



Confederation of Indian Industry

# BRIDGE

**CONNECTING INDIA WITH USA AND CANADA**



**August 2012**

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## Events Update

**Interactive Session with US Ambassador to India Ms. Nancy Powell: 31 August, Lucknow**



*CII Uttar Pradesh members meet with US Amb. Nancy Powell on 31 August in Lucknow.*

Confederation of Indian Industry Uttar Pradesh State Council organized an interactive session in Lucknow with Ms. Nancy Powell, US Ambassador to India to discuss the investment climate in Uttar Pradesh and identify areas of mutual cooperation between the state and US industry. Amb. Powell recounted that India moved from being the 25<sup>th</sup> largest business partner for the US to being the 13<sup>th</sup> largest in only a matter of 10 years, with US exports to India totaling \$21 billion. She also acknowledged the various contributions of three million Indians who currently live in the United States. She reiterated the need to allow Foreign Direct Investment in the retail sector, which would provide better forward and backward linkages with the agricultural economy of Uttar Pradesh. Amb. Powell applauded the improvement in the conditions of roads and infrastructure in the state, and continued by expressing the US interest in technology exchange for the power and defense sectors in India.

Mr. Alok Saxena, Chairman, CII Uttar Pradesh State Council drew attention to the complementarity of the US and Indian economies that results not only from common strategic interests but also coinciding values of pluralism, democracy, free market economy, and inclusiveness in growth. He outlined CII's work in making Uttar Pradesh more competitive, describing the collaboration with the state government in forming joint working groups on Power & Renewable Energy, Skills Development, Branding UP, MSME, Agriculture & Food Processing, Industrial Policy, Infrastructure, Healthcare, and Information Technology. He also recognized the various other initiatives undertaken by the state government to strengthen industry, especially the MSME sector.

**Georgetown University McDonough School of Business EMBA-18 Residency Program: 5 - 10 August, New Delhi**



***Members of the Georgetown University EMBA-18 Residency Program with the CII session panelists in New Delhi.***

CII organized a series of meetings and panel discussions for the Georgetown University EMBA-18 Residency Program in New Delhi. Dr. Stanley Nollen, Professor, McDonough School of Business, Georgetown University again led the program this year accompanied by a group of more than 50 students. CII has been working with Georgetown University on this program on a regular basis. Ms. Judy Reinke, Sr. Commercial Counsellor, US Embassy delivered remarks at the opening reception, and Mr. Tarun Das, Former Chief Mentor, CII spoke at the interactive session titled “Indian Business and the Indian Economy,” which was followed by a panel discussion. A session dedicated to discussion of Corporate Social Responsibility was also held. CII, in collaboration with Georgetown University, and IBM, conducted a study of the Indian labor market and the resulting report titled “Analysis of Indian Labour Laws & Their Effects on the IT Services Industry” was released at one of the sessions.

**Interactions with Officials of the United States Trade Representative Office: 23 August, Hyderabad, 24 August, New Delhi**

CII organized a luncheon meeting in Hyderabad with Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative (USTR) for South and Central Asia Ms. Mara Burr and USTR Director for South and Central Asia Mr. Arun Venkataraman.



***Officials of the United States Trade Representative Office and the US Embassy meeting with CII members on 23 August in Hyderabad.***

Also present at the meeting were Ms. Katherine Dhanani, U.S. Consul General Hyderabad, Mr. Jimmy Mauldin, Trade Unit Chief, U.S. Embassy New Delhi, among others from the US Commercial office. CEOs from various sectors attended the meeting, which was chaired by Ms. Suchitra Ella, Chairperson, CII AP and Jt. MD, Bharat Biotech International Ltd.

The objective of the interaction was to build strong two-way trade between India and the US, with the support of USTR. Discussions revolved around understanding the progressiveness of business climate in Andhra Pradesh, and new developments in business innovation and government policy.

CII officials also held a meeting with Ms. Burr and Mr. Venkataraman on 24 August in New Delhi to discuss the current state of reforms in India, the Foreign Direct Investment climate, and the ways in which some of the challenges faced by the two countries can be met.

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## CII-INDIA BUSINESS FORUM MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

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**Dr Reddy's launches asthma drug in US market:** Dr Reddy's Laboratories today said it has launched Montelukast Sodium tablets, used for treating asthma and allergies, in the US market after getting approval from the American health regulator. [More](#)

**Indian IT Firms Broaden Hiring in U.S.:** India's biggest information-technology companies are stepping up hiring in the U.S. [More](#)

**TCS expands student technology awareness programme in US:** The software giant is expanding its 'goIT' summer camp for American students, which was first started four years. TCS's annual goIT programme for students is designed to foster high school students' interest in pursuing a career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). [More](#)

**Wipro teams up with US varsity:** Wipro has teamed up with University of Massachusetts to launch a fellowship programme in the US to train 120 school teachers over three years. The programme will be entirely funded by Wipro. [More](#)

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## US-INDIA ECONOMIC AND POLICY WATCH

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**India, US set to ink \$1.4bn deal for 22 Apache helicopters:** India is getting ready to order 22 heavy-duty Apache helicopters for around \$1.4 billion, in what will be yet another big defence deal to be bagged by the US. [More](#)

**Indian and Western Colleges Set Up Joint Study Programs:** As colleges and universities wait for India to approve a bill granting full access to the vast education market, some institutions are reaching Indian students through twinning programs. [More](#)

**Stage set for new India-US partnership:** Starting this year, as many as 200 American students will come to India's Central universities and the IITs as part of a novel 'Connect India' programme planned by the two countries. The University Grants Commission will also award 300 Raman Fellowships to Indian students for post-doctoral studies in the US. [More](#)

**Eyeing closer ties, Rice to visit India:** US President Barack Obama's UN ambassador and possibly his closest confidante, Susan Rice, will make her first trip to India next week. [More](#)

**India, a rising power, shares our core principles: Paul Ryan:** Congressman Paul Ryan, the running mate of Republican Presidential candidate Mitt Romney, is a strong supporter of Indo-US ties and had suggested that every member of the Congress should visit India as that nation shares many of America's "core principles and interests". [More](#)

**Chidambaram junks Pranab's policy, orders retro tax review:** Finance minister P Chidambaram has ordered a review of tax provisions that have a retrospective effect, a move which is expected to help regain investor confidence. [More](#)

**8 states, 2 union territories favour FDI in retail: Government:** The government has said eight states and two union territories have supported foreign direct investment (FDI) in organized retail, revising its earlier reply to the Rajya Sabha that two states and two union territories had supported this contentious reform. [More](#)

**US cancer hospital to be set up in Hyderabad:** American Oncology Institute (AOI, the US) and Cyberabad Citizens Health Services, have invested Rs 220 crore (\$40 million) to set up a cancer institute with 350 beds here. After two subsequent phases, it would have 1,000 beds with a total investment of Rs 1,000 crore. [More](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **CII and USIBC Roundtable on “U.S. – India Agricultural Cooperation” with the visiting CII Agriculture delegation**

17 September 2012 | 11:00am - 1:00pm | U.S. Chamber of Commerce

To RSVP, please email Shuchita Sonalika at [ss@cii-usa.org](mailto:ss@cii-usa.org) or call (703) 807-0310 Ext. 102

### **CII-Columbia University Conference**

‘India: Reforms, Economic Transformation and the Socially Disadvantaged’

20 – 22 September 2012 | School of Public and International Affairs (SIPA): 420 West 118th Street, New York, NY 10027

To RSVP, please email Sumani Dash at [sd@cii-usa.org](mailto:sd@cii-usa.org) or call (703) 807-0310 Ext. 103

### **CII-USIBC Roadshow featuring the visiting delegation from the State of Gujarat, in advance of Vibrant Gujarat 2013**

24 September 2012 | Palo Alto, California

To RSVP, please email Sumani Dash at [sd@cii-usa.org](mailto:sd@cii-usa.org) or call (703) 807-0310 Ext. 103

### **CII-USIBC Roundtable with Mr. U. K. Sinha, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**

24 September 2012 | New York City

By Invitation only

### **CII Supports Industry Roundtable for the US-India Energy Dialogue**

27 September 2012 | U.S. Chamber of Commerce

For further details, please contact Shuchita Sonalika at [ss@cii-usa.org](mailto:ss@cii-usa.org) or call (703) 807-0310 Ext. 102



#### **CII Supports**

***“The Role of Trade Policy in the Growth of Renewable Energy”***

***An Executive Roundtable to discuss global trade and its impact on regional economic growth  
Friday, October 19th | 8:30 am - 12:30 pm | Omni-Shoreham, Washington, DC***

This roundtable, convened by ACORE's International Programs, will gather industry executives and stakeholders to discuss the current state of trade policy and explore tariff and non-tariff related trade measures, particularly renewable energy subsidies and procurement, their relevance in promoting renewable energy growth globally, and their overall implications for trade. Additional information on the event can be found at:

<http://www.acoreuscpc.org/index.php/events/workshops/583-the-role-of-trade-policy-in-the-growth-of-renewable-energy>

[Register for this half-day workshop via RETECH](#)

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