing global economic downturn.
- Turnkey industrial constructions firm McNally Bharat Engineering Co. Ltd is in talks with a Vietnamese firm to explore possibilities of building a power plant there. McNally has also purchased tea gardens in northern Vietnam which are expected to yield 4 million kg of tea a year, to be sold under its McLeod Russel label.
- The government has exempt businesses in areas which have come under an expanded Hanoi City from paying the requisite business registration fee.

Europe

France

Government & Politics

With President Sarkozy completing two years in office, the verdict on his performance is mixed. Critics argue that despite all his hyperactivity, final delivery is often not ensured; as a result, badly needed structural reforms suffer, social tensions sharpen and France is polarised and further divided.

The criticism is not without basis, but perhaps it overstates the case. Mr Sarkozy did set out to tackle the traditional ills of France: excessive state role; crushing tax burden, high chronic unemployment, too many people living on state benefits, and somewhat outdated political and social institutions, but he did that without setting clear priorities and preparing public opinion beforehand. This enabled different vested interests to block whole sets of different measures, to the possible long term detriment of in depth reform.

With the factionalised opposition Socialists preoccupied with internal battles, more people are turning to the radical left, leading to street protests and prolonged strikes as in the case of university students, to gain cause. But the extreme left does not have the critical mass necessary to pose a serious electoral threat to the government.

The elections to the European Parliament, due in June, would provide a clue to public sentiment, though they have no direct impact on the internal political scene. Current estimates show the Socialists trailing well behind the ruling party.

Economy

France is in severe recession, with GDP declining in Q1 in 09 by 1.5% after 1.1% in Q4 in 08, forcing the government to further cut GDP growth predictions for 09 to between -2.5% to -3%. The industrial production decline of 6.9% in Q1 of 09 is a major contributing factor. But this is still better than the OECD average of - 2.1%.

The jobless rate is expected to reach 9.8% this year. The worst affected are the young; jobless in their ranks is 36% more than last year. This is attributed to French labour laws and the high wages for not so skilled young workers. France also has a very high incidence of taxes on salaries, at 49.3%, including 29.7% employer contribution, which discourages hiring young employees.

France still claims that because of its investment driven stimulus, and close monitoring of € 26bn stimulus spending, 70% of which would be spent in 09, it has a 4-month lead over its EU partners in recovery.

On the positive side, consumer spending was surprisingly robust: it rose by 0.7% in April after rising by 0.6% in March. But the average ratio of indebtedness to income also went up to 74.4% from 71.7% in 07! Inflation at 0.1% was the lowest in 50 years and the bank rates lowest ever at 1%. Real estate seemed relatively stable, too, with old property prices resisting drastic falls. But no light is yet seen at the end of the tunnel !

Business & Industry

With a profit of € 1.56bn in Q1 this year, BNP Paribas rebounded spectacularly from earlier losses. It also finally won its long battle for control of the Belgian interests of the troubled Fortis bank. There has been a change of guard at Société Générale. Credit Agricole, the second largest French bank, reported a 77% fall in net profits.

Although critics rate 2009 a vintage year for Bordeaux wines, it appears that the French are drinking less wine; consumption per head is down to 1 glass a day from 3 in 1960, but the higher price has compensated for the fall in demand !

A commission set up by the government to promote diversity in the work place has proposed 76 measures to help secure jobs for immigrants' children.

India

The election results are being hailed as a vote for stability, with expectations that the new government would now vigorously pursue overdue economic reforms.

EADS and L&T are to set up a JV in India in the defence electronic field, catering to both the Indian and the world market.

India's reversal of its decision to bar Dassault Aviation from bidding for a \$ 10.4bn fighter jet contract has been welcomed.

CII was represented in the annual G A of BIAC in Lisbon, and also as a speaker in a high level OECD Round Table held on that occasion.

Deputy Mayor Sauter met with Indian business representatives to 'sell' Paris as an investment destination.

Germany

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Germany is on course to be the worst performing industrial economy this year after Japan. Unemployment, at present 3.6 m, is expected to swell to 5 m by the end of next year, due to the German government's assumption that the economy will shrink by 6 % this year.

Germany has already seen a 3.8 % contraction in gross domestic product for the first quarter. A recent poll showed 57 % of respondents feared losing their jobs, which is a high figure but up only 3 % from last year.

The German government announced its biggest post-war budget deficit this year. The Minister of Finance, Mr. Steinbrück, admitted the federal deficit would exceed € 50 bn in 2009 and rise to € 90 bn next year. These figures, based on an official tax revenue forecast, make it clear that Germany will breach the EU's fiscal rules this year and the next.

The budget deficit will play a central role in campaigning, ahead of Germany's September election. Chancellor Merkel pledged to cut income tax if her party won although it was not communicated exactly when this would take place.

However, Ms. Merkel remains as popular in the downturn as she has been through the four years of her term. No other Chancellor has enjoyed ratings as high for such a long time. Her party is not as popular as she is, but with an average rating of 35%, it remains ahead of the others.

The most important political issue in May was the election of the President of Germany on the 60th anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany. Mr Horst Köhler, a former director of the IMF, will remain President for a second five-year term.

Economy

The recession in Eurozone intensified in the first quarter, dragged down by a 3.8 % contraction of Germany's export-led economy, the largest in Europe. Both German exports and imports in the first quarter 2009 declined in comparison to the same period last year, but economists said indicators still suggested that the worst of the Eurozone's recession was over. The German Bundesbank however warned that recent improvements in confidence indicators could not disguise the fact that further economic adjustments are necessary.

Eurozone inflation has fallen to zero and could fall even lower as a result of the region's severe recession as well as cheaper oil prices. Even Germany has already

reported negative national inflation rates, amidst worries that below-zero inflation rates will stoke fears of a full-blown deflation.

The toughest crackdown in Europe against excessive boardroom payments was launched by German legislators when they backed a bill that will cap executive compensation. The provisions are part of measures to add much needed transparency to the opaque and secretive procedures that have long governed boardroom pay in large German companies.

Business

Automotive

- After a marathon negotiation, Magna International, the Canadian-Austrian parts supplier which also builds entire vehicles for Mercedes-Benz and other carmakers, took over the business of Opel with financial backing from the German government. Under the MoU between GM and Magna, shares of GM Europe will be transferred to a trust to protect it from GM insolvency. An executive of Magna said all four Opel plants in Germany would be maintained and that the company would seek to retain as many jobs in Germany as possible. The fate of Opel has become part of the German electoral campaign ahead of the general election.

- The car – scrapping bonus scheme had a massive impact on car sales in Germany. Sales increased in April by 19.4 % or 380,000 new cars. More than 200,000 new cars have been registered since the beginning of the year in Germany, in comparison to the same time last year. The export could be stabilised on a low level, but export-sales still dropped by 31 % during January-April in comparison to last year. The production of cars had to be reduced by 1.4 m units during the first four months causing extensive 'Kurzarbeit' in all automotive enterprises.

Banks

Germany's "bad bank" scheme adopted by the coalition is a substantially reduced version of the original draft, which would have saddled taxpayers with hundreds of billions of Euros in risks. Under the new draft legislation, a bank can apply to set up its own bad bank. However it is not really a bank at all, it is a special purpose vehicle (SPV), similar to known off-balance sheet vehicles. The proposed SPV will have a shelf life up to 20 years. It buys the structured securities from the bank at 90 % of book value. In return, the SPV issues new debt securities to the bank, guaranteed by the government. The idea is to give the bank an incentive to lend again. This scheme was quite criticised, but there are nearly

no costs for the government. There are only costs if the SPV goes bankrupt, which is unlikely. The SPV even pays a fee to the government to cover the expense of issuing the guarantee.

Mechanical and Electrical Machinery

The mechanical machinery industry is now investing intensively in innovative environmental technology after a further reduction by 30 % of its production in tool machinery.

The Association of the Electrical Industry (ZVEI) reports a lesser slump. This industry declined in March 'only' by 20 % in comparison to last year. Germany shows the highest innovation power according to a report of the Association of Electrical Engineers (VDE).

Energy

Germany has taken the world lead in renewable energy within a few years, especially in solar power generation, even after cuts in renewable energy subsidies.

Latin America & the Caribbean

Brazil

A session on 'Business Opportunities with Brazil' was organized at four locations across India from 18-22 May by CII together with the Brazil-India Chamber of Commerce.

Brazilian representatives from the agricultural and food processing machinery and equipment, mining, oil and gas equipments, medical and dental products and ethanol sectors, were in India to promote business ties between Indian and Brazilian companies in the form of joint ventures, collaborations etc., and also to disseminate information on opportunities in Brazil in these sectors.

Addressing the first session in New Delhi on 19 May, Mr Ravi Thapar, Joint Secretary LAC, Ministry of External Affairs, called for a Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agency (BIPPA) to be set up between India and Brazil. This would give a big boost to Indian investments in Brazil, which are at US \$ 1.5 billion as of now, but have great potential to increase substantially.



Roberto Paranhos do Rio Branco, President, Brazil-India Chamber of Commerce, Ravi Thapar, Jt Secretary-LAC, Ministry of External Affairs and Marco Brandao, Ambassador of Brazil to India

Mr Marco Brandao, Ambassador of Brazil in India, said both countries were targeting increasing bilateral trade to US \$ 10 billion by 2010.

Mr Roberto Paranhos do Rio Branco, President, Brazil-India Chamber of Commerce, described the opportunities for greater business linkages between India and Brazil.

Subsequent sessions were held in Mumbai, Bangalore and Chennai.

Gulf, Middle East, West Asia and North Africa

Iran

At the initiative of Embassy of Iran in New Delhi, CII organized the visit of a three member delegation to the Hamedan International Conference for Investment & Development in Hamedan, Iran, from 30 April to 3 May. Senior representatives from Escorts Ltd, Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd, and Elite Industries were the members of the CII group, which joined 150 overseas companies from 40 different countries, besides 200 plus local companies, at the Conference.

The Conference, an unprecedented event, was

followed by one-on-one business meetings with various organizations in a variety of sectors.

On 3 May, the CII team met Mr. Sanjay Singh, Ambassador of India to Iran, Mr. Ashish Padhi, Counsellor, and Mr. C.O. Thomas, First Secretary, to understand the business dynamics of working in Iran and the potential for Indian Industry in enhancing bilateral trade and business cooperation. The Ambassador emphasized the tremendous potential for doing business in Iran and called for concerted efforts to pursue business and trade relations with Iranian companies.



CII delegates at the Hamedan International Conference for Investment & Development in Iran

The CII delegates also met Mr Sayed Mahdi Nabizadeh, Ambassador of Iran to India and Mr Bardia Navaee

Roodsari, Second Counsellor in New Delhi, both before and after the visit.

United States of America

Sessions with Amb Robert D. Blackwill

US-India Relations: 5 May: New Delhi

Lessons of Mumbai: 7 May: Mumbai



Hari Bhartia, Vice President, CII, and Co-Chairman & Managing Director, Jubilant Organosys, Amb Robert Blackwill, Senior Fellow, Rand Corporation and Former US Ambassador to India and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII

CII and Aspen Institute India jointly organised interactive sessions with Ambassador Robert Blackwill, Senior Fellow, Rand Corporation and Former US Ambassador to India.

The session on 'US-India Relations' on 5 May in New Delhi highlighted the need for stronger partnership between the two countries on climate change and nuclear non-proliferation. The instability in India's neighbourhood calls for holding frequent bilateral

strategic policy dialogues to resolve geo-political challenges, said Amb. Blackwill, calling for greater defence cooperation.

CII and the Aspen Institute India have been closely working on further strengthening US-India relations and the joint session encouraged Indian business fraternity to engage proactively with the US. Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, welcomed the gathering. Mr Hari Bhartia, Vice President, CII, and Co-Chairman & Managing Director, Jubilant Organosys, chaired the session.

The session on 'Lessons of Mumbai' on 7 May in Mumbai, featured a discussion on the RAND Report on Terrorism, which brought forth practical insights on the failure of Indian security agencies to present an image of control following the 26/11 terror attacks. Mr. Naushad Forbes and Mr L Brooks Entwistle also spoke.

Session with Admiral Keating



Col. Balan Ayyar, Commander 305th Air Mobility Wing & Installation Commander, McGuire Airforce Base, New Jersey; Harpal Singh, Mentor & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Limited; Amb Gene Christy, Foreign Policy Advisor; Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII; Phiroz Vandrevalla, Executive Director & Global Corporate Affairs, TCS; Admiral Timothy J Keating, Commander, US Pacific Command, US Navy; Arun Bharat Ram, Chairman, SRF Ltd; Ashley Tellis, Sr Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Atul Punj, Chairman, Punj Llyod Ltd and Paul Hanley, Commander's Aide for Private Sector/ Industry engagement

A select group of Indian business leaders interacted with Admiral Keating, Commander of the US Pacific Command, US Navy, and the accompanying delegation from the US, on 15 May in New Delhi. The improved military-to-military cooperation between India and the US is largely due to the direct interaction between the US Pacific Command and Indian Armed Forces, said the Admiral.

While raising concern over protectionism, Indian business leaders indicated their positive resolve to collaborate with the US. They urged the US to pursue defence cooperation as an economic opportunity and identified education, healthcare and R&D as major areas for partnership. The US delegation sought a 5-point agenda on India's expectations from the US. The US delegation comprised of Admiral Timothy J Keating, Commander, US Pacific Command, US Navy; Mr Ashley Tellis, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Mr Paul Hanley, Commander's Aide for Private Sector/ Industry engagement, Amb Gene Christy, Foreign Policy Advisor; Col. Balan Ayyar, Commander 305th Air Mobility Wing and Installation Commander, McGuire Airforce Base, New Jersey; and Col. Frank Rindone, Defense Attaché, US Embassy.

The Indian side included Mr Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII; Mr Phiroz Vandrevala, Executive Director & Head, Global Corporate Affairs, Tata Consultancy Services; Mr Arun Bharat Ram, Chairman, SRF Ltd; Mr Atul Punj, Chairman, Punj Llyod Ltd; and Mr Harpal Singh, Mentor & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Ltd.

'New Industries From New Places' Launch

CII and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank Group jointly organised a Book Launch and Panel Discussion on 'New Industries from New Places' on 25 May in Bangalore and 26 May in New Delhi. The authors present, Prof Stanley Nollen, Professor, Georgetown University, and Mr Neil Gregory, Adviser to the Vice President for Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank Group, (the third author, Mr Stoyan Tenev, was not present), provided an extensive comparison of the factors that enabled the surge of IT software in India and hardware in China. India's software-sector policies and China's promotion of special economic zones for manufacturing suggest that well-designed sector-specific government policies can alleviate key bottlenecks and enable developing countries to compete



Prof Rakesh Basant, IIM-Ahmedabad, Neil Gregory, Adviser to Vice President for Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank Group; Prof Stanley Nollen, Georgetown University and Prof Rajat Kathuria, ICRIER releasing the book 'New Industries from New Places'

globally in new industries. Members learned that innovation, managerial ability and international exposure were the most important factors that contributed to India's strong growth. The discussions also pointed to India's growing status as a manufacturing hub and China's rise in software technologies, indicating a convergence in their comparative and competitive advantages, and suggested that the respective industries would need to consistently innovate and actively sustain the factors of growth to stay competitive.

Mr Vipul Bhagat, Manager, IFC South Asia, in his welcome remarks explained that the study was based on interviews with over 300 companies. Dr YS Rajan, Principal Advisor, CII, observed that although the IT sector invites optimism in the Indian economy, there is a significant scope for improvement at the policy level. The discussants in New Delhi included Prof Rakesh Basant, IIM-Ahmedabad and Prof Rajat Kathuria, Indian Council for Research and International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

Discussion with MIT Sloan Fellows

In an effort to further strengthen Indo – US business and academic linkages, CII organised an interactive session for 90 MIT Sloan Fellows with a diverse group of Indian business leaders and experts on 21 May in New Delhi.



Ashish Sharma, VP and Head- Strategy, Business Development and M&A, GE Capital; Anil Gupta, President, Honeywell International (India); Dr Rajesh Chadha, Senior Fellow, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and Mahesh Uppal, Director, Com First (India)

The delegation of Fellows represented mid level management from 28 countries. While this session gave the MIT delegation an astute understanding of India's integration process into the global economy and opportunities in India's financial, telecom and IT sectors, it was also a unique opportunity for the Indian side to convey a strong message to build upon educational linkages. The discussions apprised the aspiring business managers of emerging opportunities in India and highlighted differing cultural factors and business models unique to India.

President Obama's Congratulations

President Obama congratulated India on its historic national elections, observing that 'by successfully completing the largest exercise of popular voting in the world, the elections have strengthened India's vibrant democracy and upheld the values of freedom and pluralism that make India an example for us all.' The message went on to say that 'President Obama looks forward to continuing to work with the Indian government to enhance the warm partnership.'

USTR 2009 Special 301 Report: IPR

An annual review of the global state of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection and enforcement was released by the Office of the United States Trade Representative. The Report acknowledged the positive developments measures implemented in India to address IPR regulation and enforcement, but continued to include India in its 'Priority Watch List'.

US-India: Bilateral Update

- India-US Trade (January - March)

Trade	Value \$ Billion
Total trade	8.49
US's exports to India	3.31
India's exports to US	5.18
India's Trade Surplus	1.87

- Scrutiny of Religious Freedom: The Indian government has broken a long-standing policy of disallowing intrusive fact-finding visits from America and permitted the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), a religious vigilante state body from the US, to scrutinize the extent of India's religious freedom.
- Indo-US cooperation in Green Energy: The Indian government-owned Indian Oil Corporation is tying up with the US-based National Renewable Energy Laboratory for

a pilot project to produce second generation biofuel.

- Tim Roemer nominated US Ambassador to India: President Obama nominated distinguished scholar and former Democratic congressman Timothy Roemer to be his envoy in India. Mr Roemer served on the 9/11 Commission.

US-India: Corporate Watch

- Indian electric vehicles in the US: Bangalore-based Reva Electric Car Company, two-wheeler maker Bajaj Auto, and Tata Motors, are finalizing plans to launch electric vehicles in Europe and the US to take advantage of subsidies these countries are offering as part of their environmental agendas.
- US Auto Crisis hits Indian IT vendors: Chrysler and GM each annually outsource \$200-300 million worth of projects to different vendors, which may be hit by 20-25 per cent.
- WSJ in India: Wall Street Journal has started printing in India in arrangement with the Express Group. The launch of the locally printed edition follows the Indian government's decision earlier this year to allow foreign investment in the publication of facsimile editions of foreign newspapers.
- Remax enters India: US-based realty brokerage firm Remax has forayed into India, aiming to tap the potential offered by its middle-class families.
- Pfizer ties up with Claris: US-based pharma firm Pfizer announced a marketing tie-up with Rs. 800-crore Ahmedabad-based company, Claris Lifesciences, that specializes in injectables.
- Wal-Mart's India debut: US retail giant Wal-Mart, in partnership with the Bharti Group, opened its first store-Best Price Modern Wholesale - in Amritsar, ending years of opposition from Indian retailers.

US Economy / Policy Watch

- US Gross Domestic Product: US Real GDP decreased at an annual rate of 5.7% in Q1 2009, following a decrease of 6.3% in Q 4 2008.
- US International Trade Deficit: The US international trade deficit in goods and services in March 2009 increased 5.5%, as exports and imports both declined.
- National Fuel Efficiency Policy: President Obama has proposed a mileage and pollution plan, imposing national emissions limits for vehicles and requiring increased efficiency on the road. The proposed changes could save 1.8 billion barrels of oil through 2016.

Chhattisgarh

Session with US Consul General, Mumbai

5 May; Raipur



Interactive session with Paul Folimsbi, US Consul General, Mumbai

CII Chhattisgarh organised an interactive session with the US Consul General, Mumbai, Mr. Paul Folimsbi, and his team to discuss the industrial and commercial scenario of Chhattisgarh. The Consul General showed keen interest in developing student exchange programmes between Chhattisgarh and the US.

Credit Issues of Small & Medium Industries

11 May, Raipur



Interactive Session on Credit Issues of SMEs

Mr P Ramesh Kumar, Secretary, and Commissioner Industries, Chhattisgarh, was the chief guest at the session on Finance for SMEs. Mr Vinod Gupta, Special Secretary, Industries and other officials of the Industry Department, also participated in the session. Mr. P Ramesh Babu, DGM, State Bank of India, and Convener, State Level Banking Committee, represented the Banking sector.

CII Meets the Chief Minister

27 May; Raipur



Dr. Raman Singh, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, with the CII delegation

A CII delegation called on Dr. Raman Singh, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, to discuss its major plans and programmes for the year. The delegation assured the Chief Minister that CII would work closely to promote the state as an investment destination and promote downstream industries in the state.

The CII team included Mr. B.L.Agrawal, Mr. Kamal Sarada, and Mr. S.K. Jain, all Past Chairmen, CII Chhattisgarh State Council.

Jharkhand

Energy Efficiency & Conservation

12 May; Jamshedpur



Session on Energy Efficiency & Conservation

The session on Energy Efficiency and Conservation dealt with five major aspects energy efficiency: industry's needs, energy audit methodology, world class energy efficient industries, case studies on electrical and thermal equipment and the CII Mission on Sustainable Growth.

Orissa

Delegation to Shenzhen

14-18 May; China

A 10 - member CII Eastern Region delegation led by Mr Santosh K Mohapatra, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Orissa, visited Shenzhen China, as guests of the Government of China to the 5th International Cultural Industries Fair from 15-18 May 2009.



Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa, with a CII delegation

The delegation members, mainly from the SME sector, also visited some industries in Shenzhen.



CII Business Delegation in China

Session on Pollution Control

21 May; Bhubaneswar



Interactive Session with officials of the Pollution Control Board, Orissa

CII Orissa organized an interactive session with senior officials of the State Pollution Control Board, Orissa, on the problems faced by industries related to environmental issues.

CII Meets the Chief Minister

22 May; Bhubaneswar

A CII delegation called on Mr Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa. A copy of the State Action Agenda was shared with the Chief Minister. The delegation assured Mr Patnaik that CII would work closely with the State Government in promoting ancillary and downstream industries, Tourism and IT, and would showcase opportunities in the state through the flagship exposition Enterprise Orissa. The delegation included Mr. R. K. Jena, Vice Chairman, CII, Orissa, Mr. Santosh Mohapatra, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Orissa, Mr. J.B. Pany, Past Chairman, CII Orissa and Mr. M.K. Gupta, Member, CII Orissa State Council.

West Bengal

Interaction with US Consul

7 May; Siliguri



Interactive Session with the US Consul for Political & Economic Affairs

CII North Bengal Zonal Council organized an interactive session with Mr. Matthew K. Asada, US Consul for Political and Economic Affairs, and Mr. Sourabh Sen, Economic Specialist, to explore the potential for cooperation between USA and North Bengal.

Total Productivity Maintenance

27 May; Haldia

CII Haldia Zonal Office organised a seminar on Total Productivity Maintenance – Maximize Overall Equipment Effectiveness, Minimizing Losses and Assuring Optimal Value Generation. Ms C D Lama, District Magistrate and Collector, Purba Midnapore, was the Chief Guest.

Research Tools for Successful Marketing

28 May; Kolkata

A management development programme on 'Research Tools for Successful Marketing Plan' presented contemporary research tools and techniques to formulate a well-balanced marketing plan combining both quantitative and qualitative aspects.

Employment for the Visually Impaired

30 May; Kolkata

CII, in association with the Welfare Society for the Blind, organized a session on 'Employment Opportunities for Visually Impaired Persons.' The session sensitized corporates about assistive technology which empowers people with disability to perform their job efficiently.

CII calls on the Chief Minister of Tripura

4 June; Agartala



Manik Sarkar, Chief Minister, Tripura, with Dipankar Chatterji, Chairman, CII North East Council

A CII team led by Mr. Dipankar Chatterji, Chairman, CII North East Council, called on Mr. Manik Sarkar, Chief Minister of Tripura, Agartala.

During the interaction, CII reassured its commitment towards providing necessary support for the industrial and social development of the State. The delegation informed the Chief Minister that CII is planning to take a delegation to Bangladesh in July 2009. The Chief Minister requested CII to take up the pending transit and trans-shipment issues with Bangladesh.

The discussions with the Chief Minister also included issues relating to sectoral development with a focus on pineapple and rubber. Mr. Chatterji requested the Chief Minister to chair Investment Meets on the Rubber and Food Processing sectors, which CII plans to organise in New Delhi. CII would also assist the State Government to improve the quality in the education sector and other social sector like healthcare by engaging Counselors from the CII Institute of Quality, Bangalore, assured Mr. Chatterji.

Agri Export Zones in the North East

5 June; Agartala

A Conference on 'Agri Export Zones: Policy interventions needed for implementation in the North East' was organized in Agartala. The Conference, held to chalk out an action plan for speedy implementation of Agri Export Zones (AEZs) for pineapples in Tripura, was inaugurated by Mr Jitendra Chaudhury, Minister for Industries and Commerce, Forests and Rural Development, Tripura. Mr Sushil Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture, Tripura and officials from agri agencies and state horticulture, agriculture and Industry departments, were also present. Progressive pineapple farmers from all over the State also participated in the conference.

Mr Chaudhury called for investments in value addition of horticulture crops, especially pineapples, for the success of AEZ. He informed that about 30,000 hectares of land would be available for pineapple and other horticulture crops in the State. As the success of any AEZ depends on the round the year availability of horticulture crops, he urged the Horticulture Department to initiate staggered cultivation of pineapples through technological inputs from ICAR. He also called for better co-ordination between Industry and the Agriculture Department for the successful implementation of the AEZ.

Some recommendations the Conference:

- scientific packaging for transportation of pineapples from the State to other locations
- setting up of cold storage through private sector interventions
- encouraging brand promotion for marketing Tripura pineapples all over the country
- promoting investments for value addition of pineapples which may include investments in packaging units.



Jitendra Chaudhury, Minister for Industries & Commerce, Forests & Rural Development, Tripura (left) at the Conference on Agri Export Zones

MES Scheme for Skill Development

20 May, Lucknow; 30 May, Srinagar

Awareness sessions on the Modular Employable Skills (MES) Scheme were held in Lucknow and Srinagar to educate the industry and other stakeholders on the features of this Skill Development scheme.

The MES Scheme facilitates skill upgradation for different target groups like early school drop-outs and unemployed, child labour and their families, workers seeking certification for informally acquired skills, and workers and ITI graduates seeking skill upgradation. CII is an Assessing Body for the skill development scheme.

Delhi

How to become Water Wise

4 May: Delhi



Sanjay Sharma, Director-Manufacturing, Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd, Ramesh Negi, CEO, Delhi Jal Board, and Vikram Bakshi, MD, Connaught Plaza Restaurants Private Ltd

The workshop on 'How to Become Water Wise', was jointly organized by CII and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Water conservation strategies like 3 Rs: water reduction, reuse and recycling, water audits by industry and mechanisms of such audits were suggested by Mr. Ramesh Negi, Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board, who was the Chief Guest.

Regarding regulations on ground water extraction, the consensus was to recommend to the government to extend tax breaks to those in the hospitality industry who maintain 100% water recycling.

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, Director-Manufacturing, Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd., and Mr. Vikram Bakshi, Past Chairman, CII Delhi State Council, stressed the importance of water management and conservation.

Haryana

Interaction on Technical Education

13 May: Gurgaon

Mr Raj Kumar, Financial Commissioner & Principal

Secretary, Industrial Training & Technical Education, Haryana, interacted with CII Skill Development Panel members to discuss the advancement of skills and their up-gradation in Haryana. The interaction highlighted the need to match the training quality and needs of the institutes as per the current demands in the industry.

Some important recommendations included introducing counsellor

programmes in schools, advancement / revamping of course curriculum, removing redundant trades, training of trainers, sharing ITI best practices, hiring a research agency for skill mapping, and entrance examinations for ITIs.



Raj Kumar, Financial Commissioner & Principal Secretary, Industrial Training & Technical Education, Haryana

Maximizing Business Opportunities for SMEs

14 May: Gurgaon

The conference called for Industry-Government coordination to ensure that the schemes and policy regulations initiated by the government keeping in mind the slowdown, start to benefit the economy. Mr P K Bansal, Additional Director, Industries, Haryana, assured that the state government is ready to help industries recover from the crisis through various stimulus packages.

Environment, Health & Safety

19 May: Gurgaon

A workshop on 'Environment, Health & Safety' acquainted industry with the EHS best practices for safe and eco-friendly industrial operations, healthy human relations on the shop floor and enhanced industrial productivity. The workshop also covered hazardous waste management and ways to avoid risk in material management.

Hygiene Campaign

27 May: Gurgaon

Mr Yudhbir Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sirsa, shared with members the impressive initiative taken by him on implementation of the "No Open Defecation Campaign" in 333 villages in the district of Sirsa. CII offered to help the local administration carry this initiative forward in other districts of Haryana.

New Opportunities in Outsourcing

29 May, Gurgaon

CII Haryana State Council in association with BPIAI organised a Conference on 'Indian Domestic Market: Opportunities for Business Services in the Evolving Landscape – New Business Models in Present Scenario' to analyze the challenges and opportunities in business process outsourcing in present times. The discussions also focused on emerging market needs and role of green IT, upcoming opportunities in the current market and importance of value chain for value creation.

India Database Corporation (IDC) India was the knowledge partner for this conference, which also witnessed the release of a CII-BPIAI study on the Indian Domestic Market conducted by IDC India. The study finds that while banking and telecom sectors continue to be the traditional growth verticals, financial services, insurance, retail, travel, manufacturing and government are expected to contribute increasingly to the domestic outsourcing business.



Pavan Vaish, CEO, IBM Daksh

Himachal Pradesh

Strengthening ITIs

15 May: Nalagarh

The Chairmen of the Industry Management Committees (IMCs) of the CII-adopted ITIs in Himachal Pradesh met to discuss the new infrastructure created, investments made, courses started, admissions and number of students enrolled, etc.

Water Conservation

16 & 22 May, 5 June: Shimla, Barmana and Nalagarh

A series of poster making competitions on 'Water conservation' sought to encourage industries, who are



Poster making competition

bulk users of water, to save this very important resource. More than 100 school students in Shimla, Barmana and Nalagarh participated in poster making competitions on water conservation. The prize-winning entry would be printed and circulated to industries, government offices and institutions.

Apne Lakshya Ki Prapti

29 May: Pinjore

A Workshop on 'Apne Lakshya Ki Prapti' reiterated the importance of motivation and a positive attitude to build a well-knit and cohesive workforce. The workshop was conducted in Hindi to benefit workers and supervisors.

City Gas Distribution Networks

3 June: Chandigarh



L Mansingh, Chairman, PNRB

A Roundtable discussion on City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks highlighted the catalytic role Natural Gas could play in changing the economic scenario, given its efficiency and economic advantages. Mr. L Mansingh, Chairman, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), said the Board would try to play the role of an 'Enabler' and has already notified 14 regulations on the procedure for entities to secure authorization for setting up, expanding, operating CGD networks in the country. Mr B S Negi, Member, PNRB, urged industry to participate actively in the bidding process in view of the enormous benefits city gas distribution network promises to investors as well as to consumers.

Jammu & Kashmir

Excellence for School Education

2 May: Srinagar

CII J & K State Council jointly with the CII Institute of Quality, Bangalore organised a workshop on Education Excellence for 55 teachers of Burn Hall School in Srinagar. The takeaways from the workshop included improvements in institution results, both academic and non-academic, better utilization of assets, resources and time, and reduced staff turnover.

Cluster Presentation

19 May: Jammu

At an awareness session on cluster formation for industries in the Bar Brahmana industrial area of Jammu, several companies agreed to be a part of Energy Cluster.

Pre-budget Memorandum Presented

23 May: Jammu



Presentation of Pre-budget Memorandum

A CII delegation led by Mr Sanjay Puri, Chairman, CII J & K State Council called on Mr Abdul Rahim Rather, Minister for Finance, J & K, to present the Pre Budget Memorandum for the State. The recommendations include a number of power and taxation related issues.

Punjab

Ludhiana City Development

7 May: Ludhiana

To carry forward the agenda of focused city development, the Core Group identified traffic congestion and clean environment as issues of imminent concern. Another thrust area would be the study of the Master Plan of Ludhiana, and its implementation.

SEZ – the Changing Business Landscape

20 & 22 May: Ludhiana & Jalandhar

CII Punjab State Council, in association with Mahindra World City, organized two sensitization sessions on 'Special Economic Zones – The Changing Business Landscape' in Ludhiana and Jalandhar. Dr L B Singhal, Director General, Export Promotion Council (EoUs & SEZs), Government of India, who was the Chief Guest, spoke on the concept, benefits, perceptions and myths about SEZs.

Amritsar City Development

4 & 11 May: Amritsar

The Core Group for focused City Development of Amritsar has decided to name their initiative as Amritsar First, and will involve citizens who want to contribute to change. The creation of a city master plan, better infrastructure at focal points, completion of pending development projects and environment issues were the key issues deliberated upon.

In a subsequent meeting on 11 May, it was decided to create a mass base for the Amritsar First initiative by involving school children, in addition to industry members and concerned citizens. It was also decided to form a few smaller sub groups to actively spread civic awareness.

Rajasthan

Interactions with Government Officials

6 May, Jaipur

CII Rajasthan organized an interaction with Mr Arun Shandilya, Managing Director, SBBJ on Bank



– Industry Interface, and with Dr L K Panwar,

Arun Shandilya, MD, SBBJ, and Dr L K Panwar, Principal Secretary, Labour & Employment, Rajasthan

Principal Secretary, Labour & Employment, Rajasthan, on upgradation of ITIs adopted by CII.

Seminar on Direct & Indirect Taxes

8 May: Jaipur

CII Rajasthan, in association with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, organised a seminar on Direct & Indirect Taxes. Dr Girish Ahuja, Chartered Accountant from New Delhi, Mr Shailesh Sheth, Practicing Advocate from Mumbai, and Mr Pankaj Ghiya, Tax Advocate from Jaipur, were the faculty for the seminar.

Ceramics Expo

26 May, Jaipur



Charu Mathur, Regional Director, CII (NR); Sunil Arora, Chairman, RIICO and Alok, MD, RIICO, at the MoU ceremony for the Ceramics Expo

An international first-of-its-kind ceramic, glass and allied product exposition will be held in Jaipur from 29 January to 1 February 2010, jointly organized by CII, Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd (RIICO) and Indian Ceramic Society (ICS).

Uttar Pradesh

Colloquium on Water Conservation

15 May: Lucknow

At the Colloquium on Water Conservation, Mr Jayant Krishna, Vice Chairman, CII UP State Council, highlighted the need to sensitize young people on Water Conservation. Mr Anis Ansari, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh, was the Chief Guest for the session.

Industrial Visit for MBA Students

26 May: Faizabad



IILM Academy students during the industrial visit

A group of 98 MBA students of the IILM Academy for Higher Learning visited Yash Papers Ltd., Faizabad, to understand world class practices implemented in the factory.

Practical Aspects of Entrepreneurship

11 May: Lucknow

A group of 37 Class XI commerce students, accompanied by their teachers, from Delhi Public School, Indira Nagar, participated in an interactive session with Mr G R Misra, Managing Director, Gimi Engineers Pvt Ltd, to learn the practical aspects of Entrepreneurship. A coordinated tour to the Tata Consultancy Services office was also arranged, where Mr Jayant Krishna, Vice Chairman CII UP State Council, addressed the students.

Interaction for MSMEs

15 May: Lucknow

An interactive session was held with Mr H.S. Meena, Joint Secretary, MSME, Union Ministry of MSME, to explore the possibilities of association in the execution of various schemes under the Ministry of MSME. Mr Meena urged CII to play the role of a catalyst to implement and execute these schemes effectively.

Uttarakhand

Skills Training Programmes

12 & 14 May, Dehradun

CII, in partnership with National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), under the Ministry of MSME, organised two months training sessions for 41 SC/ST & BPL candidates in the Hospitality and Retail sectors. Study Tours were also organized for both sets of students. Subsequently, 10 candidates have been placed in the retail sector and 7 candidates have been hired in the hospitality sector.



Students of Skills training programmes on a Study Tour

Strengthening the Single Window System

28 May: Dehradun

Addressing an interaction on 'Strengthening the Single Window System' in the state, Mr I K Pande, Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand, said that the State Government is committed to create an effective and efficient single window system. He said that best practices from other states would be looked at to evolve an appropriate IT-enabled model for the state.



I K Pande,
Chief Secretary,
Uttarakhand

Mr P C Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industrial Development, Uttarakhand, Mr Rakesh Oberai, Chairman CII Uttarakhand State Council, Mr Rahul Mullick, Director, Advisory Services, KPMG and Mr Anand Dubey, Senior, Advisory Services, KPMG shared their experiences. Dr Dilbag Singh, Secretary, Labour & Employment, Mr C S Semwal, Additional Secretary, Finance, and Mr S C Nautiyal, Additional Director, Industries were other senior government officials who attended the session.

Western UP

Cost Reduction: 3Ws and 1H

30 May: Greater Noida

A workshop on Cost Reduction : Why, Where, When and How, offered practical tips on cost reduction.

Role of ICT in developing Rural India

3 June: Noida

A roundtable discussion on the Role of ICT in developing Rural India discussed how IT can help private entrepreneurs improve access to markets or supply chains, and provide a broader base for decision making.

Events

Control and Automation Technologies

21-22 May New Delhi

CII, Northern Region organized an International Conference cum Exposition on Control and Automation Technologies: - The Bedrock of Competitiveness. Speakers at the conference reiterated that control and automation technologies are key enablers for lowering cost, improving productivity, quality and efficiency, and meeting safety standards.



Harpal Singh, Chairman, CII (NR) and Mentor & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare

The two day Conference highlighted the role of Control and Automation Technologies in sectors such as Automotive and Auto-Components, Food, Beverages and Agri-Processing Technologies, Power & Energy Management; and Hydrocarbons. Over 25 speakers from various industries participated in the two day conference, which also featured a focused exposition on the latest control and automation technologies.

Technical Textiles

29 May: Chandigarh

Highlighting the growth prospects of technical textiles in India, and showcasing the capabilities of the Indian technical textiles sector to compete globally, the International Conference cum Exposition on Technical Textiles –The Sunrise



S S Channy, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Punjab

Industry, presented India as the next destination hub for technical textiles – manufacturing & consumption.

Across sessions, speakers reiterated the huge opportunities for investment in Technical Textiles with applications in in Civil Engineering, Building & Construction, Healthcare, Automobile, Agriculture, Packaging, Sports, Shoes and Clothing, etc.

Mr S S Channy, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Punjab, said two key application areas are geo textiles and build tech, given the importance placed by the Government on improvement of infrastructure. Mr Manish Gupta, Director, Textile Ministry, and Mr Pradeep Gupta, Secretary, Textiles Committee, Government of India also addressed the conference which drew over 100 representatives from across India, including textiles hubs like Surat, Coimbatore and Mumbai.



Latest Trends in Healthcare IT

20 May: Chennai

Twenty-one speakers from the field of IT and healthcare highlighted the benefits of integrating IT with healthcare, at the workshop on 'Latest Trends in Healthcare IT'.



Dr Varma Vegesna, Co-Chairman, Healthcare Forum & MD, Lazarus Hospitals Ltd., V K Subburaj, Health Secretary, Tamil Nadu, and Dr Preetha Reddy, Chairperson, Healthcare Forum, & MD, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd

Mr V K Subburaj, Health Secretary, Tamil Nadu, said that it was imperative for government hospitals to adopt strategies to simplify the procedural movement of cases, such as recording, provision of treatment and drugs etc. He also said that training of the medical fraternity would be vital for effective delivery.

Energy Efficiency & Implementation

7 May: Madurai; 21 May: Chennai



Workshop on Energy Efficiency in Madurai

These workshops focused on effective energy management, energy efficient culture in the work place, energy audit methodology and energy monitoring.

Andhra Pradesh

CII meets Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy

20 May: Hyderabad



CII members with Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh

A CII team led by Mr Y Harish Chandra Prasad, Chairman CII Andhra Pradesh and Chairman, Malaxmi Infra Ventures (India) Pvt Ltd met Dr. Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh, to congratulate him for his success in the election. They also briefed him on CII's economic agenda for the new Government.

Risk Management in Hospitals



Dr. Habeeb Ghatala, Dean, Apollo Hospitals Educational and Research Foundation

21 May: Visakhapatnam

The workshop discussed how to protect the assets and minimize the financial losses of an organisation. The high risk areas for claims in hospitals are diagnosis, surgery, medication and obstetrics, etc. Dr Habeeb Ghatala, Dean, Apollo Hospitals Educational and Research Foundation, addressed the gathering.

Karnataka

ITIs Upgradation

26 May: Bangalore

CII Karnataka participated in the State Steering Committee Meeting to identify Industry Associations/ Partners for the ITIs short listed during 2009-10. CII will take up 12 ITIs for upgradation under the Public Private Partnership mode this year.

Engaging Persons with Disabilities

26 May: Bangalore

The programme was conducted to facilitate a proactive approach in companies towards employment of persons with Disability. Mr. Dipesh Sutaria, Co-founder & trustee, Enable India, a non-profit organization working for the economic independence and dignity of persons with disabilities, addressed a 10 member Nokia HR team. followed by an interactive session.

Interaction with RBI Governor



Dr D Subbarao, Governor, RBI

13 May: Bangalore

The session enabled industry members to understand RBI's views on the current credit crisis, challenges in demand creation and the vision for long term sustainable growth. Dr D Subbarao, Governor, Reserve Bank of India, delivered a special address on the policy decisions taken by the

RBI to stabilize and sustain the economy.

Environment Management Systems

20 May: Bangalore

A programme at Kennametal India Ltd and ABB, followed by a facility tour, gave member companies a direct feel of the Environment Management Systems and best practices followed by these companies in Energy Efficiency, Water Management, Rainwater Harvesting, etc.

Kerala

Foreign Exchange and Risk Management

23 May: Kochi

Mr C J Mathew, Development Commissioner, Cochin SEZ, and Mr Rajwade, Chairman, A V Rajwade & Co Pvt Ltd, talked about currency risks, objectives of risk management, myths on Zero cost structures, and the importance of discipline to stop loss reversals.

Puducherry

Session with Chief Secretary, Puducherry

7 May: Puducherry

CII members met Mr R. Chandramohan, Chief Secretary, Puducherry, to discuss the industrial scenario of the state.

Meeting with Consul General of France

7 May: Puducherry

CII paid a courtesy call on Mrs Joëlle Rayet, Consul General of France at Puducherry. Mr. T Rajarajan, Chairman, and Mr. M S Vijayaraghavan, Vice Chairman, CII Puducherry, participated in the meeting.



Joëlle Rayet, Consul General of France at Puducherry, with CII team

Hazardous Waste Management Strategy

19 May: Puducherry

A meeting was convened by the Department of Science and Technology, and the Environment & Pollution Control Committee of the Puducherry Government to obtain views from various stake holders on the 'National Hazardous Waste Management Strategy'.

Warehouse and Inventory Management

19 May: Puducherry

The programme provided a deeper understanding of the breadth of problems likely to be encountered by modern warehouses and offered practical approaches to their solution. It enabled participants to understand the key functions of a Warehouse, the characteristics of warehouse management systems, warehouse activity profiling and zoning that can help in design of warehouses, appreciation of the main cost and control parameters in warehouse operations and global logistics.

Investing in France

21 May: Puducherry



Audrey Lucbernet, Investment Officer, Invest in France Agency Economic Mission, Embassy of France in India with CII members

A meeting was held with Ms Audrey Lucbernet, Investment Officer, Invest in France Agency (Economic Mission, Embassy of France in India), New Delhi, to guide Indian companies to set-up operations in France and gain access to the European market by opening a representative office there. Issues relating to JVs, green field projects, legal aspects, immigration, labour laws, etc. were also discussed.

Zones

Chennai

Members Meet with President, CII



Venu Srinivasan, President, CII

4 May: Chennai

Mr Venu Srinivasan, President, CII, and Chairman, TVS Motor Company Ltd, addressed the members on the CII theme for 2009-10, India@75: Economy, Infrastructure and Governance. Within the overarching agenda of building India at 75 as

the prime objective, the focus this year is on economic revival, fast-tracking infrastructure and strong promotion of corporate governance. He also shared his views on the current economic slowdown, issues faced by the industry and ways and means to overcome this.

Affordable Housing

8 May: Chennai

The core group on Affordable Housing of the Taskforce on Infrastructure, Chennai Zone, met to discuss the regulatory issues and the development control rules governing Affordable housing.

Star Trek – A CEO Connect Session

20 May: Chennai

At the first session of the CEO Connect series for the year 2009, Mr R Sarabeswaran, CEO, Consolidated Construction Consortium



At the Star Trek –CEO Connect Session in Chennai

Ltd and Mr J Murugavel, CEO, Consim Group, spoke about starting up their own venture, the hurdles they faced and how they converted the challenges positively to succeed in their respective fields.

Erode

Quality Mission

28 May: Hosur

CII members visited Ashok Leyland and TVS Motor Co to understand the various quality control practices followed by them to achieve manufacturing excellence.



Quality Mission members at Ashok Leyland

Trichy

Coping with the Downturn

4 May: Trichy

An interactive session was held to foster entrepreneurship and create awareness in struggling industries on the grants and subsidies offered by various government agencies, to help them tide over the economic downturn.

Mr B Ramamoorthy, Chief Manager, National Small Industries' Corporation (NSIC), Chennai, explained the role of the NSIC, right from the application stage and securing bank loans on behalf of applicants to providing guidance for marketing their products.



Members Meet

6 May: Trichy

The Members Meet was organized to facilitate networking and share ideas. Speaking on the 'State of the Economy: The Way Forward,' Mr C K Ranganathan, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu, said that entrepreneurs and industrialists should keep an eye on bringing down cost at all levels, from production to retail sale.

Mr V Ananthakrishnan, Executive Director, BHEL, Trichy, in a special address on 'Economic revival of nation - the role of power sector' called upon industries to ensure value addition of the end-products.

The Effective Executive

29 May: Trichy

The training programme was conducted to improve the effectiveness of the executives in their current position, to develop successful professionals.

Thoothukudi

Cutting down Manufacturing Costs

23 May: Thoothukudi

The workshop highlighted total cost reduction measures for manufacturing companies. The resource person, Dr M M Balasubrahmaniam, Director & Chief Consultant, COPE, Chennai, said reducing manufacturing costs increases profitability by making more with what you have, or the same with less. He explained techniques on total cost reduction.

Visakhapatnam

Frontline Sales and Marketing

6 May: Vijayawada

This programme trained the Front Office Teams of organizations to perform better, resulting in increased sales and customer satisfaction. Mr P Sreenivas Murthy, Consultant, M/s People N Spaces was the key faculty.

JETRO



Confederation of Indian Industry

“Indo-New-Window” Business Matching Site

Looking for Business Opportunities in Japan??

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For further details, please contact at
vaibhav.goel@cii.in

Goa

Homeland Security

8 May: Goa



Seminar on Homeland Security

The seminar dealt with the entire gamut problems of security concerns and examined ways to dovetail Disaster Management plans with extraordinary situations that arise out of terror attacks.

Gujarat

Labour Laws

8 May: Vadodara

The workshop apprised industries in central Gujarat about the latest legislative



At the Workshop on Labour Laws

and statutory changes and the recent changes in some of the important labour laws like Factory Act, Contract Labour Act, EPF/ PF rules etc.

Government Stimulus Package

Vitthal Udyognagar, 12 May

Mr T N C Rajagopalan, a noted expert in the field of export and import, explained how the recently-announced stimulus packages of the Union Government would affect industry. He also elaborated upon the procedural changes in various indirect taxes.

CII CEO Network Series

15 May: Vadodara

Commander Pawan Desai, Head-Technical Advisory Services, Mahindra Special Services Group, spoke on National Security and why corporate security has become very critical. He urged the CEOs present to look at integrated corporate security policies.

Enhancing Professional Efficiency

16 May: Vadodara

The session discussed qualities that front line managers must imbibe to translate potential into performance. It

also stressed the value of team work, trust and time management.

SMEs Cluster Programme

22 May: Ahmedabad

To strengthen its SMEs initiative, CII conducted awareness sessions highlighting the benefits of the Cluster Programme.

Representatives of participating companies shared first hand accounts of their experience in undergoing the cluster programme and the benefits thereof.

Investing in Ireland

22 May: Ahmedabad



Interactive Session on Invest in Ireland

Ms Minakshi Batra, Director (India) Investment and Development Agency of Ireland, described the investment scenario in Ireland and explained how Indian business communities can, through their engagement with the Irish Government, strengthen their European footprint and also improve their bottom lines.

Fighting Recession

23 May: Ahmedabad

The workshop was an experience sharing platform to exchange best practices in Productivity, Quality and Innovation for the success of organization.

Manufacturing Excellence Mission to Gurgaon

28-29 May: Gurgaon

CII SME members from Central Gujarat visited Munjal Showa, Minda Industries and Sona Koya in Gurgaon, to understand and appreciate the mechanics of world class



Arun Nanda, Dy Chairman, CII (WR) & Executive Director, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Pramod Chaudhari, Chairman, CII Maharashtra State Council & Chairman, Praj Industries Ltd, A M Khan, Principal Secretary – Industries, Energy & Labour Department, Maharashtra, Ashok Chavan, Chief Minister, Maharashtra and Dr Naushad Forbes, Chairman, CII (WR) & Director, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd

manufacturing, supply chain and material movement practices.

Madhya Pradesh

Flow Manufacturing

29 - 30 May: Indore & Bhopal

CII Madhya Pradesh and the CII-LM Thapar Center for Competitiveness for SMEs organised training programmes to explain how Flow Manufacturing helps to build a variety of products with as little wastage as possible.

Maharashtra

Taxation and Legal Services for MSMEs

27 April: Mumbai

The session was organised to advise MSMEs how to handle subjects such as assessment of proceedings, IT returns, how to handle notice of scrutiny, how to respond to search/surveys, dealing with notice of demand, and how to make representations to the Appellate Authority, etc.



Deepak Tralshawala, Advocate, High Court & Income Tax Appellate Tribunal

Water Management & Technology



Ajit Kumar Jain, Principal Secretary, Water Supply & Sanitation, Maharashtra

Mumbai, 8 May

Mr Ajit Kumar Jain, Principal Secretary, Water Supply & Sanitation Department, Maharashtra, addressing a conference on Water Management, said that though considerable investments have been made in this area, the results were not yet commensurate with the investments.

Interaction with the Chief Minister

7 May: Mumbai

Mr Ashok Chavan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, addressed various industry issues such as Power, Octroi,

Infrastructure, Taxation, Revenue, etc, in an interaction with CII members. He also explained the status of the various policy initiatives taken by the State Government.

Noting the importance of Single Window Clearance Policy, Mr Chavan said the Government of Maharashtra has been working closely with CII on enacting Single Window Clearance and a notification is expected shortly. He urged CII members to engage the local population in industrial activities to avoid social unrest and maintain balanced growth.

HR During Ression

19 May: Pune

The MITCON Institute of Management conducted a survey on various HR initiatives during the ongoing recession. Professors of the Institute shared their research and presented their findings to CII members.

Energy Saving Techniques

19 May: Pune

To underscore the importance of energy conservation and to make the industries energy competitive, the CII – L M Thapar Centre for Competitiveness for SMEs organised a training programme on Energy Saving Techniques.

Business Opportunities in Brazil



Roberto Parenhos, President, Brazil India Chamber of Commerce

Mumbai, 20 May

Mr Roberto Parenhos, President, Brazil India Chamber of Commerce, presented an update on the opportunities for growth in the Brazilian market and the advantages that the country offers to companies as the base for their operations, at a conference on 'Business Opportunities in Brazil.'

Contraband and Counterfeit Products

22 May: Mumbai

Almost 5 – 7 % of world trade is in counterfeit and contraband products. The Indian FMCG industry loses



Conference on Contraband and Counterfeit Products

2%-6% of its turnover due to such products. The conference created awareness on this growing menace. On this occasion, CII launched a Help Line to facilitate consumers to register complaints of any counterfeit, contraband or spurious products. The 24x7 helpline no. 022-24974525 is currently operational only for Mumbai.

Safety and Security for CII Employees

23 May: Mumbai

As part of Western Region's CII+i committee initiative, an internal awareness workshop on various physical security aspects was held for CII employees. The training was imparted by Mahindra and Mahindra, Special Services Group, to make the employees more aware and alert about coping with emergency. A mock fire evacuation drill exercise was carried out within the office premises.



Pradeep Bhargava, Chairman CII WR Task Force on Skill Development & MD, Cummins Generator Technologies India Ltd, Prof Devang Khakhar, Director, IIT Mumbai, Dr Naushad Forbes, Chairman CII WR & Director, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd and Dr Ganesh Natarajan, Chairman CII WR Task Force on Higher Education & Dy Chairman & MD, Zensar Technologies Ltd

Planned Maintenance

27 May: Pune

Keeping the TPM concept in mind, the seminar was designed to help industries to achieve Zero Breakdowns through Planned Maintenance.

Industry – Academia Collaboration

27 May: Mumbai

Aligned with the CII Western Region theme of 'Sustaining Growth through Education, the session was organised to brief institutes and industry on the goal of this programme .i.e. to start working with 100 colleges by August 2009, identify potential centres of excellence and create 20 new IIT status programmes by 2010.

For programmes in colleges that offer themselves for assessment, CII would send teams to discuss, assess and identify areas of support. The support would include facilities assessment, improving faculty quality, guiding research projects, raising the standards of the curriculum, research funding, improving student employability etc.



Confederation of Indian Industry

TRADE FAIRS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Exhibition	Date	Venue
MII Show	7 - 10 August, 2009	Indonesia
International Railway Equipment Exhibition (IREE)	24 - 26 August, 2009	Delhi
Defence Systems & Equipment International (DSEI) - India Pavilion	8 - 11 September, 2009	London
International Exhibition on Climate Change: Technology Development & Transfer	22 - 23 October, 2009	Delhi
MII Show	November 2009	Morocco
10th Auto Expo	5 - 11 January, 2010	Delhi

For details pls call:
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