



Confederation of Indian Industry

# BRIDGE

CONNECTING INDIA WITH USA AND CANADA



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## Events Update



*Interactive session with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Ashton B Carter: July 24, New Delhi*

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized an interactive session on “U.S.-India Defense Cooperation: The Way Forward”, with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton B Carter. In his speech Dr. Carter described his work with Indian leaders to outline a joint vision for greater US-India defense cooperation. Echoing previous statements made by U.S. President Barack Obama and U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, Dr. Carter stated that defense cooperation is central to the strategic partnership evolving between the two countries. He discussed the progress made in U.S.-India defense ties in recent years, and described practical measures that both countries could take to make U.S.-India defense cooperation simpler, and more responsive, and effective.

Dr. V Sumantran, Chairman, CII National Defense Council & Vice Chairman, Ashok Leyland suggested that the U.S. should accord a special status to India in terms of defense trade. He also encouraged his American counterparts to set up R&D centers and manufacturing bases in India to promote India as a global defense manufacturing hub.

Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII noted that the encouraging efforts being made by both governments in resolving issues affecting defense cooperation. He also noted the recent visit of Secretary Panetta to New Delhi which signifies the interest and intent of cooperation from the U.S. end and encouraged the U.S. to look beyond the buyer-seller and patron-client arrangements. He emphasized future defense acquisitions to encompass transfer of technology as well as joint research and development of weapons systems.



***Mr. D J Pandian, Principal Secretary, Department of Energy and Petrochemicals, Government of Gujarat speaks at a Vibrant Gujarat roadshow organized by CII and USIBC on 9 July in New York, while Mr. Bal Das, Executive Advisor, Aquiline Capital Partners LLC looks on.***

**CII-USIBC roadshow organized for the Vibrant Gujarat Summit:**

**9 July, New York and 10 July, Washington DC**

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the US India Business Council (USIBC) co-organized a roadshow where a high powered government and business delegation from the Indian state of Gujarat, led by Mr. D J Pandian, Principal Secretary, Department of Energy and Petrochemicals, Government of Gujarat, met with the American business community in New York. The principle message that the delegation sought to deliver is that even in a turbulent global economic scenario, and with domestic slowdown in India, Gujarat continues to grow and remains an investor friendly state.

The delegation of 18 industry leaders, representing sectors like financial services, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, clean energy etc. were accompanying Mr. Pandian and other officials of the Government of Gujarat for a 10 day visit to the United States and Canada. In his remarks, Mr. Pandian spoke of the tremendous strides made by Gujarat in becoming an attractive investment destination, with world class infrastructure, skilled labor force, and a stable and transparent bureaucratic, judicial and legal system. Mr. Pandian invited investors and industry representatives in New York to attend the Vibrant Gujarat 'investment festival' scheduled for 11-13 January 2013.

Mr. Pandian pointed out that although India is an extremely pluralistic and diverse society, ultimately democracy stands firm at the end of the day. The resilience of its people, who are guided by liberty, freedom, peace and prosperity, is truly India's greatest asset. Mr. Pandian particularly attributed the singular success of Gujarat in attracting and retaining businesses from all over the world to a combination of political will and administrative skill. He also highlighted the quest of the Government of Gujarat to undertake sustainable development, especially through environmentally friendly development policies and a renewed focus on clean energy. Clean energy technology and waste management were stressed as major areas where US companies have expertise and could be potential areas of investment and collaboration in Gujarat.



***Ms Dianne Farrell, Executive Vice President, USIBC moderates a session with Mr. D J Pandian at a Vibrant Gujarat roadshow organized by CII and USIBC on 10 July in Washington DC.***

At a similar session jointly organized by CII and USIBC on 10 July in Washington DC, members of the Gujarat delegation made a presentation and interacted with the Washington DC community – industry, think tanks, research organizations, government officials and members of Indian Diaspora. Here too, they highlighted the need for industrial and institutional collaboration across a broad range of sectors, particularly in education, infrastructure and clean energy.



**CII- CSIS session with Dr. Prathap Reddy, Chairman, Apollo Group of Hospitals: 24 July, Washington DC**

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) jointly organized an interactive session 'U.S. and India: Innovating Health Care', with Dr. Prathap Reddy, Chairman of the Apollo Group of Hospitals in Washington, DC. Ambassador Karl Inderfurth, Wadhvani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies at CSIS kicked off the session and highlighted the increase in US-India cooperation across key sectors such as security, energy, defense, science and technology among others.

***L-R: Dr. Prathap Reddy, Chairman of the Apollo Group of Hospitals and Ambassador Karl Inderfurth, Wadhvani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies at an interactive session organized by CII and CSIS on 24 July in Washington DC***

Dr. Reddy highlighted the three biggest challenges India faces in the healthcare

sector: the paucity of hospital beds for people; the lack of skilled health human resources; and the rise in both infectious and non-communicable diseases. He pointed out that India is facing alarming numbers of cases of heart disease, cancer and diabetes, and that the expansion of screening services deserves great attention. Pointing to the huge cost differential, he stressed that comparable surgeries in India cost one-tenth of the price in the US. High quality healthcare and cost benefit is hence a major priority area.

Dr. Reddy also acknowledged the tremendous contributions made by research organizations in the US in diagnosis, methodology, innovation, research and technology in the healthcare sector and called for greater collaboration between India and the US. He, thus, called the healthcare challenge 'solvable', and a key area where the US and India can work together. In particular, he emphasized the need for new tools to transform healthcare delivery, such as through Information Technology and lauded the ongoing efforts in the US to digitize healthcare data through Electronic Medical Records, while hoping that such techniques would be brought to India as well.

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**CII-INDIA BUSINESS FORUM MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

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**Indian IT companies step up US hiring:** The pace at which Indian IT will expand its direct presence in the US with local hires looks certain to accelerate rapidly. While the general anti-offshoring mood among American politicians and the growing difficulties in obtaining visas are two big reasons for this, there are other reasons emerging. [More](#)

**Dr Reddy's launches cholesterol generic drug in US:** Pharma major Dr Reddy's Laboratories has launched Atorvastatin Calcium tablets in the US market. The drug is a bioequivalent generic version of Lipitor of Pfizer Inc. It is indicated for the treatment of high cholesterol. [More](#)

**Dr Reddy's launches Ibandronate Sodium tablets in US:** Pharma major Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd has launched Ibandronate Sodium tablets in the US market. Ibandronate Sodium tablets were a bioequivalent generic version of Boniva tablets of Roche Therapeutics Inc and are indicated for increasing bone mass. [More](#)

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