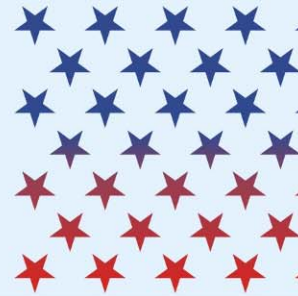




Confederation of Indian Industry



BRIDGE

CONNECTING INDIA AND THE USA

September 2009

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CII & USA EVENTS UPDATE: AUGUST



(L-R): Mr Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Chairman, CII National Council on Agriculture and Vice Chairman, Bharti Enterprises; Mr Dan Glickman and Mr V Shankar, Vice Chairman, CII National Council on Agriculture and Managing Director and CEO, Rallis India

INDO-US COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE - OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES: INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH DAN GLICKMAN, FORMER SECRETARY, USDA: 7 SEPTEMBER: NEW DELHI

CII organised an Interactive session with Mr. Dan Glickman, Former Secretary, US Department of Agriculture on 7th September 2009 at New Delhi. Under his leadership, the US Agriculture Department executed numerous farm & conservation programs and modernized food safety

regulations, focused on improving diet and nutrition, and on fighting hunger. Members learned of the US Government's emphasis on the need of "Consumer Driven Agriculture" and "Emergency Food Assistance" and also had the opportunity to learn more about the Gene Revolution, which could be the next big step after the Green revolution to increase productivity through investments in R&D. Members were urged to spread awareness about new technologies such as BT and GM among the farmers as well as the consumers. Stressing on an urgent need for harmonizing Indian Food Regulatory and Safety Standards with international standards, especially CODEX Mr. Glickman shared his recommended standards. Members got an insight into the opportunities of agri collaboration and saw the commitment of the US Government in the sector. CII seeks greater cooperation with the US to address new and upcoming challenges and opportunities of the modern day Agriculture.

SESSION WITH MR KAMAL NATH, INDIAN MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS: 16 SEPTEMBER: NEW YORK

At a Session jointly organized by CII, ICICI and JM Financials, Mr Kamal Nath highlighted opportunities in India's infrastructure sector and urged corporate members with expertise in infrastructure development to invest in upcoming Indian projects. Opportunities for infrastructure financing were also discussed in detail. The tremendous turnout at the Session was testimony to the interest and opportunities being generated in India's infrastructure sector.



Minister Kamal Nath (2nd from right) at the joint CII-ICICI-JM Financials Session in New York

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Members of the delegation led by Secretary of State Sam Reed, State of Washington at a guided tour of the Green building facility at Hyderabad

VISIT BY SECRETARY OF STATE, MR SAM S REED, STATE OF WASHINGTON TO CII GODREJ GREEN BUSINESS CENTER: 18 SEPTEMBER: HYDERABAD

A high-level 15 member Government delegation, led by Mr Sam S Reed, Secretary of State for the State of Washington, USA today visited CII- Godrej GBC in Hyderabad, the first Platinum rated LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) green building outside of USA. Mr Manohar, Past Chairman, CII-AP welcomed the delegates. The delegation was briefed on the activities and initiatives of the Centre aimed at promoting and fostering ecologically sustainable business growth models in India. Mr Reed, Secretary of State, State of Washington, appreciated India for promoting green buildings. Later, the delegation was escorted on a green building tour and was briefed on the energy efficient, eco-friendly and sustainable features of the green building. The visit communicated CII's and India's commitment towards adopting and promoting green initiatives.

MAJOR ECONOMIES BUSINESS FORUM ON ENERGY SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE: 21-22 SEPTEMBER: WASHINGTON DC

Major Economies Business Forum on Energy Security and Climate Change, President Obama's initiative, featuring West Virginia Gov. Manchin and Sen. Lamar Alexander facilitated candid dialogue among major developed and developing economies. The objective was to generate political leadership necessary to achieve a successful outcome at the December UN climate change conference in Copenhagen and advance the exploration of concrete initiatives and joint ventures that can increase the supply of clean energy while cutting greenhouse gas emissions. India was represented by Jamshyd Godrej, Chairman of the CII Green Business Center. As an example of India's progressive action on climate change, the GBC is the world's second Leed certified building, approved by the US Green Building Council. Godrej who moderated the first session on Energy Needs and Access -- The Nexus Between Energy Security and Climate Change, set the tone on behalf of India and 'developing countries'. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, is keen on an 'inclusive' deal at COP15 that is based on 'equity and has relevance' to India's economic growth, he said. "India has been long since involved in vast efforts to manage its emissions and reverse the effects of climate change. But we need to do more to let the world know about those initiatives," Godrej said. Major business organisations from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Europe, Japan, Kenya, and the US exchanged views on a new international agreement on climate change and negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Major Economies Forum. ([More](#))



Mr Jamshyd Godrej, representing India at the Major Economies Business Forum

MEETING WITH US EMBASSY: 15 SEPTEMBER: LUCKNOW

A meeting was organized with Ms. Shana Sherry, Economic Officer, US Embassy and members of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) by the CII UP State Council at Lucknow. Members were able to give their feedback about Infrastructure, Transportation & Aviation sectors in Uttar Pradesh. They informed her about various ongoing initiatives/projects in the State. Dr Sherry mentioned that UP was seen as having a lot of potential and a wealth of talent. On her request to suggest sectors in which there was scope of investment, members suggested power as potential sector and provision of training to create skilled manpower for the industry. The members also requested her to help revive the American Library previously existent in the city and/or set up an American Cultural Centre for greater interaction between the two countries.



Dr Shana Sherry (Centre) at the meeting with CII members in Lucknow State office in Uttar Pradesh.

US ECONOMY WATCH

- **US Gross Domestic Product:** Real gross domestic product decreased at an annual rate of 0.7 percent in the second quarter of 2009, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. In the first quarter, real GDP decreased 6.4 percent. ([More](#))
- **US international trade deficit in goods and services:** The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that total July exports of \$127.6 billion and imports of \$159.6 billion resulted in a goods and services deficit of \$32.0 billion, up from \$27.5 billion in June, revised. ([More](#))
- **Unemployment rate rises to 26-year high:** The Labor Department said the unemployment rate rose to 9.7 percent after dipping to 9.4 percent in July and the decline in payrolls was the smallest in a year. ([More](#))

US-INDIA BILATERAL UPDATE

- **India has US backing on IMF reforms:** The US has responded "positively" to a proposal to give India and other leading emerging economies a much greater say in the running of international financial architecture. The BRIC countries have demanded for a seven percent shift in International Monetary Fund (IMF) quotas that determine a country's voting powers. ([More](#))
- **Obama to honour India with his first state dinner:** And the first state dinner of President Barack Obama's administration goes to ... India. Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is coming to America for a state visit Nov. 24, just before Thanksgiving. Such visits include an elaborate arrival ceremony on the White House South Lawn, one-on-one time with the president and, in the evening, a state dinner. It's a plum presidential nod of recognition for the world's largest democracy and most stable U.S. ally in a hostile corner of the world. ([More](#))
- **US now has better understanding of India's stand on climate:** India has said that there is now better understanding of its position on climate change in the US, which recognises that emission cuts is not the only way for countries to reflect their domestic obligations globally. ([More](#))

US-INDIA CORPORATE WATCH

- **Ford India expands Chennai factory capacity:** Ford India has expanded the capacity of its Chennai plant ahead of the production of its new small car. Around Rs 2,000 crore have been invested in expanding the capacity of its facility and building of an integrated diesel engine manufacturing facility. ([More](#))
- **HealthHiway gets \$4 mn investment:** HealthHiway, an initiative by the Apollo Hospitals Group providing software solutions for the healthcare sector, has received an investment of \$4 million from Silicon Valley-based venture capital firm Greylock Partners. ([More](#))
- **Wockhardt gets US FDA nod for Tamsulosin:** Drug firm Wockhardt Ltd has received tentative approval from the US Food and Drug Administration for marketing prostate drug Tamsulosin capsules. ([More](#))
- **GE integrates all healthcare units with Wipro joint venture:** accelerate the growth of its \$17-billion global healthcare business, General Electric (GE) on Friday announced its decision to integrate all its GE Healthcare units in India and South Asia with the existing Wipro GE Healthcare joint venture. ([More](#))
- **GM, Reva tie up for electric vehicles:** General Motors' Indian subsidiary has signed an agreement with Bangalore-based Reva Electric Car Company to jointly develop and produce electric vehicles for the Indian market. The two companies said the plan is to make India a hub for environment-friendly vehicles. ([More](#))

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