



Confederation of Indian Industry



BRIDGE

CONNECTING INDIA WITH USA AND CANADA

JANUARY 2010

IN THIS ISSUE:

CII & USA: JANUARY EVENTS UPDATE

I. CII and USA: January 2010 Events Update

II. In the Spotlight: IBF Members

III. US-India Bilateral Update

IV. US Economy/ Policy Watch

V. Advertising opportunity in FORTUNE magazine

VI. Forthcoming Events

A DISCUSSION WITH VISHAKHA DESAI, PRESIDENT, ASIA SOCIETY: 7 JANUARY: NEW DELHI



Vishakha Desai, President, Asia Society in discussion with Pramit Pal Chaudhuri, Foreign Editor, Hindustan Times (left) and Ravi Bhoothalingam, Chief Executive, Manas Advisory Pvt Ltd

A discussion on “Tracing the Parallels: The US’ Relationship with India and China” was organized by CII with Dr Vishakha Desai President, Asia Society and Mr Pramit Pal Chaudhuri, Foreign Editor, Hindustan Times. In the US-India-China triangle, US-India and US-China have rather equal lengths, but “India-China” is the shortest arm, said Vishakha Desai. Speaking at the session on “Tracing the Parallels: The US’ relationship with India and China” co-organised by CII, Asia Society and the Wall Street Journal,

Dr Desai and Pramit Pal Chaudhuri, discussed the dynamics of some of the most important strategic relationships in the world. Commenting on the US and India, Dr Desai said that the relationship has progressed to a more mature state. Even if there is nothing “exuberant” or “big” that they can offer each other, their engagement is growing steadily across the board. President Obama and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh share deep respect and affection for each other as academics, intellectuals and cautious leaders. The India-China relationship, however, is mired in mistrust and lack of any people-to-people links. Promoting knowledge and understanding between India and China of each other’s histories, cultures etc is therefore, of critical importance. There may be an element of competition, fear and envy in China towards India. Many other countries, including Japan, Indonesia and Vietnam have started expanding their relationship with India to balance the China effect, Mr Chaudhuri explained. Given these factors, the complexity in the India-China relationship cannot be managed without trust. In fact, it is this lack of trust between the two large, emerging players in the Asian arena that gives the US the pivotal hand in managing the strategic relationship even in the Asia Pacific region. On the whole, even the US would welcome India-China relationship as it would lessen the regional tension. India, in all its disorderly fashion, must think strategically in terms of its regional and international role. Moderating the session, Mr Ravi Bhoothalingam, Chief Executive, Manas Advisory Pvt Ltd., said that the 21st century will see a plethora of relationships shaping up with circles, parallels, triangles and quadrilaterals with countries like the US, China, India, Brazil, Russia, Indonesia on multiple reference points.

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US INDIA STRATEGIC DIALOG: 9-10 JANUARY: NEW DELHI

Experts in academia, industry and the government from India and the US came together at the “US-India Strategic Dialogue” organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Aspen Strategy Group (ASG) on 9-10 January 2010 in New Delhi. The Delegates held in-depth discussions in advancing Indo-US relations with a strategic perspective, as part of their Track II dialogue. They exchanged views in issues relating to energy and climate change, the defence partnership and bilateral relations post the economic recession. They also discussed possible options in tackling geopolitical issues in Pakistan, Afghanistan and China. Mr Jairam Ramesh, Minister for Environment and Forests delivered the keynote address on the first day of the Strategic Dialogue on India’s plans on energy and climate change and gave a de-briefing of the Copenhagen accord. On the second day, Mr B J Panda, Member of Parliament – Lok Sabha, Biju Janta Dal gave the keynote on India’s democratic structure, explaining the rise of regional parties.

The US delegation met with officials from Government of India, including Mr MK Narayanan, former National Security Advisor; Mr SM Krishna, Minister for External Affairs; Mr Sachin Pilot, Minister of State for Communications and IT; Admiral Nirmal Verma, Chief of Naval Staff; Mr Shyam Saran, Prime Minister’s Special Envoy for Climate Change; and Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.



DINNER WITH RICHARD HOLBROOKE, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN: 18 JANUARY: NEW DELHI

CII organized a meeting of India’s leading industrialists, former diplomats, members of Parliament, officials of the Indian armed forces and officials of the US Embassy in New Delhi with Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan and the delegation accompanying him, on 18 January in New Delhi. The two sides engaged in wide ranging discussions on India’s strategic role in reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and promoting stability in the South Asian region.

Tarun Das, former Chief Mentor, CII greets Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, US Special Representative for Afghanistan-Pakistan

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: IBF MEMBERS



India L&T unit wins automation orders from railways

MUMBAI, Jan 5 (Reuters) - India's Larsen & Toubro said on Tuesday its wholly owned unit won two turnkey projects for computerising the maintenance of rolling assets of Indian Railways. [Read More](#)

Ranbaxy in talks to acquire Bangalore vaccine co for Rs 50-cr

Ranbaxy Laboratories has started discussions to buy a privately-held Bangalore-based vaccine company, two persons familiar with the development said. While the identity of the company could not be ascertained, one of persons said the Bangalore-based company is small in size and the deal could be valued around Rs 50 crore. [Read More](#)

Tata's Nano could cost \$8,000 in US

The world's cheapest car is being readied for sale in the US, but by the time India's Tata Nano is retrofitted to meet emissions and safety standards, it won't be that cheap. Tata Technologies Ltd., the global engineering arm of the Tata group conglomerate, brought the tiny car to Detroit as a publicity stunt for the engineering group. [Read More](#)

Tata Comm to invest up to Rs 500 cr in Pune data centre

Tata Communications today launched its data centre in Pune and said it plans to invest up to Rs 500 crore over the next three years. Spread across nearly 55,000 sq ft, the data centre would offer its clients services like co-location, managed hosting and storage. [Read More](#)

[India cabinet panel OKs Alstom, Bharat Forge JVs](#)

An Indian cabinet panel on Thursday approved setting up of joint ventures by a consortium of France's Alstom ([ALSO.PA](#)) and India's Bharat Forge Ltd to manufacture super critical and sub-critical power plant equipment in India. [Read More](#)

US-INDIA BILATERAL UPDATE

- **US Ambassador lauds US-India cooperation in aviation security:** US and India announced the formulation of the US-India aviation security working group, a bilateral interagency and inter-ministry working group. The group is led on the US side by the US transportation security administration and on the Indian side by the ministry of civil aviation. ([More](#))
- **U.S. for stronger ties with India, Brazil, China:** Spelling out the agenda of the administration in its second year, the White House has said United States President Barack Obama and his team will work towards promoting stronger bilateral cooperation with countries such as India, Brazil, China and South Africa. ([More](#))
- **India concerned over US plan to give lethal drones to Pak:** Expressing concern over reported US plans to provide Pakistan with the lethal drones, the Indian government has again conveyed to the US its fears that the US military assistance could be used against India. Sources said that Washington has been "sensitised" to India's concerns. ([More](#))
- **US to engage India, China, Russia for Af-Pak policy:** The US proposes to engage Russia, China and India this year as it tries to bring stability to Afghanistan and Pakistan while it continues its mission to "disrupt, dismantle, and defeat Al Qaeda and its safe havens in Pakistan". The strategy is detailed in a 39-page report the report, prepared by Special Representative Richard Holbrooke and his staff and signed by Clinton ([More](#))
- **India to push US on social security pact:** Indian government is likely to link progress on the social security agreement with the US to that of the Bilateral Investment Promotion Agreement (BIPA). The ministry of overseas Indian affairs will be taking up the matter with the ministry of external affairs. ([More](#))
- **India urges US to loosen high-tech export controls:** Nearly two months after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Washington, India on Thursday again pressed the US for removal of export controls on high technology and dual-use items to infuse more confidence into bilateral ties. ([More](#))
- **Mahindra Navistar launches New Trucks in India:** Mahindra Navistar Automotives, a commercial vehicle joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra and Navistar of USA, has unveiled its 25 tonne and 31 tonne trucks for the Indian market. In 2005, Mahindra & Mahindra and International Truck and Engine Corp, the operating company of Navistar entered into a JV to manufacture light, medium and heavy commercial vehicles for India and global markets. ([More](#))

US ECONOMY / POLICY WATCH

- **President Obama proposes tough limits on largest banks:** Obama is now aiming to force the firms to choose between the federal benefits that come with being a bank and the unbridled pursuit of profits. Obama's plan would bar banks from making investments that are not intended to benefit customers, including the creation of proprietary investment funds solely to benefit employees and shareholders. New limits also would make it difficult for the largest banks to become any bigger, effectively stopping domestic expansion. ([More](#))
- **US healthcare reform falls ill:** Last week's loss in Massachusetts has stunned the Democratic party and caused panic. One likely consequence is that healthcare reform – Barack Obama's signature initiative – will go down to defeat. This is a reform that the US badly needs, and which is decades overdue. Must the effort be abandoned? ([More](#))

FORTUNE

Doing Business in India
Special Advertising Section: 12 April 2010 issue, Fortune Magazine
In partnership with CII and the US-India Business Council

FORTUNE is a powerful and influential magazine with a readership of over 4.1 million C-suite executives, top managerial brass and professionals. Focus of Fortune's Special India issue will be on sectors pivotal to India's growth and development, including but not limited to: energy, education, infrastructure, defense, hospitality, retail—and the companies leading those sectors into the future. In addition to featuring your advertisement, Fortune will interview your company executive and integrate some text coverage within the section, with your approval.

This is a valuable opportunity to promote your company and executives in a story that will be well read by a wide business-oriented audience in Fortune's annual "Brainstorm Green" issue, and will also be circulated among our members.

- FORTUNE has offered highly discounted rates for CII members. Members are eligible to avail exclusive CII rates only if they book through CII. Please note the deadline to book space is **1 February 2010**.

For reference, the last two iterations of this project:

2009...http://www.timeincnewsgrouppub.com/sections/090831_India.pdf

2008...http://www.timeinc.net/fortune/services/sections/customprojects/sections/081124_Business_in_India.pdf

Take advantage of this opportunity in promoting your company and showcasing your contributions to "Doing Business in India" in the 2010 issue!

For more information and bookings, please contact Shuchita Sonalika at shuchita.sonalika@cii.in

SAVE THE DATE: CII CO-ORGANIZES ASIA SOCIETY CORPORATE CONFERENCE: 18-20 MARCH 2010



SAVE THE DATE

20th Asian Corporate Conference (Co-organized by Wall Street Journal and CII)

March 18-20, 2010 | Taj Palace Hotel | New Delhi, India

India: Powering Asia's Ascent India and many of its Asian neighbors have seen an economic resurgence in the face of the global economic downturn, although a sustained regional recovery has yet to establish solid footing. Following a sweeping victory in India's recent elections, the Congress-led Government of India has announced a major stimulus package and mandated that its main focus will be to boost the country's economic growth and address the long-term problems posed by the financial crisis. How should India confront the domestic and global challenges that are testing the resilience of its economy? What investments in infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, and education should be made to ensure India's long-term, inclusive growth? How will these investments benefit both India's domestic market as well the economies of its regional counterparts? Will India assume a leadership role in multilateral institutions and play a decisive role in facilitating global trade negotiations? And will the emphasis of India's leading corporations on building truly global and sustainable brands succeed in contributing to the overall health of Asian as well as the world economy? Join government leaders, key decision-makers and industry experts from the international and Indian business community to discuss how India will fulfill its optimistic economic forecasts.

For more information and Registration please visit:

For Indian Participants: CII.IN

For Overseas Participants: Asia Society

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