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CII National Conference

Turning Crisis into Opportunity: Reforms and Governance hold the key

Speakers at the CII National Conference unanimously highlighted the critical role of reform and governance for the revival and recovery of the Indian Economy



Venu Srinivasan, President, CII (then President-Designate, CII),
Dr D Subbarao, Governor, RBI and K V Kamath, then President, CII



Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman,
Planning Commission

The Confederation of Indian Industry convened a gathering of its top membership, government officials, PSU heads, stalwarts of industry and thought leaders to deliberate on 'Turning Crisis into Opportunity: Role of Governance and Reform' to mark its National Conference on 26-27 March in New Delhi. Speakers from across the spectrum, while acknowledging the depth and gravity of the prevailing global economic crisis, felt that challenges could indeed be converted into opportunities supported by timely reforms and strong governance.

The collateral damage and impact of the global financial crisis on India has shown that our financial and banking systems are more integrated with global systems than previously believed, said Dr D Subbarao, Governor, RBI, at the session on 'Indian Economy: Reforms Required.' He explained that

three channels – financial, real, and confidence – have affected India. Though there were enough reasons for optimism of revival in India, based on strong growth fundamentals, he said no one could predict when this revival would take place. In the meantime, painful adjustments are inevitable, he warned.



C K Prahalad, Paul and Ruth McCracken
Distinguished University Professor of
Strategy, University of Michigan, USA

Indian industry must think long-term to emerge competitive through the slowdown, instead of resorting to short-term measures of fine-tuning to reduce costs temporarily, advised Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, addressing a special session of the conference.

The new government, he said, should try to maintain India's growth performance with a combination of additional monetary and fiscal measures. Acknowledging that 2009 would be tougher than the previous

year, Dr Ahluwalia said that a well-calibrated economic policy was critical to minimise pain and ease recovery.

The Indian agricultural and rural economy is not badly hit and is likely to remain buoyant. That's where the Indian industry should find new markets, while export-oriented firms would need to discover new markets that have remained largely unexplored thus far, he suggested.

Dr Arvind Virmani, Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, said the country needs to move still faster on market reforms, and fiscal policy has to address the demand problem of slowdown. In the short-term, this increase in deficit is necessary and can be brought down to comfortable levels as soon as the economy picks up, he said.

India Must Seize Opportunity

Earlier, in the opening session, Prof C K Prahalad, Management Guru, whose vision of 'India@75' has become CII's aspirational agenda for a 'developed' India in 2022, said the restructuring of global companies will change the competitive landscape of international markets in a manner that will also impact Indian companies. Volatility and discontinuities offer Indian companies a level-playing field to compete globally, he noted.

Sustainable development, inclusive growth, global markets, connectivity and social networks are the four forces that drive the economic system, he said. A combination of these forces presents tremendous opportunities to Indian companies to innovate and emerge competitive, while extending the benefits of economic growth to those currently excluded and marginalised. 'The country needs many more Tata Nanos' he said.

Mr K V Kamath, then President, CII, observed that in the turbulent year of his leadership of the apex body, India's reaction has mostly fluctuated between being fearful to being buoyant ! Overall, there is lot of optimism and hope among Indian companies, which expect the Indian economy to do better again in the next few months, he felt.

Mr Venu Srinivasan, President, CII, (then President-Designate, CII), advised Indian companies to leverage emerging sustainability and build a flourishing innovation culture through a collaborative approach.

Speakers at the Plenary Session on 'Global Economy and its Impact on India: The Outlook' stressed that Indian Industry needed to proactively adopt self-regulatory mechanisms and avoid ostentatious expenditure.



From Top:

Gopal K Pillai, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and K.M. Chandrasekhar, Cabinet Secretary

Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII and Venu Srinivasan, with Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII and Chairman & Group CEO, Bharti Enterprises and Rahul Bajaj, MP, & Chairman, Bajaj Auto Ltd.

Gopal Srinivasan, CMD, TVS Capital Funds Ltd and Shekhar Datta, Past President, CII and Director, Wockhardt Ltd

Mr Ravi Venkatesan, Chairman, Microsoft Corporation (India), urged industry to resist the urge towards protectionism, noting that “the current situation is not akin to a recession, it is a fundamental reset of the world economic order”. Emphasizing that the next leap of growth would come from innovation, he urged the Government to invest in ‘soft infrastructure’ to build an expansive knowledge economy.

Mr. Jamshyd N Godrej, Past President, CII, and Chairman and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd. urged industry to go green, reduce energy and water consumption and minimize waste.

Dr. Janmejaya Sinha, Managing Director, BCG, felt there is optimism for sectors such as FMCG, Agriculture, Pharmaceuticals, Telecom and rural-based industries. His mantra – ‘do with care, energy and discipline’.

India as the second-fastest growing economy, and China as the fastest growing economy in the world, will lead the world out of recession, predicted Mr Surjit Bhalla, Managing Director, Oxus Research and Investments.

Indian PSEs on the Fast Track

Indian Public Sector Enterprises are not slowing down and many are making large investments: this was the clear message emerging from the Panel Discussion on ‘The Emerging Role of the Public Sector in a Post Crisis Economy.’

“Our Board took a decision not to slowdown despite the global crisis”, said Mr. R S Sharma, Chairman and Managing Director, ONGC, stressing that the first priority for any organization has to be good ethics, good governance and absolute transparency. ONGC is currently investing more than Rs. 60,000 crores on various projects and is making the highest profit amongst both the Public and Private sectors in India, he said.

“We are not slowing down and have decided to go ahead with all our investments”, said Mr. S K Roongta, Chairman, Steel Authority of India Ltd. “Four major steel producers from India find a place amongst the 20 best in the world. The Indian steel industry has learnt to be competitive in the face of global competition.”

Mr. P S Bhattacharya, Chairman, Coal India Ltd highlighted that the PSEs while turning profit making organizations, continue to have the nation’s interest at their core. “We have foreseen the possible coal crisis the country might face 30 years on and have started reverting to underground mining practices,” he said.

Mr. Mukesh Rohatagi, Chairman and Managing Director, Engineers India Ltd, highlighted the PSU’s people focus.

Mr. Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, who moderated the discussion observed that “the PSUs are subject to volatility, government intervention and controls and yet they perform both in India and internationally”.

India’s recovery from the crisis will be swifter and sharper than the advanced economies”

– Dr D Subbarao, Governor, RBI



R S Sharma, CMD, ONGC, K Ravi Kumar, CMD, BHEL, Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, S K Roongta, Chairman, Steel Authority of India Ltd., and P S Bhattacharya, Chairman, Coal India Ltd

Agenda for the New Government

Addressing National Security, Economy and Governance would be the priority agenda of the new government, said Mr Shekhar Datta, Director, Wockhardt Ltd, at the Session on 'Agenda for first 100 days of the new Government.' The security front, he said offers ample room for improvement, while infrastructure development and labour reforms, if acted upon promptly, would help attract the much needed investment for the economy.

Mr Shekhar Dutt, Deputy National Security Advisor, called for greater vigilance and surveillance at all levels. The new government, he said, should reassure citizens that in spite of the crisis, the path to growth is intact and sustainable. It would also be important to project India as an attractive destination for investment, he felt.

Mr Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman & Managing Director, TVS Capital Funds Ltd, said that the biggest challenge for the new government would be to build upon the confidence which helped India achieve robust growth post liberalization. The way forward could be to draft an ambitious agenda on key development issues such as Education, Sustainable Development and urbanization, he suggested.

Moderating the session, Prof Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of History & Director, South Asia Initiative, Harvard University, felt that addressing the concerns of protectionism would be among the biggest challenges for

the incoming government. The first 100 days of the new government, he said, would be the time to implement the priorities set out in the election manifestos and also set the stage for the new government's agenda for the next five year term.

Political and Electoral Reforms

Political and electoral reforms such as ensuring credible candidates, state funding elections, simultaneous assembly and parliamentary elections, are critical for better governance in India, opined panelists at the Plenary Session on 'Governance: What are the Reforms Required.'

"No criminals should be given tickets and we shouldn't vote for them", said Mr. Rahul Bajaj, Member of Parliament, and Chairman, Bajaj Auto Ltd. A political system that disregarded merit and offered rights and power without responsibilities was a sure recipe for disaster, he said.

Mr. T S Krishna Murthy, Former Election Commissioner, listed four major areas requiring reform in India as the electorate,

the judiciary, civil services and police administration. He urged the media to exercise self regulation and refrain from biased reporting.

Mr. Subodh Bhargava, Past President, CII, and Chairman, Tata Communications Ltd. said that law breakers can not become law makers, emphasizing the importance of restoring the credibility of the legislature, parliament and the judiciary in the process of good governance.

"India@75 is a catalyst for Indian companies to turn the prevailing global economic crisis into opportunity of global influence"

– Prof C K Prahalad



Venu Srinivasan, C K Prahalad, K V Kamath, Jamshyd N Godrej, Past President, CII, and CMD, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

“Telecommunications is a classic example of how reforms have created a vibrant industry, created millions of jobs and put more money on the table for the government, said Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII, and Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, Bharti Enterprises. He pointed out that reforms were equally essential in sectors such as financial services, retail, agriculture and education.

Scope for Economic Reforms

Senior Secretaries of the Government of India discussed the ‘Scope for Economic Reforms’ in the closing session of the Annual Conference.

Mr. K.M. Chandrasekhar, Cabinet Secretary, struck a positive note, saying that “We are beginning to see hopeful signs. We must together ensure that for each sector we formulate policies to guarantee further growth, moving forward.” The Cabinet Secretary listed Cement production, Steel, Capital goods, Auto production, Passenger cars, Domestic sales of trucks and freight transport by railways, as areas offering scope. However, he warned that there are troubled times yet to come, with growth rate contracting the world over, calling for global co-operation.

Mr. Gopal K Pillai, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, called for ‘multilateral co-operation between industry all over the world’ and urged CII to take the lead in building this co-operation for a successful year 09-10.’ Countries that say we are protectionists should not forget that our export rates are growing @ 16% every year, even in this time of crisis,’ he declared.

Mr. Subas C Pani, Secretary, Planning Commission, said that strategy is being developed to bring the perspectives of the states on board.

Mr. Ashok Chawla, Secretary, Dept of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, found some silver linings to the clouds of crisis:

- Asia and within it China and India, are keeping the flag high. The gap between the growth rates of China and India is gradually disappearing.
- The international community through forums like the G20 has been working together to combat this problem.

Mr P V Bhide, Secretary, Revenue, Ministry of Finance, wanted the resilience of the government should be appreciated. There was cause for concern on the customs side, he felt.

CII to release a Corporate Governance Code for India Inc

Mr Naresh Chandra, Chairman, CII Special Task Force on Corporate Governance announced the formulation of a new Corporate Governance Code for India Inc. by CII at the Session on Corporate Governance: The New code for India Inc. at the National Conference.

Expounding the need for the Code, Mr Chandra said that large, highly visible and publicized corporate scandals often provoke legislative and regulatory actions. CII has always believed that while law may be strengthened when occasions so demand, there are fundamental limits to using legislative and regulatory instruments to enforce better corporate governance. What is required is not further regulations but management of regulation as it exists. The Code would assist companies to take a voluntary step beyond the stated letter of law.

Dr J J Irani, Past President, CII, Director, Tata Sons Ltd. emphasised that “Good corporate governance and ethical behaviour cannot be mandated; it has to come from within.” Attributing the upheaval in the corporate domain for shaking off the complacency, Dr Irani stressed that focus should be on substance and not form and enumerated ten good practices for corporates to follow such as separation of office of Chairman and CEO; ensuring independence of internal

audit function, seeking ‘non-compliant’ independent directors, etc.

Mr Anurag Goel, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, invited partnership between the Government and Indian industry for the evolution of the next generation of corporate leaders, who would focus on inclusive growth.

Dr K C Chakrabarty, Chairman and Managing Director, Punjab National Bank, said that corporate governance should be followed at all times, even when the going is good, and not episodically, to prevent corporate debacles and cases of misconduct.



Dr J J Irani, Director, Tata Sons Ltd., Anurag Goel, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Naresh Chandra, Chairman, CII Special Task Force on Corporate Governance

CII Awards



Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister, Jammu & Kashmir, presenting the CII Woman Exemplar Award to P Madhavi for her work in Education, as KV Kamath and Chandrajit Banerjee look on

Mr Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister, Jammu & Kashmir, presented the CII awards [at the National Conference and Annual Session 2009](#).

The CII [Women Exemplar Awards](#) are an effort, under the Social Development Initiatives, to promote Women Empowerment in the community level in the domains of Education, Literacy, Health and Micro Enterprise.

The recipients of the women exemplar awards “are truly a living example of the conference theme of turning a crisis into an opportunity” he said. Jammu and Kashmir, after withstanding so much crisis in previous years now is ready to march forward with huge reforms in terms of governance, said Mr. Abdullah, inviting industry to leverage the tremendous opportunities ahead.

Ms P. Madhavi received the award in the Education category, for championing child rights in over 32 communities. Ms Manorama Ben Jaiswal, who was awarded in the health category, started her career as an outreach worker to become a significant powerhouse in training health workers. Ms Minakshi Swain was awarded in the Micro Enterprise category for her pioneering effort in establishing the first Self-Help group of her very backward village in Orissa, after a massive cyclone.

The [CII Corporate Wellness Award](#) has been instituted in partnership with the Apollo Hospitals Group. Amongst a number of award categories, the best overall Corporate Wellness Organisation award went to L&T (manufacturing sector) and HCL Technologies (services sector).

The coveted [CII Presidents’ Awards](#) are given to individuals who contribute strongly towards CII’s

initiatives in nation building. This year, Prof. C K Prahalad, was the first recipient for this award for his outstanding contribution to the corporate sector and also for championing the vision of India@75.

Prof. Shoji Shiba, Visiting Professor at MIT, USA, was awarded for his outstanding contribution to the path-breaking Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing programme under the aegis of CII and the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council. Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Chairman, CII Eastern Region, Dr BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman, CII Southern Region and Mr. Salil Singhal, Chairman CII Northern Region were recognized for providing exceptional leadership to CII’s work in their respective regions.

Mr. Gopal Srinivasan Chairman, Mission on India@75 received the award for developing a national agenda for CII within a year’s time, to embark on the extraordinary journey inspired by Prof C K Prahalad. Mr. James Abraham, Senior Partner and Director, Boston Consulting Group India, received the award for his integral role in actualizing the India@75 movement.

Mr. Ramesh Datla, Chairman, National MSME Council received the award for being the flag bearer for the more than 75% MSME members of CII. Dr Prem C Jain, Chairman, Indian Green Building Council was awarded for his instrumental role in increasing Green Building footprint in the country from a meager 20,000 sq.ft. to 200 million sq. ft., giving India the second largest green building footprint, after USA.

At the Helm



Venu Srinivasan
President, CII

Mr Venu Srinivasan, Managing Director, Sundaram-Clayton Ltd and Chairman & Managing Director, TVS Motor Company Ltd, has been elected as the President of CII for the year 2009-10.

An engineer with a Masters' Degree in Management from Purdue University, USA, Mr Srinivasan is the Honorary Consul General of Republic of Korea, Chennai, and a Member of the Prime Minister's Council on Trade & Industry. Mr Srinivasan has also held positions as President of The Automotive Research Association of India and President, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers.

Mr Srinivasan was chosen as a 'Star of Asia' by Business Week International, along with the Chairman of Toyota, Japan. He is the first Indian industrialist to receive an honorary 'doctorate degree in science' from the University of Warwick, UK, for excellence in manufacturing and contribution in the field of technology and R & D. He also received the Jamshetji Tata Life Time Achievement Award 2004 from the Indian Society for Quality.

Under his leadership, both Sundaram-Clayton Ltd and TVS Motor Company have been awarded the prestigious Deming Prize by the Union of Japanese Scientists and Engineers, Japan.



Hari S Bhartia
Vice President, CII

Mr Hari S Bhartia, Co-Chairman & Managing Director of Jubilant Organosys Ltd, has been elected as the Vice President of CII for the year 2009-10.

A chemical engineering graduate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, Mr. Bhartia was conferred the Distinguished Alumni award by IIT Delhi in 2000.

Mr. Bhartia's institutional work includes his role in various capacities with IIT, Delhi and IIT Kanpur as Chairman of the Board of Governors, and Confederation of Indian Industry. He has been a member of several educational and science and technology programmes of the Government of India.

Heading the Regional Teams

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Chairman



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Chairman, CII Eastern Region &
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Deputy Chairman



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NORTH

Chairman



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SOUTH

Chairman



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5th CII-EXIM BANK Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership 2009

Celebrating Partnerships

The presence of 25 key ministers from Africa heading 37 delegations clearly showed that the CII Conclave has become a brand that invites active and relevant participation



Jonathan Wutaun Ashe, Ambassador, Dean, African Group of Heads of Mission, Alian Bedouma Yoda, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Regional Cooperation, Burkina Faso, Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs, India, Sanjay Kirloskar, Chairman, Kirloskar Brothers Ltd., and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the release of CII Publication "Connecting India-Africa-The Way Forward"

The effectiveness of the CII Exim Bank Africa Conclave was best assessed by Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs, India, in his keynote address, when he said 'the Conclave has become a prestigious event for Indian and African governments and industry to meet and explore new avenues of partnerships. The annual gathering enables the Indian and African leadership to take stock of the progress of the partnership and address future needs in this regard'.

Mr Anand Sharma, Minister of State for External Affairs, and Minister for Information & Broadcasting, India, in his valedictory address, reiterated that 'the annual Conclave has opened up innumerable cross-border business opportunities. The presence of high-level delegations was proof enough of the importance that Africa has attached to the Conclave'.

The 5th CII Exim Bank Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership 2009, held on 22-24 March in New Delhi

was a landmark event in connecting people from India and Africa. With 483 African delegates and 318 Indian delegates, this year's conference was the 2nd largest held by any Indian organisation in the country. (The largest was the 4th CII-Exim Bank Conclave in 2008 where more than 600 African delegates participated.) The presence of 25 key ministers from Africa heading 37 delegations showed that the CII Conclave has become a brand that invites active and relevant participation. We, at CII are grateful for the continuing support received from the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce to make the Conclave a platform that matters.

The 5th CII Africa Conclave worked towards

- Building upon the momentum gathered with the launch of the India Africa Forum Summit taking forward the actionable agenda put forward during the deliberations.
- Promoting partnerships at the Government, Institutional and Enterprise level

- Increasing the outreach of information on Indian enterprise in the identified sectors to Africa
- Increasing interaction between Indian industry and Africa to address specific opportunities
- Discussing possibilities for Indian participation in long term projects
- Initiating programmes related to capacity-building including resource mobilization for the same.



At the CII-COMESA MoU signing: Chandrajit Banerjee and Dev K Babbar, President, Zambia Manufacturers Association, & Member, Executive Board, COMESA Business Council. Also seen: Keli Walubita, High Commissioner, Zambia; Syamal Gupta, Chairman, CII Africa Committee & Chairman, Tata International; Anand Sharma, Minister of State, External Affairs, & Minister, Information & Broadcasting, India; and Jonathan Wutaunash

opportunities. Several ministers addressed the conference and cited their vision for their country, while addressing issues as spokespersons for their region and the continent.

The CII Africa Committee's stated vision is to multiply trade and investments in the region. A target of 10-12% increase has been set since 2006, with new countries getting added to this vision each year.

This multi-pronged target of increasing trade, investment and

The thrust of the CII Conclave has been to encourage Indian exporters to access the African countries and increase their presence in the region. While one measure of this success may be the numbers that attend the CII Conclave, another is the number of MoUs that are signed and the value of projects that are discussed. A total of 193 documented projects worth USD 17.2 billion were discussed during the two days of this Conclave.

Several company MoUs were signed, relating to sectors of agriculture, SMEs and IT training.

The Conclave also saw Indian companies looking for business opportunities that go beyond the Government of India lines of credit. CII has initiated a dialogue with other financial institutions in the African region with competitive credit facilities to support the business effort by Indian companies. The participation of regional banks and the presence of a representative of the World Bank helped facilitate these discussions.

Sessions in the Conference discussed specific sectoral

developmental activities requires sustained and concentrated effort. The effort from CII has been to keep up the momentum and keep the Africa agenda on the forefront of Indian exporters. CII has continuously created programmes and platforms to encourage Africans to meet with Indian partners. Breaking perceptions and creating confidence has been the first step in increased business engagement.

The increasing participation of the African nations in the CII-led Conclaves and the growing relevance of the platform has given shape to policy dialogues of the Government of India, Exim Bank and the industry. CII membership too has greatly benefitted from the platform, and, as an institution, CII has shown its continuing commitment to the relationship.

The report on the 5th Conclave suggests a set of recommendations that will help industry and the Government of India and African countries to work purposefully together towards creating greater synergies for the future.



The Heads of African Missions in India with Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, Sanjay Kirloskar, S R Rao, Executive Director, Exim Bank of India and Chandrajit Banerjee

Conclave Recommendations

Trade

- India-Africa trade can be doubled to \$70 billion in 5 years.
- Indian government should explore the possibility of greater geographical and product diversification in its trade with African countries.
- Strengthen India's trade agreements with regional blocs in Africa.

Regional Integration & Market Access

- India should adopt a regional approach in its trade and investment ties with Africa and firm up trade, investment and institutional arrangements with African regional groupings.
- Indian industry could play a greater role in the regional infrastructure programmes that are being planned and developed in Africa, such as, under the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA). These call for a longer term engagement.
- Small African states will benefit more by collectively engaging with India for investments, particularly in the infrastructure sector.
- North-South corridor in Africa linking up the continent's transport, rail and other infrastructure proposed.

Finance & Consultancy

- African governments should seek programme financing instead of project financing. For more effective utilisation of concessional credit for priority sectors / projects.
- Indian government and industry should step up capacity building initiatives in the recipient African countries.
- There is scope for engaging a more Indian consultants in Africa's development projects, particularly projects financed through Government of India LOCs.
- The current economic situation merits more flexibility in the conditions linked to the LOCs, in terms of interest rates, labour content, etc.
- Engage the development financial institutions in the recipient countries in the disbursement of LOCs for better results.
- Indian financial institutions could help African countries establish vibrant domestic capital markets.
- Indian firms have a keen knowledge of what works in emerging economies, which is relevant to Africa. African consultancy firms have the local knowledge. Joint ventures in this regard could be explored.

Mining & Minerals

- Step up the engagement of Indian mining firms in mineral rich states of Africa for value-addition activities.

Agriculture & Agro-Processing

- Promote the sharing of India's experience in the Green Revolution with African governments. Africa could become the world's food basket with the aid of Indian expertise and farm technologies.

- Encourage micro-financing institutions in Africa with the help of Indian expertise and solutions.
- Encourage Indian agro-processing firms to invest in Africa and transfer Indian expertise in this field.
- Promote joint initiatives in organic farming to address world markets.

Power & Alternative Energy

- Engage Indian expertise in promoting bio-fuels production and generation bio-electricity in Africa.
- Promote joint ventures in the development of alternatives like solar energy, wind energy, biomass energy, etc.
- Engage Indian expertise in energy modeling and energy manpower development for African governments and industry.
- Greater role for Indian power developers and equipment manufacturers in Africa's hydropower sectors.
- Engage Indian expertise in Africa's rural electrification projects.

Healthcare

- African governments should look to promote chains of hospitals and medical colleges. Indian healthcare majors could provide the expertise in this.
- India could share its knowledge of promoting medical tourism with African states.

Small & Medium Enterprises

- African governments should look to develop enabling policies for SME promotion.
- Establish a standard definition of SMEs across India and Africa
- Introduce a credit rating system for SMEs in Africa to improve their access to credit on the lines introduced in India.
- Create inter-ministerial boards for SMEs in Africa: this will bring about consistency in the policy making for SMEs.
- Set up a virtual India-Africa cooperation mechanism managed through a business portal: this will promote matchmaking between Indian and African SMEs.
- Organise an India Africa Skills Development Mission.

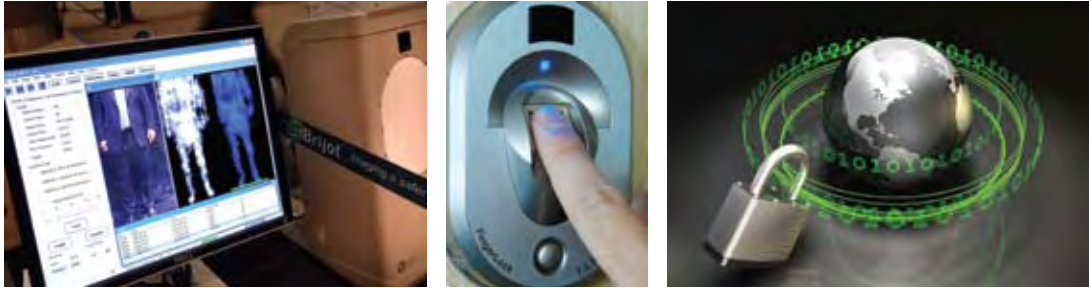
Special Economic Zones

- Promote broad-based SEZs in Africa: narrow-focused SEZs such as on IT, biotech, will not draw large-scale private participation.

Human Capital

- African governments should aim to create robust eco-systems that promote entrepreneurs and create jobs. Indian expertise in this area will be useful.
- African governments could take key lessons from the Indian experience in engaging the Diaspora for development initiatives.

Physical Security Measures for Corporates: Guidelines



CII intends to update its members with various advisories on the maintenance of security, on a regular basis. This is the first advisory in the series, for the benefit of industry

Today, even as nations are looking to strengthen their security, the corporate world and industrial organisations too are faced with myriad threats from international terrorism, communalism, gheraos, strikes, sabotage, espionage, subversion, pilferages, thefts, cyber and white collar crimes, bomb threats and natural disasters. In such a scenario, industry needs to take proactive measures entailing an optimum and judicious utilisation of men and machines to effectively counter such threats.

After the Mumbai terror attacks, CII has set up an industry advisory committee to develop a comprehensive set of guidelines to assist member companies design their strategies towards the maintenance of an adequate security environment within their premises. Under this initiative, CII will update its members with various advisories on a regular basis. This is the first advisory in the series for the benefit of the industry.

- Please accept and accord recognition to security as a part of the overall business procedure of your industry
- Please formulate a basic and formal comprehensive security policy, not only for the Security Division but also for all concerned in your organisation/industry.
- Please do not ignore the development of a security infrastructure while planning an integrated security management system.
- Please take your Security Division into confidence and expose to it your risk potential in as much

detail as possible, may be just as you do for the audit group. The better the exposure, the better the services that the Security Division can render.

- Please accept that Industrial Security is a total management function that includes risk management as well as loss prevention, the raison d'être of the security's existence.
- Please add security risks, including terrorism, to the cost of doing business and factor security management into your regular budget. Do not treat it as a necessary evil that can be dispensed with in times of economic downswing. Cheap security is no security. Good security costs money.

Make Yourself a Difficult Target

Target selection – There is little that corporates can do to affect target selection, especially if they are big brand name MNCs or public locations such as hotels, malls and schools. However, the universal principle of security is that if you are a harder target to hit than your neighbor, then the attacker will choose the easier option.

There are two doctrines here:

Ostentatious security which demonstrates the overt presence of security guards, police or quick reaction teams and **Subtle** security that relies on monitoring mechanisms, surveillance, intelligence gathering, pattern analysis and fast correlation or 'joining of the dots'.

Choosing between the doctrines usually depends on the culture of the company and the public projection

they want to demonstrate. The former uses strong perimeter security, metal detectors, multiple crash proof barriers, under-carriage scanners, uniformed and at times armed guards, and one way gates (typically used in embassies and consulates to prevent armed men from storming in).

The latter depends more on CCTVs, motion detectors, alarms and pressure pads. Since response timings are critical, a strong command and control center with rapid deployment capability of a reaction unit is a must.

Restrict Information & Access

All but the most rudimentary attacks require elaborate planning. Usually, attackers need to have intimate knowledge of the premises, either through previous reconnaissance or having actually worked within the building. Visitor management, identity management, background checks and restricted movement within the building (especially of third parties) play an important role in restricting the ability of the attackers to gather intelligence during planning.

Areas in the physical geographies must be sectioned with each section being accessible only to authorized people. The building must be designed to ensure that third parties, such as delivery staff and contractors don't get access to all sections. Equally, each section must have emergency evacuation outlets.

If the attackers persist in gathering intelligence despite such rigor, their chances of being detected before the attack increase dramatically.

The Insertion Stage

Insertion usually follows two approaches: Covert or Storming in. In Covert insertion, the attacker enters using seemingly plausible alibis such as an employee, contractor, parent or even a customer.

Storming, on the other hand, uses brute force or firepower to break into the premises. Well trained and equipped guard teams are the only defence against this stage. And it is not merely about the number of guards; instead it is about high caliber, experience, constant training, weapons and communication equipment.

Well-led and motivated teams, consisting of ex-Army or Special Forces personnel are worth their weight in gold, to thwart this stage.

Assess the Attacker

During the attack stage, the die is cast from the attacker's perspective and it is a do-or-die situation for them. The ideologically motivated have less to lose, as capture or liquidation are comparable alternatives in their mind. However, materially motivated attackers will want to escape with their lives to benefit from the action.

Attacker profiling within the first few minutes is of paramount importance. If they are ideological, overwhelming force has to be used to crush them rapidly. Obviously, this is out of the hands of the corporates and is the job of law enforcement units. The best that corporates can do is to build strong rooms or escape routes to evacuate maximum or key personnel.

If the attackers are materially motivated, then it is possible to defuse the situation with cool and calm handling, using crisis management expertise.

In either case, it is important to have experienced units in location, who can make the judgment calls and assist law enforcement units with intelligence and assessments.

The Extrication Stage

Extrication – from the attacker's perspective, is the most dangerous stage, as they are retreating and know that they will lose their advantage within moments. The strategy that the corporate should follow varies on the situation.

If the attackers have not taken any hostages, it is best to let them leave the premises. CCTV footage, vehicle tracking, witness debriefing and event re-construction are the best tools for aiding pursuit. If, on the other hand, they have been holed in, confrontation must be left to the professionals.

Professional Security

While technologies ranging from armored vehicles, bulletproof cubicles, and trace locating GPS etc. go a long way in the battle against terrorist attacks, there is no substitute for the experienced security professional on the spot, who can spot window(s) of opportunity during the crisis and respond to it.

Courtesy: Mahindra Special Services Group and International Institute of Security and Safety Management



Policy Advocacy in Food Regulations

New Labelling Laws

New labelling regulations have been introduced vide gazette notification GSR 664 (E) dt. 19 September 2008 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

This notification mandates declaring the percentage of ingredients when emphasized on the label (known as Quantitative Ingredient Declaration (QUID)), Nutritional labelling (energy, carbohydrate quantity of sugar, fats and proteins), and many other provisions related to labeling, except for very small packs.

CII has been closely involved in the evolution of these labelling laws, addressing several concerns of the packaged food industry as it evolved.

After extensive policy advocacy by CII, the Government has further given a time period of 3 months to enable a large number of industries, including those in the small-scale sector, to comply with the new regulations and deplete their old label stocks.

CII is now in continuous dialogue with the regulatory authorities of India on resolving some of the pending issues.

TMA OFFICE –BEARERS



Mr. Anjanikumar Choudhari, Chairman, Swaraj Automotives Ltd and Mahindra ShubhLabh Services Ltd., and Member on a number of Mahindra & Mahindra management boards both in India and overseas, is the new President of the Tractor Manufacturers Association (TMA).



Mr. Rohtash Mal, Executive Director & CEO, Escorts Ltd (Agri Machinery Group), has been elected as the Vice President of TMA for the year 2009-10.

defence

ICT Strategy for the Armed Forces

The Indian Armed Forces need an IT force capable of executing effect based operations, said Lt Gen. P Mohapatra, AVSM, Signal Officer-in-Chief & Senior Colonel Commandant, Integrated HQ of MoD. Technology is a catalyst in undertaking effective operations, he said, calling on Industry to come up with secure defence integrated technology, at the 'DEFCOM INDIA 2009: Curtain Raiser', jointly organised by CII, Integrated HQ of MoD (Army) and Corps of Signals in New Delhi on 30 March.

The event marked the release of the brochure: DEFCOM INDIA 2009: Informatics for Defence Force Transformation & Technology Development in the Information Age. The 8th edition of DEFCOM INDIA 2009 is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on 27-28 May.

Lt Gen. Mohapatra said that technology interoperability and battlefield transparency should be maintained within the three services of the Armed Forces. Therefore a policy structure is underway to draft a comprehensive Information

and Communication Technology (ICT) strategy for the forces, besides streamlining knowledge management aspects of technology implementation and transparency. Mr Ajai Chowdhry, Chairman, CII National Committee on Technology & CEO, HCL Infosystems Ltd, said India offers a dynamic market for defence products



Ajai Chowdhry, Chairman, CII National Committee on Technology and Chairman & CEO, HCL Infosystems Ltd, and Lt Gen. P Mohapatra, AVSM, Signal Officer in Chief, Integrated HQ of MoD (Army)

and is positioned as a potential manufacturing hub for Indian as well as global defence products. Technology, which was till recently seen as a supplementary domain in defence services, has been mainstreamed today, he said, calling for network based collaboration that address crisis management, security features, scalability, and user friendliness with sustainable technology.

The session highlighted that the biggest challenge for the Indian Armed forces is to transform itself into a flexible, versatile and agile organisation, well-set to handle the spectrum of future missions, crisis, enemies and wars in the uncertain world of the 21st century.

National Conference on Power 2009 'Power for All'



Vipul Tuli, Partner, McKinsey & Company, V S Sampath, Secretary, Power, R S Sharma, Chairman, CII National Committee on Power and CMD, NTPC Ltd and V Raghuraman, Principal Adviser, CII

Today, equipment, construction and engineering capacities have been substantially tied up in the power sector, and we are now in a position to meet annual capacity addition targets, said Mr V S Sampath, Power Secretary, on 20 March in New Delhi.

Addressing the CII National Conference on Power 2009, 'Power for All', Mr Sampath said one major issue that needs to be tackled on a war footing is the lack of adequate porting facilities to improve transportation of fuel.

The way ahead was challenging, he said, putting the overall resource requirement of this sector at over Rs 10.5 lakh crore. Conceding that capacity addition had not been up to the mark, Mr Sampath said that the government had taken the necessary steps to scale up capacity addition to 20,000 MW a year. "Ultimately, we need to ensure that power is available to all in the country."

Mr Vipul Tuli, Partner, McKinsey & Co, pointed out that India's power demand was likely to cross 300 gigawatts in the next 10 years, requiring a five-fold to ten-fold increase in the pace of capacity addition. A step-up of this magnitude is unlikely to materialise with a traditional approach, he felt. He listed a 10-point programme to address four critical issues:

- viability and market risks
- capacity addition
- fuel supplies
- operational inefficiencies

This included reducing AT&C losses, stepping up equipment manufacturing and related supply chain, and training and developing the necessary base of skilled and semi-skilled workers.

Mr R S Sharma, Chairman & Managing Director, NTPC Ltd, and Chairman, CII National Committee on Power, said the biggest challenges to stepping up capacity addition were availability of funds, low equipment manufacturing capacity, suitable fuel supply infrastructure and the low number of construction agencies. Steps have been initiated to overcome them, he said, pointing to the joint venture between NTPC and BHEL in this regard. Putting the manpower requirement of the sector at 2,65,000 skilled workers, Mr Sharma said that NTPC had already linked up with 20-25 ITIs in this regard and was also opening 5-6 ITIs on its own.

Mr V Raghuraman, Principal Advisor and Chief Coordinator, Energy, Environment & Natural Resources, CII, said that the time was right to look at low carbon technologies to address the issue of climate change. He advocated increased public-private partnership in R&D.

Defending the power subsidy being given to farmers, Dr Kirit S Parikh, Member, Planning Commission, said in the valedictory session that state power utilities must set up separate feeders for the agricultural sector. "If this is done, the utilities can actually tabulate the subsidy being given to the farm sector and then seek direct reimbursement from the state governments. However, such subsidies are important as they enable the government to keep the prices of farm produce down."

Dr Parikh said that while there is optimism that the 11th Plan capacity addition target of 78,000 MW would be met, private investors were concerned over the high level of AT&C losses, which they feared could affect their returns.

Another area of concern, he noted, was the huge fund requirement of the sector to expand capacity. For this,

it is important that the government allowed a suitable long-term debt market to develop. Such a market would also help private investors keep tariffs under check and prevent further cross-subsidization.

Mr G B Pradhan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power, said that a major issue impacting capacity addition in the power sector was the relief and rehabilitation of the people whose land was acquired for setting up new plants. "Industry must ensure that the affected population becomes a stakeholder in their venture. This is true not only for people whose land has been acquired but also for those who were dependent on such land" he said. On the growing concerns over climate change, Mr Pradhan said China is at least 6-7 times ahead of India in this regard. Given the current growth pace, emissions from India would be a miniscule percentage of total global emissions, he added.

Better efficiencies in power equipment and plant layout would help meet the problem of water and land requirements for power companies seeking to expand capacity, said Mr Sharma. He also suggested upscaling solar power plants from the current 15 MW to at least 50 MW for economies of scale and tariff

rationalisation. Another area for huge energy savings, he said, was the use of LED lighting systems. "However, either the government must extend some subsidy for the commercial exploitation of this technology or we would have to wait for technology to reduce costs," the NTPC chief added.

Mr Tuli, in an overview of the recommendations emerging from the four sessions of the summit, said that speakers were unanimous that the funds requirement of the sector far exceeded the existing capacity of the financial sector. New mechanisms would have to be created to enable the sector to raise the necessary resources. Here, he pointed out that fear over the viability gap of new projects was deterring foreign investors. Other areas of concern, he said, were delays in getting environmental, regulatory and state approvals for new projects; lack of standardization of equipment; poor project management as well as manpower shortage.

Dr Sudhir Kapur, MD & CEO, Country Strategy Business Consultants, said the recommendations emerging from the conference would be presented to both the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Power for consideration in future policy moves.

Solar Energy: The Path Forward

CII hosted a luncheon session on 'Indo-US Cooperation in Solar Energy: The Path Forward', for the visiting US Trade Mission on Solar Energy, led by Mr. William Zarit, Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Department of Commerce, in New Delhi on 23 March. The session, chaired by Mr. Deepak Puri, Deputy Chairman, CII (NR) and Managing Director, Moser Baer India Ltd, was addressed by Dr. Pramod Deo, Chairman, Central Electric Regulatory Commission, and Mr. Deepak Gupta, Secretary, Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Mr. Puri highlighted the benefits of solar energy and the advantages of India in this regard, calling for cheaper technology and suitable policies to make this resource economically viable in the country.

Mr Zarit noted that this was the first time the US Department of Commerce has led a trade mission to Rajasthan and Gujarat. The delegation, comprising of US utility scale solar, solar photovoltaic, and solar project developers and suppliers, met with Indian firms seeking commercial and investment partnerships.

Dr. Pramod Deo made a presentation on the power scenario in India, the legal and policy framework, etc., while Mr. Deepak Gupta focused on India's solar resources and the huge market opportunities for both off-grid and grid interactive solar power.

CII also organised interactive sessions for the delegation in Jaipur on 24 March and in Ahmedabad on 26 March.



Dr Pramod Deo, Chairman, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, Deepak Puri, MD & CEO, Moser Baer India Ltd, Deepak Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, India, William Zarit, Leader of the Delegation and Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Dept of Commerce, and Carmine D'Aloisio, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of USA in India

Ensuring India's Energy Security

To enhance energy security, India will need to increase energy efficiency, augment the energy resource base, both domestic and external, strengthen national oil companies and diversify the current energy mix," said Dr Kirit S Parikh, Member, Planning Commission.

Addressing a national conference on 'Ensuring India's Energy Security-Domestic Measures and External Policy Approaches' on 9 March in New Delhi, Dr Parikh said that ensuring energy security is a big challenge for the country, specially given the volatility in the international energy market.

Dr Parikh clubbed the risks to ensuring energy security under three heads-supply risks, market risks and technical risks-and called for stepping up efforts to acquire energy assets abroad, create strategic

reserves and build redundancies in the existing distribution system and boost R&D in non-conventional energy." Mr Hardeep Puri, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, said that while the sharp decline in international energy prices in recent days was a welcome relief to the country, it should not be taken to be indicative of future price movements. According to him, the key to energy security lay in diversifying our energy resources and for this "we should look at acquiring equity assets in Africa, Latin America and in our neighbourhood."

India's energy security requires concerted efforts

on the domestic front as well as on its overseas ventures. Increasing the transparency, predictability and stability of energy markets; improving the investment environment in the energy sector; enhancing energy efficiency and energy saving; diversifying the energy mix; enhanced exploration of domestic hydrocarbon reserves; accelerating the pace of renewable energy and nuclear energy deployment; securing critical energy infrastructure; building strategic oil reserves; reducing energy poverty; and addressing climate change and sustainable development - are

important domestic measures for India, Mr Puri said.

Mr Puri pointed out that land and water scarcity were the major problems that the country would face in the medium term and these were areas where cooperation with Latin American countries could go a long way.



Dr Kirit Parikh, Member, Planning Commission, Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII and Co-Chairman and MD, Jubilant Organosys Ltd and Hardeep Puri, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs



Welcoming the idea of setting up a think-tank on energy security, he urged the CII to come up with a concrete proposal in this regard.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Mr Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII (then Chairman, CII National Council on Energy) and Chairman and Managing Director, Jubilant Organosys Ltd, stressed the need to step up the use of biodiesel and nuclear energy as alternative sources of energy, adopting a package of domestic and overseas strategies for energy security.



Construction Summit

Infra spending needed to boost confidence

The infrastructure sector can play a significant role in boosting the confidence of developers and construction companies, said Mr Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission. In the wake of economic downturn, infrastructure spending assumes more significance as currently more and more service providers are shying away from entering this sector, Mr Hoda told delegates at the CII Construction Summit, set around the theme 'Infrastructure in the time of Economic Crisis', in New Delhi on 13 March. While government is considering an extensive roads development programme of 40,000 kms, developers are cash-strapped and are finding it difficult to put in equity in Public-private partnership (PPP) projects in infrastructure, he added.

Earlier, Mr SS Kohli, Chairman and Managing Director, India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL), noted that the government has pumped Rs 4 trillion (Rs 4 lakh crore) into the financial system to ease the liquidity crunch. To boost spending in infrastructure, IIFCL itself has been allowed to raise Rs 10,000 crore to refinance bank lending for infrastructure projects. IIFCL has received 188 proposals in the recent past, 88 of them have been approved and 75 have reached the financial closers, committing an investment of \$3.8 billion, he said.

He said the present crisis is the most ideal time for investors and developers to invest in infrastructure projects as the prices of steel, bitumen and cement have come down considerably. Elaborating further,

Mr Kohli described the government's recent initiatives to provide comfort to investors, including creating a Project Development Fund, finalisation of the Model

Concession Agreement and revisiting the Bidding Process. He expressed confidence in the country's banking system, saying it was well-equipped to fund infrastructure projects. Despite the ongoing credit crunch, public sector banks had been able to register a credit growth of about 25 per cent.

Mr SK Garg, Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC Ltd, said infrastructure, specially hydro power has great scope and opportunity in the country. However, to realise the potential fully, certain issues such as land acquisition, rehabilitation and replacement, environment and forest clearances, etc need to be addressed speedily.

Mr Ajit Gulabchand, President, Construction Federation of India, and Chairman and Managing Director, Hindustan Construction Company Ltd, said that although the government had announced a series of fiscal stimulus packages, there was no well-defined monetary policy that would provide necessary liquidity for infrastructure. "These are difficult times and we are confronted by a number of issues, both micro and macro," he

said, lamenting that the government's target to increase infrastructure spending to 9% of GDP by 2012 would be realized only by 2014! He called for concerted efforts to improve the delivery eco-system in the country, and stressed the need for a standard bidding document as well as a strong mechanism to resolve disputes.



Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission



SS Kohli, CMD, India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd



Ajit Gulabchand, President, CFI and CMD, HCC Ltd.



Shailesh Pathak, Senior Director, Investments, ICICI Venture, Bhaskar Chatterjee, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission, Athar Shahab, Deputy MD, IDFC Projects, and Amitabh Sharma, Partner, J Sagar Associates, Advocates & Solicitors

SMEs in the Pharma Industry

The CII Life Sciences Sector and Express Pharma hosted a panel discussion focused on the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) players in the Indian pharmaceutical industry on 18 March in Mumbai.

Representatives from pharma associations like IDMA and CIPI, as well as from SBI, which offers funding options for Indian pharma SMEs, participated in the discussion, which highlighted on the various issues and perspectives of the Indian pharma SME players, which are a crucial link in the value chain of this sector in India.

Mr. T S Jaishankar, Chairman, CIPI and Head, CII Pharma SME task force gave an overview of issues facing the pharma SME sector, including laws and amendments. He suggested that Government should create policies after analysing the feedback from SMEs as well as other players. He also underlined threat areas such as the drug price control order, Intellectual Property Rights, pollution control schemes and funding issues.

Mr. S V Veerramani, Vice President & Chairman, SME Sub-Committee, IDMA, said pharma SMEs have the potential to become the MNCs of tomorrow. The export market in India currently worth around \$8-\$9 billion, is estimated to be a \$30 billion market by 2020, but there is lack of guidance and adequate support from the government for SMEs. He felt that developing Class I and Class II tier cities as pharma clusters would help SMEs.

Dr. R B Smarta, Managing Director, Interlink Marketing Consultancy, Mumbai, cited the example of Scandinavian



countries which are SME driven, by companies with high business competencies and risk bearing capacity to capture opportunity.

To encourage pharma units to invest in better technology and pollution equipment, Mr. T S Krishnaswamy, Deputy General Manager, SME Trade and Services, State Bank of India, recommended that the government consider offering higher depreciation benefits of say 150 percent. This will be an incentive where there is no outflow of money, which effectively use the carrot instead of the stick method, to encourage upgrades to better technology and pollution control, he felt.

Mr. Krishnaswamy suggested that SMEs involved in clinical trials can tie up with medical colleges. Government can incentivize such SMEs and colleges, he felt.

With opportunities emerging in Africa, Latin America and CIS countries, the government should have a focused

market scheme which will have a reduction on excise duty and also reduce product registration fee.

Mr. Anant Thakore, Managing Director, Avik Pharmaceuticals and Past President, IDMA, highlighted that most of the pharma research work in China is done in universities. Land is made available at cheaper rates and the Chinese government has created industrial townships with various amenities to benefit to SME players. He mooted public private partnerships for the Indian pharma SME sector.



T S Jaishankar
Chairman, CIPI and Head,
CII Pharma SME Task force



S V Veerramani
Vice President & Chairman,
SME Sub-Committee, IDMA



R B Smarta, MD,
Interlink Marketing
Consultancy



T S Krishnaswamy
Deputy General Manager,
SME Trade & Services,
SBI



Anant Thakore, MD,
Avik Pharmaceuticals, and
Past President, IDMA



Canada to Invest in Mining

The CII National Committee on Mining, along with the Ministry of Mines, attended the Prospectors and Developers Association Convention (PDAC) 2009 in Toronto from 1-4 March. The 25 member delegation was coordinated and led by Mr. Vijay Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines.

The delegation met Mr. Kevin Constante, Deputy Minister, Northern Development and Mines, Canada, who emphasized the importance of Ontario specifically in mining and related equipment.

In a meeting with Bennett Jones, a reputed law firm, CII assured providing full support to them in providing linkages with relevant authorities for Uranium safety and rehabilitation in India.

The delegation also had a meeting with the Bank of Montreal, which has a specialized segment that invests in mining assets in Canada. This group has shown keen interest to venture into the Indian mining sector.

Select members of the delegation including the representative from CII had an exclusive meeting with Mr. Micheal Gravelle, Minister Northern Development and Mines, Canada.

During the India Day function on 3 March the Indian delegation spoke about the forthcoming National Mineral Policy that calls for an investor friendly approach to the Indian mining sector. Mr. Vijay Kumar said that enough provisions have been included in the National Mineral Policy to provide seamlessness in concessions from Reconnaissance Permits to Prospecting License and then to Mining Leases for interested companies. He assured that there would be enough back-up guarantees to safeguard against legislative and judicial issues.

Mr. Vijay Kumar noted that though India's forthcoming elections could delay the implementation of the Mineral Policy by a couple of months, this should not be an impediment for the development of the sector.

Mr. Micheal Gravelle, in his keynote address at the India Day, reiterated that Canada sees India as a focus country for strategy and growth. He emphasized the need for closer ties with India and sought opportunities to increase bilateral trade in mining.

India's growing presence in the Canadian markets was evident when Mr. John Baird, President, PDAC, made an appearance at India Day and spoke on India's growing alliance with Canadian mining know-how and technology. Mr. Baird also hosted a special dinner for the visiting Indian delegation.

On India Day, the state governments of Orissa, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh showcased their mineral wealth

and invited investment in these states. During an interactive session with the Additional Secretary, many overseas companies who are currently mining in India highlighted the need to speed up procedures although they recognized that these were necessary. Mr. Vijay Kumar assured that these issues were being covered in the anticipated mineral policy.

For the second time, the Ministry of Mines took a stall at the PDAC Trade show. This stall

showcased India's mining resources predominately through the Geological Survey of India, National Mineral Development Corporation, National Aluminium Corporation and the mineral rich states of Orissa, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh. Numerous enquires were received at the booth.

This was the fourth visit of the Indian mining delegation to PDAC. CII met representatives from Madagascar and showed interest in taking a mining delegation there in the future.

The Consulate General of India based at Toronto facilitated local logistics and meetings for the delegation while in Toronto. The Consulate also hosted a dinner for the delegation.



Visitors at the India Stall at the Trade Show in PDAC 2009, Toronto

Economic Stimulus Package Working: CII SME Survey

In wake of the present economic slowdown and the stimulus package announced by the Government of India, CII conducted a snap poll to analyse the impact of various initiatives, announced as part of the first and second stimulus packages on the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The findings of the snap poll revealed that as part of the first stimulus package, the reduction in CENVAT by 4%, followed by interest rate cut of 0.5% for small and 1% for micro enterprises by PSU banks, export support by interest subvention of 2%, reduction in lock-in period under the Credit Guarantee Scheme from 24 to 18 months and additional plan expenditure of Rs 20,000 crores, will have a beneficial impact on the MSMEs.

Also as part of the first stimulus package, initiatives such as MSME sector refinance facility of Rs 7,000 crores, PSEs and government departments to pay promptly to MSMEs, RBI steps

to ease liquidity by reducing repo, reverse repo and CRR, public sector banks agreeing to enhance working capital by 20% payable in one year with six months moratorium and extension of the Credit Guarantee from Rs 50 lakhs to Rs 1 crore, would immensely contribute towards easing the liquidity for the MSMEs.

The snap pool also revealed that as part of the second stimulus package, initiatives such as restoration of DEPB rates prior to November 2008 till 31 December 2009, duty drawback benefits for certain products like bicycles, agricultural hand tools, and specified category of yarns with retrospective effect from 01/09/2008, assistance to state governments to purchase buses for their urban transport systems and accelerated depreciation of 50%

for commercial vehicles purchased between 1-31 January 2009 will have a beneficial impact for the MSMEs. At the same time, initiatives such as the special monthly meeting of SLBC to look into matters between MSMEs and banks not resolved within a fortnight, enhancement in the guarantee cover under the Credit Guarantee Scheme from 50% to 85% for loans up to Rs 5 lakhs and Rs 5,000 crore RBI credit to EXIM Bank for pre and post shipment credit, would also contribute towards easing liquidity for the MSMEs.

According to Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, the last few months have witnessed a series of initiatives being announced by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India, as part of the stimulus package, and supplemented with announcements by the Indian Banks Association, for the MSMEs. He added that clearly, the intent is to help the MSMEs with additional liquidity, in the midst of the current economic



crisis.

Mr Ramesh Datla, Chairman, CII National MSME Council, noted that the present economic environment is more global than when previous downturns happened, so there is enough reason to believe that concerted government action (globally) will make the reversal more shallow than predicted, although it could last slightly longer. He applauded the government's effort through the stimulus packages. Mr Datla added that CII had met and presented to Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India, a note on 'Dealing with the Impact of Global Financial Crisis - MSME Agenda for Indian Economy', along with a representation received from 31 associations from across the country, in December last year.



Train the Trainer Workshops for World Skills



Demonstration session on Welding

CII, WorldSkills International (WSI) and WorldSkills Korea are jointly developing e-learning modules for Industrial Control and Welding as part of the WSI initiative to share best practices in skills development among technicians across the world. These e-learning modules would enhance the skill levels of the technicians and also prepare competitors from developing countries for the WorldSkills Competitions.

The modules in welding and industrial control have been developed by skill champions from Korea in collaboration with Indian experts. The draft version is now ready which would be validated in India by training about 1000 students for its effectiveness. The e-learning modules are currently available in CD and DVD format. Each module consists of 22 hrs of instructions both on theory as well as practice in line with WSI standards. Best practices are demonstrated through video clippings and master trainer's instructions.

Two workshops were held in Bangalore in early March to train 16 trainers in each skill. Master Trainers from Korea explained the e learning modules supported by practical demonstration of best practices.

The modules will now be used to train about 1000 students during April-June. Only students who already

have the basic skills and theoretical knowledge in the chosen trade will qualify for this advanced training. Using feedback from the training, suitable changes, if required, will be made before the modules are launched for worldwide application in September this year in Calgary, Canada. World Skills International plans to cover more skills after evaluating the success of these two modules.

WorldSkills Competition

This year the WorldSkills Competition will be held in Calgary, Canada from September 1-7. Industry and other institutes can also send in their representatives as observers apart from participants. This will give an exposure to world class skills at work in the biggest skills competition in the world. For more details on the competition, please contact Wg. Cdr. B. C. Prabhakar at b.c.prabhakar@cii.in

The e-learning modules provide great opportunity for training institutes to raise their standard of training to world class levels. Training institutes seeking to use these e-learning modules and participate in the skills competitions, may also contact b.c.prabhakar@cii.in

Business Response to Climate Change

A seminar on Business Responses to Climate Change focused on three significant aspects: Energy, Water and Green India

The global economic slow-down and climate change are the top issues which dominated discussions and deliberations of world leaders in governments and businesses in 2008. The sentiments echoed in the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2009 in Davos, too.

Climate change has a multitude of long term environmental, social and economic impacts that threaten the world's prospects and prosperity. Strong scientific evidence shows that humankind needs to limit the increase of global mean temperature to, at the most, 2°C above pre-industrial levels. Beyond this threshold, climate change is likely to become unmanageable and dangerous, pushing the Earth's complex ecology past

known and as yet unknown tipping points. Staying below 2°C will be challenging; the latest scientific evidence suggests that the climate system already contains substantial warming potential due to the increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and the planet's decreasing capacity to sequester carbon in natural sinks. The threat is enormous, and the solution equally so: a drastic decarbonisation of our energy system - in effect, a third Industrial Revolution.

India is also witnessing the impact of the climate change by way of unprecedented heat waves, floods, cyclones, and other extreme weather events affecting the productivity of crops, food security, infrastructure, livelihoods and human health.



Shyam Saran, Prime Minister of India's Special Envoy on Climate Change



Dr. Kirit Parikh, Member Planning Commission of India



Deepak Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy



U N Panjiar, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources



B M Jha, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board



Ravi Singh, Secretary General, WWF India

If not controlled now, climate change will affect the basic elements of life for people – access to water, food production, health, and the environment. Hundreds of millions of people could suffer from hunger, water shortages and coastal flooding as the world warms.

By enabling large-scale infrastructure investments and technological innovation, a global deal on climate change could help bring the world economy back on track, laying the foundation for quicker recovery and future prosperity. The costs of stabilizing the climate system could be relatively low, perhaps just 1 - 2% of global GDP. This amount would slow economic growth by only a few months by 2030 - a modest investment compared to the cost of not acting. However, this low-cost scenario requires that action be taken quickly and that effective institutions and technologies be put into place on a global scale.

While the business world acknowledges the challenges of climate change it needs to assess its preparedness and respond accordingly. India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) provides a framework for industry to shape its active response along with the creation of business opportunities. By working with the government it will not only play its role as a partner to development, it will also be able to demonstrate its own competitive edge, ultimately enabling the desired pace of economic growth.

While countries, companies and communities continue to grapple with re-thinking strategies, the imperative going forward will be to “connect the dots” in order to understand the relation between issues, interests and institutions in order to catalyse solutions for the long term. The need, therefore, is to give impetus to timely, measurable and verifiable business responses to the risks and opportunities posed by climate change.

The CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development organised a Seminar on Business

Responses to Climate Change on 16 March in New Delhi. The Seminar was supported by WWF India, the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, and the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy. The seminar focused on the three most significant missions of NAPCC, i.e.: Energy, Water and Green India.

Mr. Shyam Saran, Prime Minister of India's Special Envoy on Climate Change, who was the Chief Guest, said that climate change and the development imperative are inseparable, and the world should work along to achieve sustainability. The onus to adopt environmentally friendly technologies should not completely lie on the developing world. Science suggests the current climate change is due to accumulated emissions of over 200 years of industrialization. The world, therefore, should work together to achieve sustainability.

He outlined practices like IPR and trade competitiveness as major obstacles for environmentally friendly technology adoption. Positioning India's NAPCC as a new strategy for sustainable development, Mr. Saran highlighted that the issue of climate change, particularly for India, is closely linked to development. He was of the view that India's development denominator is associated with huge population; ongoing industrialization; extensive urbanization and need for greater agricultural output.

Other key speakers at the Seminar included Dr. Kirit Parikh, Member, Planning Commission, Mr. Deepak Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Mr. U N Panjari, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Mr. B M Jha, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Mr. Ravi Singh, Secretary General & CEO, WWF India, Mr. M L Pachisia, President, Indian Paper Manufacturers' Association and Managing Director, Orient Paper & Industries Ltd., Mr. Harpal Singh, Chairman, CII Northern Region and Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Ltd., Mr. Atul Singh, President & CEO, Coca Cola India and Mr. Roop Salotra, President & CEO, SRF Ltd.





CII Institute of Quality Your Quality Training Partner

Training Calendar May 2009

12-15 May, Bangalore Workshop on Assessment for Business Excellence
16 May, Bangalore Refresher Training Course for Assessors
25-26 May, Mumbai Accreditation Requirements for Inspection Bodies: ISO 17020
13-15 May, Bangalore Improvement in Service Quality in Public Service Organizations based on Indian Standard 15700:2005
15 May, Bangalore Food Safety Systems in Schools
15-16 May, Pune Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing (GD&T)
26-27 May, Bangalore War on Waste (A Programme on Manufacturing Excellence)
21-22 May, Bangalore Customer Relation Management for Healthcare
20-21 May, Delhi New Product Development: A Strategic Approach
21-23 May, Chennai Managing Projects Effectively
22-23 May, Chennai Service Skills for front Liners
27-28 May, Bangalore Internal Auditor Training on ISO 9000: 2008
26-27 May, Mumbai Advanced Training on GLP for QA Professionals
28 May, Mumbai Packaging Commodity Rules
28-30 May, Bangalore 10th Annual Conclave for Executive Secretaries
28-29 May, New Delhi Customer Relationship Management

For further details, please contact:

v.subramanian@ciionline.org



Visit us at : www.cii-iq.in

towards excellence | competitiveness



CII – Avon Cluster Launched

Nine vendor companies of Avon Cycles at Ludhiana have come together to form a cluster and go through the proven programme for 12 months. Mr Onkar Singh Pahwa; MD Avon Cycles Ludhiana, would mentor the cluster.

CII and its strategic partners have so far formed 150 Clusters covering over 1200 companies, out of which **60 clusters are currently running** with almost **500 companies**.



CII-Avon Cluster launch in Ludhiana

Energy Saving: A Core Issue

A workshop on Energy Management on 28 March in Gurgaon delivered the knowledge and techniques to conduct effective energy management to reduce thermal and electrical energy consumption. The unique delivery point of the workshop was the self energy auditing techniques imparted through case studies.

Effective Cost Management

A workshop on Cost Management on 20 March in Faridabad, offered industry suggestions on how to cope with uncertain economic conditions, increased global competition and constantly demanding shareholders. The workshop highlighted the need for companies to develop in-house skills on Total Cost Management tools like Activity Based Costing (ABC), Activity Based Management (ABM), Target Costing (TC) & Inventory Management.

Geometric Designing & Tolerancing

A 2 day workshop was held on 'Geometric Designing & Tolerancing (GD&T)' on 20-21 March in Pune. The workshop discussed the standard method of interpreting the Geometric dimensioning and Tolerancing given in the drawing, and how inspection gages and fixtures have to be designed based on the GD & T given in the drawing.

Communication and Presentation Skills

An interactive 'Workshop on Communication and Presentation Skills' on 30 March in Noida used mock presentations and intensive feedback to develop various aspects of employee enhancing performance.

UK-India Partnership in Ports and Logistics

The seminar provided a platform to match Indian requirements with UK capabilities, paving the way for future collaborations



The CII Institute of Logistics, Chennai, in collaboration with the British Deputy High Commission, organized a seminar on 'UK-India Partnership in Ports and logistics' on 17 March in Chennai.

The seminar was held during the visit of a delegation of 10 ports and logistics companies from UK to explore options for investing in development of ports in India. The companies included port operators, shipbuilders, equipment suppliers, security companies, engineering consultants, lawyers and bankers.

The seminar was held to

- Present the UK's capabilities in the ports and logistics sector
- Raise awareness of opportunities in the Indian ports sector for UK companies
- Promote greater collaborative business opportunities between the UK and Indian companies in the ports sector

The UK has a rich maritime history and its ports today are among the most competitive in the world. The UK's success across the entire range of port management from privatisation of ports to adopting security and environmental practices, has created a huge demand for its knowledge and expertise. In India, the growth of the economy and the increasing share of India in international trade have created an immediate requirement

for the modernisation of Indian ports. The Indian Government has also opened the sector for private sector participation for a variety of port services. The seminar provided a platform to match Indian requirements with UK capabilities paving the way for future collaborations.

Mr R. Dinesh, Core Group Member, CII Institute of Logistics and Joint Managing Director, TVS Sons, speaking at the seminar, invited UK-based companies to have direct involvement in India's infrastructure projects.

Mr. Gordon Rankine, Chairman, UK Ports and Terminals Group, pointed out that five different logistics companies were already involved in port-related development activities in Tamil Nadu alone. "We find the policy framework, which encourages any infrastructure-related activity and allows us to get involved in port operations in partnership with Indian companies, also favourable for investment," he said.

The delegation emphasised the need for a logistics park to manage the cargo that India handles. The visitors expressed interest in engaging in partnerships in areas

of technical consultancy, port management and operations. Their main attractions were the government's stimulus package aimed at accelerating the growth of infrastructure in India and the PPP working model.

The UK delegation also visited Hyderabad and Mumbai.



R Dinesh, Core Group Member, CII Institute of Logistics, and Jt MD, TVS Sons, Dr C B S Venkataramana, Jt Director General of Shipping, India, Mike Connor, British Deputy High Commissioner in South India and Gordon Rankine, Chairman, Ports and Terminals Group, UK

The CII-EXIM Bank Award for Business Excellence, 2009

The CII-EXIM Bank Award for Business Excellence was instituted in 1994, jointly by the Confederation of Indian Industry and the Export Import Bank of India, to promote the awareness of business excellence as an increasingly important element in competitiveness. It is regarded as the most prestigious award in India for Business Excellence for Indian companies.

To be an Award winner, a company must demonstrate Excellence in results with respect to its various stake-

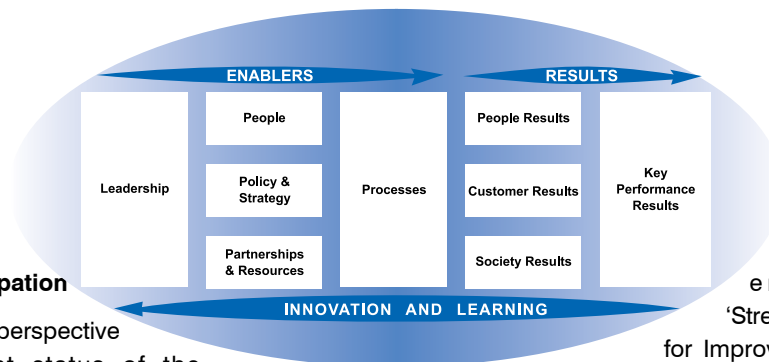
Assessment

- Based on EFQM Model of Business Excellence
- By a team of 4-6 qualified professionals
- Over 1000 hours invested for each application
- Most rigorous, transparent and internationally benchmarked assessment process

holders (customers, employees, society and investors) achieved through leadership directing its policy and strategy, its people, resources and processes. The CII Institute of Quality administers this award in India with technical support from the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM).

All organisations operating in India, their operating units and SBU's, besides overseas units of Indian companies can participate. Small and Medium Businesses also participate in the Award process.

THE AWARD MODEL



Benefits of Participation

- get an external perspective on the current status of the organisation's practices and performance, beyond financial performance
- measure the organisation's progress on the journey towards Excellence and compare with the best in class companies
- facilitate learning opportunities and professional development for managers
- accelerate improvement efforts and provide motivation to managers

Besides, each participating organisation receives a comprehensive feedback report

enumerating their 'Strengths' and 'Opportunities for Improvement' which could be leveraged into the strategic planning of organisations. The recognition in line with the Award criteria is a bonus!

The Award is the highest level of recognition followed by Prize, Commendation for Significant Achievement and Commendation for Strong Commitment to Excel.

The Timetable

Letter of Intent	30 April, 2009
Submission of Application Document	15 June, 2009
Site Visits	September - October 2009
Results	November 2009

Past Award Winners include TCS (2006), Tata Motors, CVBU (2005), Infosys (2002), Tata Steel (2000), Maruti Suzuki (1998) and HP (1997). The Tinplate Company of India (2008) and BHEL, Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant, Haridwar (2006) have been prize winners too.

For more details please contact: n.deep@cii.in or visit www.cii-iq.in

Food Safety, Quality & Nutrition Programme for School Meal Organisers



A capacity building programme helped develop 35 noon-meal organisers as master trainers and change agents in Tamil Nadu

CII-IQ, in its endeavor towards capacity building in Food Safety and Quality among mid-day meal organisers of schools, created yet another landmark. Its Education and Food Desks, with the support of the Department of Social Welfare and Noon-Meal Programme, Tamil Nadu, conducted an 8 day-capacity building programme for 35 noon-meal organisers in government schools from 10 zones of Chennai.

The programme was inaugurated on 25 February by Mr. K. Manivasan, Commissioner, Department of Social Welfare, Tamil Nadu and was conducted in 2 phases; 25-28 February and 11-14 March.

The programme helped develop 35 noon-meal organisers as master trainers and change agents to bring about a radical change in the overall attitude of the noon-meal organisers across the state. The highly interactive sessions facilitated understanding of Food Safety and Quality and Personal Safety and other aspects of implementation related to stakeholders associated with the Noon-Meal programme. The subsequent action plan

is to cascade the learnings to around 42,000 noon-meal centres which cater to students from Class I to X across Tamil Nadu!

The importance and implementation aspects of establishing food safety policies, fire safety, food safety and nutrition, food preparation while retaining nutritive value, personal hygiene, teamwork, leadership and the skills required for master trainers were covered through enthusiastic group exercises, discussions, team activities, team presentations, team games and power point presentations, including real life cases captured through photographs, pictorials and video clippings.

It was the first of its kind programme in this area of capacity building and received a highly positive response and feedback from the participants. The journey of putting learnings to practice has only just begun for these Noon-Meal organisers!

Although for most of the participants it was their first of its kind exposure, they were quite comfortable and keenly participated in group activities, made very informative



K. Manivasan, Commissioner, Department of Social Welfare, Tamil Nadu, delivering the inaugural address



Noon-meal organisers engaged in group activities

and interesting charts for presentations and were very confident in putting forth their suggestions. Their ratings for the programme varied between 'Excellent' and 'Very Good' with no adverse comments. Some of the significant feedbacks included:

- I will implement whatever I have learnt in the programme.
- Should have been implemented 15 years back.
- Will be a role model for other organisers.
- Thanks to the department and all officials.
- Attitudinal change in us.
- Should be extended to entire Tamil Nadu.
- Number of training days can be increased.
- Banana can be given to the children everyday.

Mr. A Ingersoll, Joint Director, Noon-Meal Programme, and Mr. Peer Mohamed, AEO, Noon-Meal Programme, Chennai Corporation, were actively involved in the programme, with CII-IQ resource persons.

The midday meal scheme was initiated in 1960 by Mr. Kamaraj to enhance the literacy rate, reduce dropouts in schools, increase the attendance of children going to school and enhance the learning and cognitive development of the students. It was further expanded by Dr. M G Ramachandran, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. As the scheme provides a nutritious meal to the students of classes 1-5, it has been re-christened as the Nutritious Meal Programme.

For more details please contact S Sayeelakshmi at s.sayeelakshmi@cii.in

Food Safety and Quality for SMEs

A Quality Council of India (QCI)-CII Sensitisation Programme on Food Safety sensitized food processing sector personnel, hotel management students and hoteliers on the advantages of implementing Quality tools and techniques, in Siliguri on 14 March.

Dr Indrani Ghose, Principal Counsellor, CII Institute of Quality, said that Quality tools and techniques reduce workers' fatigue, process variations and waste, making life easier for the food handlers, and thereby provide them with adequate time and motivation to implement HACCP and ISO 22000 Food Safety Standards.

MSME and SME units were urged to join the CII Food Clusters and be a part of the nationwide thrust on Food Safety initiated by the Ministries of Food Processing and Health, QCI and Food Safety and Standards Authority, India. Mr M. Jena of QCI explained the importance of accredited certificates and establishing their authenticity. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr G.S. Hora and Mr R. Jajodia, Chairman and Vice Chairman, CII North Bengal, and Mr A. Roychowdhury, Deputy Director, Tea Board.

CII-IQ has been pursuing efforts since 2004 to sensitise the food industry and its stakeholders and upgrade processing units to international food safety standards. Around 46 Assam tea units, facilitated through CII Food Clusters, are food safety certified, with more in the pipeline.

Food Safety Systems in the Food Processing Sector

The importance of Food Safety to avoid food-borne illnesses was underlined in the sensitization programme on Food Safety Systems organised by CII Uttarakhand State Council, in partnership with QCI and CII-IQ in Dehradun on 19 March.

The programme provided awareness on implementing Good Hygiene, Good Manufacturing and ISO 22000 based Food Safety systems through employee involvement programmes like 3M and 5S. It also discussed the expectations of the retail trade in respect of food safety and the role of accreditation in the food sector, besides touching on some Codex guidelines.

The messages that Food Safety and Quality were complementary and the need for the retail trade to focus more on primary producers to control food safety issues at the initial stage were reiterated.



Food Safety Systems programme in Dehradun

CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre

International Award for GBC



The CII- Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre received the international Aspen Institute Energy and Environment Awards under the NGO category, during the Aspen Environment Forum held at Aspen, Colorado, on 27 March. The award is given for contributions in increasing renewable energy generation, increasing efficiency, achieving radical price reductions, or developing new green markets in developing countries.

Mr S Raghupathy, Senior Director & Head, CII-Godrej GBC received the award on behalf of CII.

The Aspen Institute Energy and Environment Award 2009 presented to the CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre, under the NGO category at the Aspen Environment Forum.

CII – TCM Maturity Model

CII has launched a novel initiative called 'TCM – Maturity Model', in order to evaluate, assess and rate the cost management systems of the companies. The model is the first of its kind in India.

The model has been developed to evolve a certification process to facilitate a company to become world class in cost management. The TCM Maturity Model which rates the cost management systems at the unit level has 5 hierarchical levels. The model is administered by the CII TCM Division

To take this initiative forward, CII TCM Division jointly with the Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India, organised an interactive session on 17 March in New Delhi. Chaired by Mr R Bandyopadhyay, Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, session was attended by over 36 participants including CEOs and senior officials from Public Sector Units from all over India.

Water Investors Meet – India 2009

The rapid economic growth and urbanization occurring in India is manifesting into the increased consumption



Francois Binder, Country Director - India, SDC, addressing the Water Investor's Meet - India 2009

of water resources, resulting in imminent threat to the very supply of the finite resource. On the other hand, the emerging problems affecting Indian water supply offer significant business opportunities for various stakeholders to promote and deliver water-efficient equipments and devices, solutions and services.

To catalyse and facilitate investments in the water sector in India, CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre under the banner of Indian Business Alliance on Water, (IBAW- a partnership with UNDP, USAID, SDC and the World Economic Forum to facilitate PPCP in water and watershed management) organised a 'Water Investors Meet - India 2009' in New Delhi on 17 March.

Mission on Sustainable Growth

The Mission on Sustainable Growth (MSG) initiative was launched at the CEO's Meet on MSG in Ahmedabad on 19 March. Earlier similar CEOs Meets on MSG have been held in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi and Pune.

The core purpose of the Mission is to promote and champion conservation of natural resources in Indian Industry without compromising on high and accelerated growth.

Mr D J Yadav, Convenor, CII Gujarat Environment Panel & Chief Executive Officer – Project Management, Arvind Ltd & Arvind Accel Ltd spoke about the Mission and the



D J Yadav, Convenor, CII-Gujarat Environment Panel & CEO, Project Management, Arvind Ltd & Arvind Accel Ltd, Piruz Khambatta, Past Chairman, CII Gujarat State Council & CMD, Rasna Pvt Ltd, and Yatindra Sharma, Vice Chairman, CII Gujarat State Council & Jt MD, KHS Machinery Pvt. Ltd.

CII Code for Ecologically Sustainable Business Growth. He invited industry members to sign the CII Code. At the Meet, 15 companies signed the CII Code.

So far, 220 companies in India have expressed their commitment to the CII Code for Ecologically Sustainable Business Growth.

New Ventures India road shows

New Ventures India (NVI) is a centre of sustainable entrepreneurship, specially designed to meet the needs of Indian entrepreneurs in the domain of sustainability. It helps entrepreneurs overcome common business challenges; and enables sustainable businesses to deliver environmental and social benefits in addition to economic development.

New Ventures India, as part of their green and sustainable business proposal identification process, organised road shows in Hyderabad and Chennai on 23 March and 30 March respectively. The roadshows were held to attract entrepreneurs to apply for New Ventures India cycle 2009. More than 40 participants attended each show.

More road shows are lined up by NVI in Bangalore, Cochin, Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Consequently, New Ventures India will select potential green and sustainable business proposals from the applicants. Select business proposals will get pro bono mentoring and business advisory services. Finally, the selected business proposals will be showcased during the Investor Forum 2009.

Workshops on Energy



James Quinn, Supervisor and Team Leader Technology Delivery, US Dept. of Energy Industrial Technology Program

Confederation of Indian Industry and the US Department of Energy jointly organised two workshops on the Save Energy Now initiative for industry on 31 March in Chennai and on 2 April in New Delhi.

Save Energy Now (SEN), is a national initiative of the Industrial Technologies

Program (ITP) of the US DoE to drive a 25% reduction in industrial energy intensity in 10 years.

The workshops helped companies learn about the SEN initiative to reduce energy consumption in US industry and to identify key opportunities for savings by focusing

on energy-intensive systems such as process heating, steam, pumps, fans and compressed air.

The workshops also witnessed a panel discussion on exploring opportunities for future cooperation between the DOE and CII.

Key Visitors

Delegates from the US Air War College

A high-level delegation from the US Air War College visited the Centre on 5 March. Mr S Raghupathy, Senior Director & Head, CII-Godrej GBC took the delegation on a green building tour and briefed on the energy efficient, eco-friendly and sustainable features of the CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre. The tour was followed by a presentation on the centre activities and initiatives.

Students from ASEAN Countries

A group of 50 students from 10 ASEAN countries visited the CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre on 25 March to learn more about the green building features of the Centre. The visit was a part of their trip of sights and sounds of modern and ancient India.

Students were taken on a green building tour and were briefed on the energy efficient, eco-friendly and sustainable features of the Centre.



Students from ASEAN Countries at the CII-Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre



India@75: The People's Agenda

India@75 reflects CII's aspiration to facilitate India's transformation into an economically vital, technologically innovative, and socially and ethically vibrant global leader by the year 2022

CII, Yi, and The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) announced the launch of India@75: The Peoples' Agenda with an objective to spark a transformation of India by the year 2022, on 26 March in New Delhi. The 'Peoples' Agenda' was commissioned to involve people across the country in a visioning of how India could be at 75 years of independence.

Professor CK Prahalad, Paul and Ruth McCracken Distinguished University Professor, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, USA, said that India@75 is the most tested and supported idea in India today. He said that India@75 was an election manifest.

If politicians wanted to know what people wanted they should look to what India@75 had unearthed.

BCG developed an innovative approach that was structured at the grassroots level of the state level, since each state is unique, at its own stage of development, facing its own unique sets of issues. This included hearing and studying voices across many different geographies, different socio-economic classes, different age groups, different occupations, different genders and different religions.

Mr. Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman, CII Mission on India@75, said that, across the country, people had strong aspirations of what they wanted for India@75. The five aspirations that cut across all geographies and people were:

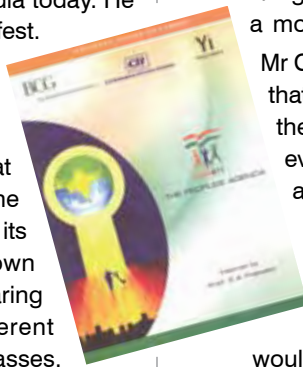
- **Education and skills** is a top priority for all the people: 100% literacy; 200 million college graduates and 500 million skilled workforce
- **Efficient infrastructure deployment** can change the pace of India's growth dramatically
- Development has to be **environmentally sustainable**, that is non-negotiable
- Innovation and '**next practices**' are key to progress: we must find new ways to do things
- Corruption is seen as a major corroding influence eating away the vitality of India: India can become a moral leader in the world.

Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said that India@75 showed how to take advantage of the current economic situation. He noted that everyone sees India becoming a global leader, and this crisis is an opportunity.

Mr Rajan Navani, Co-Chair, CII Mission on India@75 said that India@75 was a rallying cry for the young in the country. He said that a volunteer corps of young people would be created for working with institutions across the country at the grassroots level to make the vision a reality.

Mr James Abraham, Senior Partner & Director, BCG, said that crises would come and go. Only a shared aspiration like India@75 would keep us on track and point to the things that we have to get done, no matter what.

For more details on India@75, please log on to www.indiaat75.in



Venu Srinivasan, President, CII, (then President Designate, CII), CK Prahalad, Paul and Ruth McCracken Distinguished University Professor, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, USA, K V Kamath, then President CII, and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, releasing the National Vision Document, India@75: The Peoples' Agenda



Yi World

Yi Office Bearers 2009-10

Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Executive Director, Aries Agro Ltd, is the Yi National Chairman for 2009-10. Dr Mirchandani, who was the Yi Vice Chairman last year, has led Yi Youth Affairs activities both in Mumbai and later nationally. In 2007, he conceptualised the first



Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, National Chairman, Yi

CII-Yi National Young Farmers Network, in partnership with Aries Agro Ltd, to enable young farmers across India to share and learn agricultural best practices.



Bhairavi Jani, National Vice Chairman, Yi, with Shashank Agarwal, Chairman, Yi Indore Chapter

Ms. Bhairavi Jani, Director, SCA Group of Companies is the Yi National Vice Chairman, 2009-10. She has held various portfolios in Yi, including National Finance Chair, National Learning Chair and Mumbai Chapter Chair.

NATIONAL NEWS

Yi Pathfinder 2009

Yi conducts Pathfinder, a strategy cum direction workshop at the beginning of each year. This year the 3rd edition of the Pathfinder workshop was organised on 14-15 March in Gurgaon. Forty Yi members charted out the work plan and processes for the year under the various platforms, initiatives, organisations and events.

Interaction on e-solutions

Yi organised an interaction with Mr Robert Blackwell Jr, Founder and President of Electronic Knowledge

Interchange (EKI), on 2 March. EKI is an e-solution application, development and implementation company specialising in Intranet, Extranet, Workflow and web based supply chain management and other e-commerce solutions. Mr Blackwell, a founder of many companies, was closely associated with the 'Obama in America' campaign and has been a member of the Chicago Board of Trade and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. He shared his entrepreneurial experiences with a group of 25 young entrepreneurs.

CHAPTER UPDATES

Oral Health Camp

Yi Pune carried out an oral health and dental check up camp at the Bebawadi Prathmic Vidyalaya, a Pune Municipal Corporation school for underprivileged children on 9 March. A team of interns and post graduate students from Bharti Dental College examined 244 children from Std 2-7 as per WHO norms.

IndiaPreneur Business Plan

Yi Pune Indra Net organised a business plan competition, 'IndiaPreneur 2009', on 9 March involving 400 students from different management institutes across India, along with mentors from industry. 'IndiaPreneur' was an attempt to develop employment creators rather than just employment seekers. The competition offered a cash prize of Rs. 1.25 lakh and an opportunity to pitch to 'IndiaCo Venture' & 'Young Angels' for funding.

Yi NIT Net at Rourkela

Yi Bhubneshwar launched its 1st Net at the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela on 19 March. On this occasion, a blood donation camp was also organised in association with the Ispat General Hospital and CWS Hospital. A total of 92 units of blood were collected.



Blood Donation Camp at Rourkela

Yi Cleanliness Drive

A cleanliness drive was organized at the Juhu Beach, Mumbai by the students of K. J. Somaiya Institute of Management Studies and Research in association with Yi Mumbai chapter and other bodies on 18 March. More than 100 students gathered to perform small skits, unfurl banners with motivational messages and pick garbage lying on the beach.

Yi Net at Gandhinagar

The Institute of Petroleum Technology, Gandhinagar (IPTG) signed an MoU with Yi Ahmedabad Chapter, for a Yi Net on 27 March. Subsequently, IPTG students distributed 400 deworming tablets to labourers on their campus.

Learning to play Golf

Yi Chandigarh chapter organized a session on 'Learning How to Play Golf' for its members on 28 March. The session was facilitated by Mr Jesse Grewal, class 'A' teaching professional, who was assisted by Mr Mahesh Kumar, class 'B' teaching professional at the Chandigarh Golf Association. Mr Jesse Grewal articulated the techniques of driving, putting, chipping and striking the ball. He also spoke about rules of golfing, various kinds of clubs and the origin of Golf.

Chapter Annual Sessions

Annual Sessions were conducted across the Yi Chapters in March and office bearers were appointed for the year 2009-10.



Suresh Kalmadi, MP, and President, Indian Olympic Committee, Chetan Wakalkar, Immediate Past Chair Yi Pune, Rohit More, Past Co-Chair Yi Pune at the Yi Pune Annual Day



Shivinder Mohan Singh, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Delhi State Council, Naveen Munjal, Chair, Yi Delhi Chapter and Rahul Chawla, Incoming Chair, Yi Delhi Chapter at the Yi Delhi Annual Session



Jay Galla, Yi National Chairman, Utpal Sen Gupta, Immediate Past Chairman CII, Andhra Pradesh, and Harish Chandrash Prasad, Chairman CII, Andhra Pradesh at the Yi Hyderabad 4th Annual Session



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

Confederation of Indian Industry

249-F, Sector 18, Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Gurgaon - 122 015, Haryana, INDIA
Tel: 91-124-401 4060-67 Fax: 91-124-401 4080

India & the World

East Asia

ASEAN



ASEAN students at Mahabalipuram

Fifty students from the 10 ASEAN member countries visited India at the invitation of the Prime Minister of India to experience resurging India firsthand. The students visited Chennai, Hyderabad and Mumbai, and the Golden Quadrilateral – Delhi, Jaipur and Agra over 10 days. The programme, the third of its kind, was organised by India's Ministry of External Affairs and CII.

China

Foreign Trade Drops

Trade	January 2009 \$ bn, Change	February 2009 \$ bn, Change
Total	141.8; -29.02%	124.95
Exports	90.45; -17.5%	64.9; 25.7%
Imports	51.43; -43.1	60.05; 24.1%

Source: MOC, PRC

Economic Figures

CPI: Down to 1.6% in February, 1st negative growth in 6 years

PPI: Down 3.3% in January and 4.5% in February.

Retail sales: Up 15.2% in first 2 months to \$293.8 billion

Urban fixed asset investment: Up 26.5% in first 2 months to \$150.35 billion

Industrial output: Slows to 5.2% in January and February

FDI: \$7.54 billion in January and \$5.83 billion in February

Export Tax Rebate

The actual export tax rebate in the first two months stood at \$9.77 billion, up 20.8%. China has also raised the tax rebate rate on some textile, iron and steel, nonferrous metal, petrochemical, electronic information and light industrial exports from 1 April.

Chinese Trade Team Visits Europe

A high-powered Chinese trade and business delegation led by Mr Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, visited Germany, Switzerland, Spain and the UK. Chinese companies signed 37 procurement deals with German companies covering areas like electronics, automotive, textile and medical industries among others, worth 11 billion euros (\$14 billion).

China Rejects Coke Bid

China has rejected the Coca-Cola Co.'s \$2.3 billion bid to buy the largest Chinese juice producer, China Huiyuan Juice Group. This purchase would have been the biggest foreign acquisition of a Chinese company to date.

World Bank Cuts China's GDP Forecast

The World Bank has notched down its projection for China's GDP growth for this year to 6.5%, but said the country is still likely to outgrow most other economies.

New Stimulus Package, if Needed

Premier Wen Jiabao said that China has prepared plans to cope with even bigger difficulties amid the financial crisis and is ready to put forward a new stimulus

package at any time, if needed. China has already rolled out a 4-trillion-yuan two-year stimulus package including huge government investment, tax reform, industrial restructuring, scientific innovation, social welfare and promoting employment.

Pressure on Yuan Rejected

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said that no country in the world has the right to put pressure on the devaluation or appreciation of the Chinese currency, and the requirement for the devaluation of the yuan does not fit the country's current situation.

Yuan Settlement in Foreign Trade

Six Chinese regions, including Guangdong, Shanghai, Guangxi, Yunnan, Hong Kong and Macao are competing to begin a pilot programme that allows the yuan to be used as settlement currency in regional trade, local media reported.

Defence Spending

China plans to increase its defence budget by 14.9% in 2009. Defense expenditure accounted for 1.4% of GDP in 2008.

India, China Joint Trade Panel

Mr G K Pillai, India's Commerce Secretary, and the visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Commerce, Mr Zhong Shan, have agreed to set up a joint panel comprising joint secretary-level officers from the governments of India and China to settle all bilateral differences on trade and investment. The Chinese delegation also met India's Director General of Safeguards and Director General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties, as well as the Revenue Secretary. China has taken up the issue of the Indian ban on import of toys from China with the WTO.

India-China: Drivers of the Asian Century

By 2025 India and China will be among the top five most important nations in the world and are well positioned to be the drivers of world economy in a post-crisis world, said Mr. H. S. Puri, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs. He was addressing a conference on "India-China: Drivers of the Asian Century in a Post Crisis World", organized jointly by CII and the Aspen Institute on 4 March in New Delhi.



At the conference on 'India-China: Drivers of the Asian Century in a Post Crisis World'.

Mr. Puri felt India and China can together draw up a responsible global financial architecture to overcome the current crisis.

He highlighted the need for greater regional cooperation; discouraging trade protectionism; and undertaking measures for building confidence in the economy. He remained confident about India's huge domestic market and the emergence of rural India. He also released the book 'Getting China and India Right' co-authored by Prof. Anil K Gupta and Ms. Haiyan Wang.

Mr. Zhang Yan, Ambassador, China, said that China has launched a RMB 4 trillion investment scheme which is equivalent to 16% of the country's GDP in 2007. The Chinese financial sector remains intact, but the real economy has suffered gravely. Around 670,000 small scale enterprises have been shut down since the advent of downturn, leaving 6.7 million people jobless. Today 10-15 million migrant workers in rural China are waiting for new jobs, he shared.

The Ambassador believed that China and India's economies have strength and resilience against the crisis. He highlighted proactive initiatives for restoring economic delight: beefing up confidence between India and China; mutually looking out for investment opportunities; discarding protectionist tendencies; preparing the foundation to lift up the economy; and maintaining social equality.

Mr. Salil Singhal, Chairman, CII (NR) & Chairman Secure Meters Ltd, said the well strategized national development policies adopted by India and China will see global GDP contribution to the tune of 45-50% coming in from both the nations in times to come.

Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said that CII would soon open its office in Beijing.

Japan

Industry Woes

Japan's manufacturing output led by automobile production has fallen for the fifth straight month in February. Industrial production fell 9.4% annually, but rebounded from January's record 10.2% plunge.

Foreign Trade (provisional)

Trade	February 2009	February 2008	% Change
Exports	3,525,454	6,973,675	-49.4
Imports	3,443,102	6,037,854	-43.0
Balance	82,352	935,821	-91.2

Japan logged its first current account deficit in 13 years in January. Japan's trade deficit in January also reached 952.6 billion yen (\$9.9 billion).

Business Conditions Decline

The Japanese government has downgraded its assessment of the nation's business conditions for the sixth straight time since December 2007 as the ongoing financial crisis took a heavy toll on its economy. In its latest report, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry lowered the overall business trend to "receding" from the previously reported "weakening further" in December 2008 amid deteriorating production and employment situations. In nine of Japan's 10 regions, business conditions were "receding" or "weakening further," said the ministry.

Economic Stimulus

Japan's Finance Minister Kaoru Yosano told US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner that Japan would exceed the United States' request to implement stimulus measures equivalent to at least 2% of GDP. Mr Yosano said Japan would spend at least 3 trillion yen more to boost the economy.

Big Business Sentiment Falls

The business sentiment index among large Japanese companies in the January-March quarter was minus 51.3, a significant deterioration from the previous period's minus 35.7. The figure is expected to improve to minus 24.8 in second quarter.

Business Seeks New Economic Measures

Business leaders have urged Prime Minister Taro Aso to compile additional economic steps worth 30 trillion yen after the main budget for fiscal 2009. The Japan Business Federation and Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry made the request at a meeting of an experts' panel with the prime minister.

Seminar on Japanese Business in India

CII and the Japan Foundation organised a seminar on 17 March on 'Japanese Business in India: Strengthening Ties' in New Delhi. Dr. Masanori Kondo, Senior Associate Professor of Economics, International Christian University, Tokyo, said it was an opportune time for Japanese



Seminar on Japanese Business in India

companies to improve their business image in India, and urged them to look at trade opportunities in sectors like finance, retail and applied research industries.

South Korea

Steps for Recovery

South Korea's ruling party agreed with the government on creating a supplementary budget of \$20.6 billion for job creation and economic recovery.

Taiwan

Education Delegation from Taiwan

A Taiwanese education delegation led by Dr Si-Chen Lee, President, National Taiwan University and comprising representatives of the Ministry of Education and relevant associations of universities of Taiwan visited CII on 24 March.

Dr Y S Rajan, Principal Advisor, CII, interacted with the delegation and discussed various points like internship of experts and students, placement of students and industry persons and cooperation between CII and Taiwanese educational institutions.

Australia

- Australia's national accounts data (seasonally-adjusted) indicated that the economy contracted by 0.5% in the December quarter, putting GDP growth for the year at 0.3%. Stronger performances in agriculture, forestry and fishing helped offset negative contributions from manufacturing, property and business services, and wholesale trade.
- Mr Ric Battellino, Governor, Reserve Bank, said Australia's economy was likely to contract in 2009 but would likely see some recovery towards year end.
- The Australia & New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) is looking at re-establishing itself in India as a top-four foreign and super regional bank in Greater China and the Indian subcontinent. It is obtaining a new banking licence and hopes to begin business in 6 to 12 months.
- Australia will slash its quota of skilled migrant visas by 14% as the global economic crisis fuels unemployment. The government earlier warned that the slowing economy could send joblessness up to 7%.

Cambodia

- The Cambodian government has undertaken a \$12.6 million World Bank administered Trade Development Support Programme to help expand its international trade. The programme will focus on legal reforms, trade facilitation and product standards by improving regulations and internal processes. The World Bank representative in Cambodia said there was a need to widen export markets and woo larger investors as the country's economy comes under pressure.
- Cambodia has been selected as pilot country for a \$50 million pilot programme for climate change administered by the WB.
- The Bank of India has received RBI permission to locate offices in various countries, including Cambodia and New Zealand. These overseas offices are likely to be opened in a year or two.
- The IMF has revised its 2009 growth projections for Cambodia to 4.25% from 4.75%, saying the economic environment would remain 'extremely challenging' into next year.

Indonesia

- Bank Indonesia cut its key rate by half a percentage point to 7.75% to boost the country's declining export performance. Export sales plunged 36% in January compared to the year before, marking the biggest drop in 22 years for Indonesia.
- Inflation has dropped well below the historical average, but the falling inflation is putting pressure on Indonesia's balance of payments.

- Indonesia's National Development Planning Agency has put the export growth rate for the current year at -6%, anticipating a decrease in both volume and pricing in oil & gas product exports, and related goods and services.
- President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono says his government will disburse \$6.1 billion in April towards stimulus spending to finance massive infrastructure projects to create jobs and boost economic growth.
- The Indonesian Employers Association said the country's unemployed population grew to 240,000 in March, mostly from labour-intensive industries. Government data showed unemployment was 37,909.
- Foreign bank branches in Indonesia posted fairly strong growth in 2008 despite heavy losses by a number of head offices inflicted by the financial global crisis. Citibank chalked up a 14.8% increase in profit to US\$173 million last year from the previous year.

Malaysia

- January saw Malaysia's sharpest export decline in 15 years. Overseas shipments plunged 27.8% y-o-y after slipping 14.9% the previous month. Exports of electrical and electronic products and palm oil were badly affected. Imports dropped 32%.
- Fitch Ratings expects Malaysia's non-performing loan ratio to rise beyond 6.5% from 4% at end 2008 in the light of worsening unemployment. Malaysian banks' asset quality is also expected to deteriorate, but will be mitigated by the recent interest rate cuts and fiscal stimulus measures.
- Malaysia pumped \$16.26 billion into the economy as part of the second stimulus package in March, expects to see its economy either contract or grow by 1 percent in 2009. The \$16 billion package, the biggest economic stimulus initiative Malaysia has ever taken, is equivalent to 9% of its GDP. The government aims to increase employment, boost consumer confidence, improve infrastructure and help the private sector. The textile, electrical, and automotive industries, which are most affected, will be granted additional benefits.
- Fitch says the stimulus package will put pressure on the country's sovereign rating in spite of its strong foreign reserves. The stimulus will worsen the country's already weak fiscal position owing to its high debt levels. Fitch would probably revise its 2009 economic growth forecast for Malaysia to a contraction, as well as raise the fiscal deficit projections for the current and next year.

Last month, Fitch lowered Malaysia's local currency rating outlook to negative from stable, but kept the local currency rating at A-plus.

- More than 26,000 people have lost their jobs in Malaysia since the beginning of this year as the economic slowdown forced employers to cut back. The

government is reported to have slashed work permit approvals by 70% so far and cancelled work visas of 55,000 Bangladeshi workers. The Malaysian Employers Federation expects unemployment to rise.

- Malaysia's Ministry for International Trade & Industry is drawing a 5-year masterplan (2009-2013) to increase Bumiputra participation in the manufacturing and services industries. The master plan will identify challenges faced by Bumiputra entrepreneurs in these sectors, and detail strategic thrusts to improve business.
- Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak, prior to assuming office as Malaysia's premiere on 3 April, said Malaysia could embrace some reforms such as liberalising the services sector, but would not dismantle policies favouring ethnic Malays. The system of economic preferences for ethnic Malays was introduced by Najib's father in the early 1970s after race riots, to help Malays catch up with the more prosperous ethnic Chinese community. Calls for the policies to be dismantled have grown.
- Maxis Communications Bhd has committed \$10 billion investment for the expansion of Aircel, in which it has 74% stakeholding.
- Ingress Engineering Sdn Bhd and Mayur Industries Ltd have entered into a 40:60 joint venture to design, develop, manufacture, sell and distribute automotive component products in India.
- Diversified pharmaceutical maker Hovid Bhd is completing its \$2.66 million acquisition of a 51% stake in India's Biodeal Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd. This will expand its tablet/capsule production capacity by 100%.
- Emas Kiara Marketing Sdn Bhd has secured a \$19.88 million contract from the Assam government to raise and strengthen the Brahmaputra Dyke to protect the Majuli and Dhakuakhana areas against flood devastation. The project will be undertaken by its joint-venture with Vietnamese partner firm, Think Toan Trading & Construction J.S. Co.
- Several oil & gas companies are keenly exploring opportunities to make Malaysia a regional hub on the back of growing demand from China and India, said the Malaysia Industrial Development Authority.

Myanmar

- Myanmar's 2008 foreign trade volume increased 17.8% from 2007, with natural gas topping the country's list of exports. [Asian countries account for 90% of its total trade.]
- Upgradation work on the 160-km Myanmar-India Friendship Road stretching from Kalewa-Kale-Tamu on the Myanmar side is targeted for completion by 2010. Opened in February 2001, the border road forms an important link from the India-Myanmar border and Mandalay.

New Zealand

The New Zealand economy shrank 0.9% in Q4 last year - its biggest decline in 16 years. New Zealand's economy began contracting in the first quarter of 2008 and some analysts are predicting a six-quarter-long recession.

- New Zealand's current account deficit widened to a new record high of NZ\$16.1 billion in the year, as deficit expanded to a colossal 8.9% of GDP.
- This yawning current account deficit spurred Standard & Poor to lower the nation's AA+ credit rating outlook to 'negative.'
- New Zealand's trade surplus widened to NZ\$489 million in February - as exports fell and imports tumbled, as the nation's prolonged recession sapped demand for foreign goods. The improving trade balance bodes well for the current account deficit, which heightened to a record NZ\$16.1 billion last year.
- The New Zealand government is reviewing its overseas investment policies to attract foreign investment, while at the same time protecting sensitive land, assets and resources.

Philippines

- The Philippine Stock Exchange has set new rules allowing brokerages to trade anonymously to attract more foreign investors and boost liquidity in the equities markets.
- President Gloria Arroyo has signed a \$29.2 billion budget to boost state spending and stave off recession. This includes a 330 billion peso stimulus package for infrastructure, temporary jobs and cash handouts for the poor to keep the economy in motion as exports tank.
- Bangko Sentral Pilipinas cut its the key policy interest rates by 25 basis points.
- Net FDI inflows into the Philippines fell 48% to US\$1.5 billion last year. The Balance of Payments (BoP) surplus in 2008 tumbled to a four-year low of \$89 million from a record \$8.58 billion in 2007. The central bank has yet to make FDI estimations for 2009 but forecasts that investment flows would stay in the black along with remittances, to lift BoP to \$700 million by year end.
- Tech outsourcing solutions firm, Cybernet-SlashCupport has established a technology support office in Taguig City in the Philippines to complement its offshore facilities in India, US, and Poland, and will hire 100 technical support engineers locally over the next couple of months.

Singapore

- Singapore's key non-oil domestic exports plunged 24% in February for a 10th straight month. Total

trade in February fell 22.1% to almost S\$54 billion as shipments to the city-state's top 10 markets, except China, continued southwards. Demand from the US shrank most. Analysts said double-digit contraction in exports could be expected until at least the first half of the year, with a chance for a turnaround late in the year, as the effects of massive stimulus packages in major world economies would kick in.

- Economists expect the Monetary Authority of Singapore to re-center the trading band for the Singapore dollar and allow a one-off depreciation that will see the local currency decline by about 4% against the greenback by the end of Q2 this year. Analysts view the Singapore dollar extremely overvalued and opine this move will restore a measure of competitiveness in Singapore exports.
- ST Kinetics, the land systems and speciality vehicles arm of state-linked Singapore Technologies Engineering group, is the frontrunner for a key contract to supply ultra-lightweight cannons to the Indian Army in a contract reported to be worth \$ 650 million.
- India Infoline Ltd is seeking license to offer brokerage and investment banking services in Singapore and aims to begin operations in the next 12 months. It also plans to commence offshore fund management services based out of the island republic once the market recovers.

Thailand

- Thai Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij said the Thai economy may shrink by 3% this year despite government stimulus measures.
- Thailand lacks a safety net. Under further downward pressure from the global recession, reports say the Thai economy faces its toughest year since the Asian financial crisis of a decade ago. A university study predicts the Thai economy will contract over Q1 and Q2 of 2009 by up to five percent. Now there are warnings of unemployment reaching over one million people. Thai economists, in a paper to the United Nations, said the crisis would hit the "grassroots" low income populations the hardest. The Thai government has already announced a package of over \$3 billion to flow into the economy in the coming months, and further spending by the government may be necessary.

Vietnam

- The Vietnamese government estimated growth will have slowed to 3.1% in the first quarter of 2009 from a 7.4% expansion in the same period last year. Hanoi still projects annual growth of 6.5% this year after a slowdown in 2008 from the previous year.

- The International Monetary Fund revised its growth forecast of 5% for Vietnam in 2009, saying the economy was likely to slow to 4.75% this year, in the face of global economic turmoil.

- Vietnam widened the trading band of the dong against the US dollar from 3% to 5% allowing its currency room to depreciate against foreign currencies. The State Bank of Vietnam said this would facilitate flexible adjustment of the economy and allow the exchange rate to stay close to the supply and demand of foreign currencies in the market.

- Vietnam plans to invest \$115 million through 2015 in the exploration, exploitation and construction of three ilmenite ore (used in titanium production) and titanium powder production plants. The country's titanium ore deposits account for 6% of the total titanium reserves in the world.

- In a bid to help local food producers, Vietnam's Ministry of Finance has hiked the import tariffs on cattle meat and pork. The import tax on some steel categories was also raised to help local steel firms liquidate their growing stickpiles.

- India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry has imposed an initial anti-dumping duty of 16.32% on yarn and fabric imported from Vietnam based on preliminary findings by Indian authorities that Vietnamese fabrics were being sold at 16.32% below cost. This order will remain until 25 September when India completes its investigations and decides further action. Vietnam says these textile firms are SMEs and lack the needed capital to dump goods below cost.

- India's Ministry of Commerce has also accused Vietnam of dumping recordable compact discs (CD-R) into the Indian market and will impose an anti-dumping tax rate over the next 3 months.

- Vietnam's compact fluorescent lamp exporters will also face steeper import tariffs in India as the Directorate General of Antidumping and Allied Duties, on concluding investigations, confirmed that Vietnamese-made lamps were being sold in India at a price lower than the normal value. The dumping margin was 70 - 85% depending on the type of lamp.

- A recent survey by A C Nielsen found mobile phone ownership percentage in Vietnam surpassing that of China (46%) and India (30%). The study showed up to 74% of the Vietnamese people surveyed owned a mobile phone.

- Vietnam has been ranked among the top 10 countries with quickest growth in Information and Communication Technology by the International Telecommunication Union, among the 154 nations surveyed.

CII CIS Committee

The traditional markets for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Region in Europe and the western regions have been severely affected by the global economic slowdown. The CIS business community has now started looking at new markets in neighbouring regions and South East Asia including India.

Various delegations from CIS Region visiting India in the last one year have highlighted the immense potential for bilateral trade with India. This increased frequency of interaction from both sides led to the formation of the CII - CIS Committee to explore mutually beneficial business opportunities.

The CII CIS Committee, in a meeting in New Delhi on 18 March outlined the strategy for economic engagement with the CIS region. The primary focus will be on

promoting bilateral trade and investments through workshops and exhibitions, building academic linkages, developing capacity building initiatives and taking up policy issues with representative governments. The emphasis was on strengthening ties with existing MoU partners and initiating new MoUs with all countries in the CIS region.

Mr. S Sen, Principal Advisor, CII, chaired the meeting.



CII CIS Committee Meeting in progress

Europe

report

France

As the economic crisis deepened, the social temperature rose, prompting warnings of class war, even as the second general strike in two months that succeeded in getting close to three million people to join street protests passed off peacefully. A shaken government started looking for more carrots to offer!

Government & Politics: The Unions clearly won this round. In an unprecedented show of strength, both public and private sector employees joined the strike, spearheaded by students and teachers. Though the country was not paralysed, recent laws on minimum service in public transport ensuring that, the government was jittery about unrest in the universities where both students and teachers are opposed to proposed reform, which has now been shelved. People seem to be passing from the initial stage of denial to anger as the crisis deepens. Unions are seeking stimulus through increased consumption fuelled by higher wages and want the government to drop plans for a cap on public sector hiring.

Student unrest has provided them and opposition Socialists a cover to push their demands. Haunted

by the spectre of the 1968 student revolt that brought France to near collapse, governments of all political hues are cautious in dealing with them.

Public anger, directed at large public funding of bank bailouts, has been sharpened by the insensitive behaviour of the bosses of some companies receiving government assistance, who want to help themselves to large bonuses and golden parachutes in case of departure. There was clamour for a law against bonuses. Medef has stressed its existing voluntary code of self regulation as a model, warning against a 'one size fits all' law as solution.

Finally, the government passed a decree banning bonuses for companies, mostly bank and car producers, which received government aid aimed at their survival. The Government's margin of manoeuvre is limited; it cannot meet Union demands without abandoning its proposed reforms as funding for both is just not available in the current economic recession.

While holding out the promise of some extra effort for students worried about their job prospects, President Sarkozy has refused to increase wages or taxes, arguing that the money he is allocating to themes like

infrastructure development will actually create real jobs and stimulate the economy. At the same time, he has been stressing that capitalism must have moral values and has put pressure on employers to be ethical and exemplary leaders. Luckily for him, so far, the opposition Socialists, weakened by ongoing internal feuding, have been unable to cash in on public discontent. But he continues to help them in unexpected ways! Amid all this, President Sarkozy chose to push through France's reintegration in NATO, not important in itself today, but a highly symbolic and emotional issue for many who see it as repudiation of Gaullist heritage.

Economy: The Economy, already in recession, is set to contract by 1.5% in 2009, in the worst post war forecast reversing previous projections of moderate growth. Further, combined with €30bn expenditure on economic stimulus and a budget deficit of €103bn or 5.6% of GDP, the country's debt ratio will be 73.9%, going to 77% in 2010! Low inflation at 0.4% evokes fears of deflation, but on the positive side, consumer spending seems relatively steady despite rising unemployment, probably because the French system of social benefits acts as a cushion.

For the London G20 Summit, France and Germany, despite Merkel-Sarkozy antipathy, were one in opposing the US proposal for greater financial stimulus, and, instead, stressed greater financial regulation and sealing of tax havens. Mr Sarkozy threatened to walk out if the meeting did not come up with a concrete programme, saying a soft consensus document was meaningless!

Business & Industry: The Medef President's reply to the government that she had 'neither the power, nor the desire' to ask members to forego bonuses provoked a Sarkozy rebuke. Several companies, including Arcelor Mittal went for complete or partial plant shutdowns with workers in some cases responding with gherao tactics! Peugeot has summarily fired its chief executive, Mr Christian Streif.

Germany

The German Government's second economic stimulus package, which includes Euro 50 billion (\$66 billion) worth of investments, aid to businesses and tax breaks, has been passed by both the houses of German Parliament.

EU bans Dimethyl Fumarate (DMF) in consumer products

The European Commission, in its letter, has drawn attention to the emerging health risk to consumers posed by the use of Dimethyl Fumarate (DMF) in consumer products, particularly in furniture and footwear. Indian producers of consumer goods may also be using this chemical. The EC is temporarily banning the use of DMF in consumer products until a permanent solution under REACH can be established.

A notification in the form of a Commission Decision in this regard is being drafted. The EC has, therefore, advised that no consumer product made available in EU market, including imports, should contain DMF. The absence of DMF in consumer products should mean a maximum concentration of 0.1 mg/kg. The measure would be effective from 1 May 2009.

As part of the package, the composition of the new vehicle tax would partially be based on the Co2 emission of the vehicles. According to the legislation, which comes into effect on 1 July, 2009, all new cars will be taxed according to a combination of both Co2 emissions per kilometre travelled as well as the engine size of the vehicle.

As per the regulation, until year 2011, there would be a basic free allowance of 120 grams of Co2 per kilometre (for which no Co2 vehicle tax would be levied). Beyond this limit, Co2 vehicle tax would be Euro 2 per gram of Co2 emitted by the vehicle per kilometre. Further, the basic free allowance would be reduced to 110 grams of Co2 per kilometre in 2012 and 2013 and thereafter to 95 grams of Co2 per kilometre from 2014 onwards. The vehicle tax would also depend on the engine size of the vehicle. The vehicle base tax here would be Euro 2 per every 100 cubic metres of vehicle cubic capacity for petrol-driven cars and Euro 9.50 per every cubic metres of vehicle cubic capacity for diesel cars.

The new legislation brings Germany into line with a growing European Union consensus on the virtues of emissions-based automobile tax rules. Over a dozen EU countries have now inserted CO2 emissions into their vehicle tax formulas, including France, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom

The G20 Business Summit

The G20 Business Summit, held at No.10, Downing Street, London, on 18 March as a precursor to the Political Summit, was attended by business leaders from the countries invited to the G20 Political Summit on 2 April. The Business Summit had as its focus economic, trade and investment protectionism, and the impact on trade and capital flows.

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of Britain, participated in the discussions in his role as Chairman of the G20, together with the Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform, Lord Mandelson, and six other British Ministers. Addressing the business participants, Mr Brown said that the global financial crisis needed a global approach to finding and implementing solutions. The situation in the banking system and the decline in trade had three major policy responses:

1. Global interest rates have been cut significantly to stimulate the world economy.
2. A huge injection into the banking system has already enabled \$2.5 trillion of extra lending.
3. When monetary measures are not enough, quantitative easing and fiscal stimulus packages are the only options.

Further decisions would be needed at the G20 Summit, however, in three particular areas.

- The Doha round must be moved forward, mechanisms must be put in place for effective monitoring of commitments, protectionism must be resisted and the focus should be shifted to removing rather than creating barriers to trade and investment. The reduction in the availability of trade credit and finance needed to be reversed. This would mean mobilising export credit agencies, the private sector and new funding.
- Countries that could not restructure their own banking systems by themselves should receive

assistance from the IMF, the World Bank, and regional development banks.

- The flow of credit was a matter of confidence. Rules that govern this should be global; there can be no room for avoiding the regulatory net. Trust in the banking system was vital, which in turn required new standards, closer contact between regulatory authorities and effective supervision, and the ability to provide early warning of potential problems.

There was a need for ambition at the G20, and the Prime Minister concluded by saying that if the G20 could cooperate to address these issues, he was confident of the future for the global economy.

The Business Summit ended with a clear consensus against “too much regulation”.

Indian industry was represented by Mr Jamshyd N Godrej, Past President CII, Chairman, CII Mission for Sustainable Growth & Climate Change, Chairman, CII Finance Committee, and



Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, MP, Prime Minister of UK; Rt. Hon Lord Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform; and Jamshyd N Godrej, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Mission for Sustainable Growth & Climate Change, Chairman, CII Finance Committee and Chairman and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd

Chairman and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Mr Godrej, said that to deal effectively with the global downturn, it was essential to re-establish trade finance and capital flows. He said that the measures taken by India were only in response to those taken by others. He pointed out that people protectionism was a big concern, especially with the movement of professionals such as software engineers.

Mr Martin Broughton, President, Confederation of British Industry, said that it was important that business had a voice in these debates and decisions.

The four major areas of business interests, as reported to Prime Minister Brown were:

Protectionism & the Doha Round: Agreement to complete the Doha round quickly would be the best signal against protectionism. Until then, a legally binding standstill commitment from the G20 to maintain tariffs at a maximum of existing applied rates would be a visible sign of commitment to open markets. Participants were extremely concerned that 17 of the G20 countries have introduced some form of trade or investment protection since the Washington commitment. Business felt that

countries should look beyond the WTO-consistent measures when examining trade, investment, capital and people protectionism. A proposal for a joint technical task force was made to monitor protectionist action.

The business participants also felt that Russia's accession to WTO should be fast-tracked.

Trade Finance, Capital Flows & Multilateral Institutions:

Capital flows to emerging markets have dropped from \$929bn (2007) to \$165bn (2008) and were currently negative. As much as 90% of global trade needs credit, insurance or guarantees, which export credit agencies are the best vehicles to provide. There was a need to consider a role for the IFC, which could include funding of export credit agencies. More bilateral and multilateral co-operation was needed on trade finance.

The IBRD as well as the IMF had a role in restoring international capital flows. The capital adequacy requirements of BASEL II had led to drying up of letters of credit. Local regulators could address this issue.

Multilateral institutions and the IFIs need more funding, and a major revision to their governance, voting arrangements and roles.

Fiscal & Monetary Stimulus: Action has already been taken but the results and impact are still to come. The latest IMF revised global growth forecast, down from +0.5% to - 0.6%, is alarming.

The structural imbalances that partially caused the crisis cannot be ignored and the maximum stimulus effect should come from high surplus countries. If used properly, there would be a high multiplier effect.

There needs to be an exit strategy for government involvement in the economy. A joint business-government task force could examine these issues.

Financial Stability & Regulation

The business participants felt that the crisis had not yet been universally eliminated. Systemic issues still exist, as, for example, in eastern Europe. The core issue was confidence. Business participants believed that all financial markets should be regulated, however, it was a question of better regulation and not necessarily more or burdensome regulation. There was greater need for transparency, measurement of results, and international regulatory co-operation.

Participants stressed the necessity of reviving the letters of credit and felt governments and business should work together to achieve this.

Overall, the leaders at the G-20 Business Summit wanted to see the supply of credit turned on again to get the global economy moving, for governments to help get people spending, to keep markets open and to make sure such a crisis cannot happen again.

Lord Mandelson, Secretary of State for Business, said the level of expectation from business leaders who also represented their business communities had been made clear to the British Prime Minister. Confidence was the key point and this could be better delivered through small, practical steps rather than through political grandstanding and statements that are not adhered to.

The Business Summit ended on a positive note with Mr. Brown saying that it was important to show confidence in the future and to take decisions today that matter. He was encouraged by the strong anti-protectionist statements from business leaders. He also believed that the Doha round's completion was vital to global trade.

The Prime Minister said that countries had taken different approaches to restoring confidence. There were three common objectives: the identification and isolation of toxic assets, underpinning banks where necessary and getting credit moving again. There was agreement on the need for international financial co-operation in the Financial Stability Forum and it could have a larger role in future. Cross border supervision would be achieved through colleges of supervisors.

Significant stimulus packages had been put in place by some countries. But co-operation was needed.

The IFIs had been established in the 1940s for different reasons to today. There was a need to review their roles and operations.

Mr Brown hoped that participants would take the messages about the importance of fighting protectionism, restoring financial stability and maintaining open markets back to their governments, and to the rest of the world.

The UK Government was represented by Mr Brown, Lord Mandelson, Mr Denham, Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills; Lord Malloch Brown, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Mr Thomas, Minister for Trade, Development and Consumer Affairs; Baroness Vadera, Minister for Economic Competitiveness and Small Business, and Mr Pearson, Economic and Business Minister.

Business Community at the Summit

Mr Martin Broughton, President, CBI, & Chairman, British Airways plc, UK

Dr Juan Carlos Lascurain, President, UIA, & Executive Director, M Royo, Argentina

Ms Heather Ridout, Chief Executive, Australian Industry Group, & Director, Australian Super & Electrolux Household Products, Australia

Mr Carlos Mariani Bittencourt, Member of the Board, CNI, & President, Abiquim, Brazil

Mr Paul Desmarais Jr, Vice Chairman, Canadian Council of Chief Executives & Chairman & Co-CEO, Power Corporation of Canada, Canada;

Mr Yu Ping, Vice Chairman, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade; China

Mr Ernest-Antoine Seilliere, President, Business Europe & Chairman, Supervisory Board, Wendel, EU

Ms Laurence Parisot, President, MEDEF & The Parisot Group, France; Dr. Hubertus Erlen, Chairman, International Board BDI & Member, Supervisory Board, Bayer-Schering Pharma AG, Germany

Mr Jamshyd N Godrej, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Mission for Sustainable Growth & Climate Change and Chairman, CII Finance Committee, India

Mr John A Prasetio, Deputy Chairman, Indonesian Chamber of Commerce (KADIN) & Chairman, CBA Asia, Indonesia

Ms Emma Marcegaglia, President, Confindustria & CEO, Marcegaglia Group, Italy

Mr Keikichi Honda, Chairman, BIAC Committee, Nippon Keidanren & Chairman, EFI K.K, Japan

Mr S R Cho, Chairman, Federation of Korean Industry & Chairman, Hyosung Corporation, Korea

Mr Claudio X Gonzalez, Chairman, Mexican Council of Businessmen & Chairman, Kimberly-Clark de Mexico, Mexico

Mr Bernard Wientjes, President, VNO-NCW, Netherlands

Mr Alexander Shokhin, President RSPB & Board Member, Lukoil, TNK-BP & Renaissance Capital, Russia

Mr Brian Molefe, President BUSA & CEO, Public Investment Corporation, South Africa

Mr Jose Luis Feito, Member of the Board & Chairman ECOFIN Committee CEOE & President, ASETA, Spain

Ms Arzuhan Dogan Yalcindag, President, TUSIAD & President, Dogan TV, Turkey

Mr Donald J Shepard, Chairman of the Board, The US Chamber of Commerce & Chairman, Aegon, USA

Stephen Green, Chairman, HSBC Group Holdings plc and Mr John Buchanan, International Chamber of Commerce – UK, participated by special invitation

OIFC

The Overseas Indians Facilitation Centre (OIFC) accompanied a seven-member delegation led by Mr K Mohandas, Secretary, Ministry of Indian Affairs (MOIA) to the United States of America from 8-14 March this year. The conferences, held to apprise the Indian American community leaders about the recent initiatives undertaken in India for the benefit of the Overseas Indians, took place at three locations: New York, San Francisco and Houston. The Consulate Generals of India organized the sessions in the respective cities.

The conferences involved interactive discussions on the recent projects and organisations launched in India to facilitate diaspora investments, philanthropy and knowledge sharing.

Three recent initiatives undertaken in India to expanding long term sustainable engagement with the overseas Indians are: Global Indian Network of Knowledge (Global-INK), India Development Foundation (IDF) for Overseas Indians and the OIFC. Mr Mohandas stressed on the schemes, programmes and policies implemented by the Government for the benefit of the NRIs and PIOs in the field of education, employment generation, healthcare,

financial services, etc. Mr HS Sethi, then CEO, OIFC, described the services offered by OIFC to ensure investment facilitation in the country through



Rajiv Ranjan, Consular, Community Affairs, and K Mohandas, Secretary, MOIA, at the interactive session in San Francisco

a transparent process. A number of queries were addressed on the investment front, knowledge network, and consular issues. The delegates expressed their keen interest in connecting with their home country not just financially but also culturally, socially and intellectually.

Apart from the interactive sessions, luncheon meetings and networking dinners were organized by prominent associations of overseas Indians like Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO), The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) and the Consul Generals, in select locations.

mission

Chile

On the occasion of the official visit of Dr Michelle Bachelet Jeria, President of Chile, to India, CII organised a lunch meeting for the visiting delegation with CEOs of member companies in Chennai on 20 March.

Speaking at the event, Dr Bachelet emphasised on the need to promote bilateral trade between the two countries, as well as to promote cooperation in Biotechnology and Information Technology. Huge opportunities for cooperation also exist in education, renewable energy, agriculture, textiles and manufacturing, she said.

Mr Venu Srinivasan, President, CII (then President –Designate, CII) called for a strong partnership between India and Chile leveraging their inherent strengths for mutual benefit. Chile should look at providing access to the Indian services sector including IT and India needs to learn about raising agricultural productivity from Chile, he said.

A MoU was signed between the Confederation of Indian Industry and the Chile-India Chamber of Commerce (CAMINDIA) to promote economic and industrial cooperation. Mr Venu Srinivasan and Mr Hernan Somerville, President, CAMINDIA signed the MoU.

A CII paper released on the occasion recommended setting up an institutionalised bilateral Trade and Investment Promotion Forum between India and Chile with the active participation of both governments as well as industry leaders in key sectors. The paper cited the chief barriers to improving trade as distance, lack of information, poor connectivity of air and shipping lines, language, unfamiliarity with local trade regulations, etc.

In Chennai, Dr Bachelet inaugurated an exhibition titled “Selvedged Voices: Women’s Narrative Textiles from Chile and India” brought together Chilean and Indian creative textile storytellers.

Earlier, addressing a Seminar on ‘Chile-India: Growing Business Opportunities & Cooperation’, organised by the Embassy of Chile in association with CII and others in New Delhi on 17 March, Dr. Bachelet said the PTA between Chile and India has facilitated the growth in bilateral trade which reached US\$ 2.3 billion in 2008 from US\$ 300 million in 2004. “The Chilean Government has decided to open a commercial office at its embassy in New Delhi this year, making the conditions ripe for doubling of the trade between the two countries in the



Venu Srinivasan, President, CII (then President Designate) with Dr Michelle Bachelet, Jeria, President of Chile, in Chennai

next five years,” she said. Describing India as a “priority country” in Chile’s Asia policy, Dr. Bachelet said Chile offers India a bridge for trade with other Latin American nations.

Mr. Anand Sharma, India’s Minister of State for External Affairs, and Minister, Information & Broadcasting, expressed confidence that it would be possible to double the trade volume between India and Chile in five years.

FDI Inflows Swelled in 2008

Foreign investment inflows into India grew by 67% during April – December, 2008 with actual inflows amounting to a total of USD 21,152 million as compared to the total inflow of USD 12,700 million during April – December 2007.

Further, according to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) statistics released by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, FDI inflows into India grew by 72% over January – December, 2008 amounting to a total of USD 33,033 million as compared to the total inflow of USD 19,156 million during January – December 2007.

Mauritius was the largest contributor to FDI equity inflows during April – December, 2008, with investment amounting to USD 8, 606 million, followed by Singapore with investment amounting to USD 2, 101 million and the United States with investment amounting to USD 1, 335 million. Mauritius, Singapore, USA, UK, and the Netherlands were the highest contributors to FDI inflows over April 2000 to December 2008. Mauritius, Singapore and Japan contributed towards 55% of the FDI inflows into India during April 2000 – December 2008.

Source: Website of Ministry of Commerce, India

CII CEOs Mission to USA

The delegation touched base with the new US Administration, business, and thought leaders in New York and Washington DC, to further strengthen US-India bilateral ties and explore possible ways to revive the global economy through international collaboration

Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII, and Chairman and Group CEO, Bharti Enterprises, led an 8-member CEOs delegation USA from 17-19 March. The delegation touched base with the new US Administration, business, and thought leaders in New York and Washington DC. The visit aimed at further strengthening of US-India bilateral ties and exploring new avenues of partnership and also focused on possible ways of reviving global economy through international collaboration.



Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII, Robert Zoellick, President, The World Bank, and Sunil Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII, and Chairman and Group CEO, Bharti Enterprises

House Sub-Committee on Middle East and South Asia. They also met with Mr Robert Zoellick, President, The World Bank.

In New York, the CEOs met with their American counterparts at a meeting chaired by Mr. Terry McGraw, Chairman, Business Roundtable and Chairman, President & CEO, McGraw Hill Companies and also had a session with Dr Henry Alfred Kissinger, Former Secretary of State and Chairman, Kissinger

In Washington DC, the CEOs met with key US Administration officials including Mr Lawrence Summers, Director, National Economic Council; Mr Timothy Geithner, Secretary, Department of Treasury; Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, US Envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan and Mr Jim Steinberg, Deputy Secretary of State.

On Capitol Hill, the delegation met with Congressman Howard Berman, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Congressman Gary Ackerman, Chairman,

Associates.

CII and the Asia Society, in partnership with USIBC, held a session on 'Global Economic Recovery: Need for Greater India US Partnership' in New York. USIBC also hosted a session on 'India and US: Partners in Global Economic Recovery' in Washington DC. The visiting CEOs participated in both the sessions, reaffirming that US and India are inevitable partners and the two nations must continue to collaborate to address the



At a meeting with Jim Steinberg, Deputy Secretary of State: Richard Boucher, Asst Secretary of State for South & Central Asian Affairs; Kiran Pasricha, Deputy Director General, CII; Vijay Thadani, CEO, NIIT; Tarun Das, Sunil Kant Munjal; Past President, CII & Chairman, Hero Corporate Services; Ambassador Arun Kumar Singh, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India; Jim Steinberg; Sunil Bharti Mittal, Shobhana Kamineni, Executive Director, Apollo Group of Hospitals; C K Birla, Chairman, Hindustan Motors; and Pawan Munjal, CEO and MD, Hero Honda Motors

challenges confronting the world today.

The CEOs visit to USA, within 60 days of the Obama Administration coming to power, was a reinforcement of CII's commitment to build stronger US-India relations, encompassing economic, business, political and social dimensions. The importance of a strong India-US relationship was

emphasized at every meeting during the visit. Enhanced cooperation in energy, climate change, education, healthcare, agriculture and urbanization was identified as cornerstone of a strong bilateral relationship.

The CEOs delegation underlined that India could be a strategic partner of the US in South Asia and Middle East. The visitors underscored the need to enhance counter terrorism cooperation and to conclude the US-India Bilateral Investment Treaty. The CEOs also



Members of the CEOs delegation with Lawrence Summers, National Economic Council, at the White House, Washington DC

expressed that protectionism in the form of 'Buy America' provisions, H1-B visa restrictions or outsourcing restraints would only worsen the pain of economic crisis and undermine the gains of open trade realized thus far. Several meetings underscored the message that the US, as a leader of open markets, free trade and globalization must demonstrate leadership in reviving global economy.

report

CII-IBF Meetings

In a day long programme on 18 March in Washington DC, chaired by Mr David Good, Chairman, CII-India Business Forum (IBF) and Chief Representative, Tata Sons, USA, IBF members engaged with the Organization for International Investment (OFII) and the East- West Center, and participated at the USIBC session on 'Global Economic Recovery: Need for Greater India US Partnership.' This was followed by an interaction with Ambassador Arun Kumar Singh, Deputy Chief of Mission, at the Indian Embassy in the US. The programme also included a brief interaction with members of the CEOs delegation.

At the meeting with Ms Nancy McLernon, President & CEO, OFII, the IBF members discussed the implications of the 'Buy American' policy, tax issues and the outsourcing debate, particularly regarding H1B visas and other issues concerning Indian companies operating in the US. OFII and IBF agreed to work together to address some of these challenges.

The meeting with East West Center (a Think Tank established by the US Congress) featured discussions on the 'Asia Matters for America' initiative of the Center,

which includes an innovative website and brochure-map demonstrating interactions between all US States and Congressional Districts with 40 countries in the Asia-Pacific. The East West Center is currently working on creating individual country versions of the initiative focused on Australia, India, Japan, and Taiwan. CII-IBF members discussed the possibility of a joint (CII/IBF-The East West Center) India initiative, which might be called 'India Matters for America'.

Ambassador Singh, in a separate interaction with IBF members, highlighted the need to work on sectors like GSP, IPR, Environment, Labour, Cap & Trade, Aviation, Food Safety etc. He also emphasized the need for engaging with the US on Biofuels, Water, Nanotechnology and Education.

Kentucky Trade Mission

CII hosted a Leadership Trade Mission from Kentucky, led by Ms. Constance Lawson, Governor of Richmond, Kentucky, to India. The delegation comprised of state level government representatives, members from Chambers of Commerce, business leaders in corporate consultancy services and experts from the healthcare sector. A meeting on 3 March in New Delhi brought forth



Members of the Kentucky Trade Mission with CII representatives in New Delhi

the countless possibilities to boost bilateral trade and investment engagements between India and Kentucky across a wide array of sectors. While Ms. Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, Times of India, presented a perspective on US-India relations to the delegation, CII representatives gave an overview of the Indian economy and the role of CII in facilitating economic change. CII also facilitated one-to-one meetings for some members of the delegation with retail companies based in Delhi and Mumbai.

US EXIM Bank Interactive Meet



Diane Farrell, EXIM Bank, USA

An interactive meet with US EXIM Bank in Ahmedabad on 24 March focused on disseminating information about how the EXIM Bank could facilitate Indian industry's efforts in procuring goods and services from the US. It was a highly

informative session for member companies who gained knowledge on the kind of support that US EXIM Bank could provide for transport security, special credit facility for renewable energy, procurement of engineering services by US professionals, purchase of technology from US and procurement of space application programs for civilian use.

The Indian side solicited support from the US EXIM Bank for the 6000 mega watt nuclear power plant planned in Bhavnagar, Gujarat and also for promoting the upcoming Gujarat International Finance Tech City Model, which presents an opportunity for American real estate developers and ICT companies.

US-India: Bilateral Update

India-US Trade (Dec 2008 - Jan 2009)

Trade	Value \$ billion
Total trade	2.97
US's exports to India	1.138
India's exports to US	1.83

- **Indian Foreign Secretary visits USA:** Mr Shiv Shankar Menon, India's Foreign Secretary, during a four day official visit to the USA from 11- 15 March, met with top officials of the Obama Administration. In the first Indo-US interaction with the new US administration, Mr. Menon met key Congressional leaders and discussed a wide collaborative agenda.
- **Sunil Mittal joins Carnegie Board of Trustees:** Mr Sunil Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII, and Chairman and Managing Director, Bharti Group, has joined the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington think tank.
- **India makes record Defense Purchases:** India has purchased eight Boeing Co P-8I maritime patrol aircraft, the largest US arms transfer to India to date, costing \$2.1 billion
- **New Indian Consulate in Atlanta:** To boost trade, India will soon open a full-service consulate in Atlanta, drawn by Atlanta's growing clout as a business hub and its burgeoning Indian population, estimated at about 80,000. The office will make it more convenient to apply for Indian visas and likely boost Georgia trade with India as well.

US Economic Watch

- **US Gross Domestic Product:** Real GDP decreased at an annual rate of 6.3% in the fourth quarter of 2008, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. In the full year 2008, real GDP rose 1.1%, compared to 2.0% in 2007.
- **US Employment Rate:** The US unemployment rate in February 2009 reached 8.1%, the highest level since 1983. The stunning pace of job losses raises the possibility that perhaps as early as this summer, one in 10 Americans will be out of a job, even though they are actively looking for work.
- **US International Trade Deficit:** The total trade deficit in January 2009 declined to \$36.0 billion from \$39.9 billion in December, revised. Exports fell by 5.7% and imports declined by 6.7% .
- **Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009:** Senate approved a \$410 billion Bill to provide fiscal 2009 funding for nine federal departments, covering all government activities other than defence and homeland security-related agencies. Congress already has approved a \$700 billion financial bailout and a \$787 billion economic stimulus package.



India

Regional round up

east

CII Eastern Region Meeting

Kolkata, 10 March

CII Eastern Region organised its Annual Regional Meeting with a focus on “India@75: The Next Agenda - Addressing the Economic & Security Challenges”.

The panel discussion on the “Emerging Economic Order” was addressed by Dr. Vikram Akula, CEO, SKS Microfinance, Mr. Koushik Chatterjee, Group Chief Financial Officer, Tata Steel Ltd, Mr. S.S. Nandurdikar, Managing Director, Paradeep Phosphates Ltd and Dr. Shekhar Chaudhuri, Director, IIM Kolkata.



Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII; Rajive Kaul, Past President, CII; Sandipan Chakravorty, Chairman, CII (ER) and Mukul Somany, Chairman, CII (ER) (then Deputy Chairman, CII - ER)

At the session on “Security – The Immediate Response” the speakers included Mr. Alok Mukherjee, Chairman, Flakt India Ltd, Gen. (Retd) Shankar Roy Chowdhury, PVSM, Maj. Gen. Anjan Mukherjee, MG (Artillery), HQ, Eastern Command and Col. (Retd) Sandeep Sudan, Regional Head – North India, Mahindra Special Services Group.

Chhattisgarh

CII meets Governor of Chhattisgarh

Raipur, 2 March

A CII delegation led by Mr. Virendra Goel, Chairman, and Mr. Narayan Agrawal, Vice Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh, met with Mr E.S.L. Narsimhan, Governor of Chhattisgarh, and shared the vision document Chhattisgarh@2022, prepared by CII, with him. The Governor requested CII to partner the state government in implementing the vision.

Jharkhand

Jharkhand Annual Day

Ranchi, 4 March

The Jharkhand vision document – Jharkhand @ 2022 was unveiled at the Annual Session of the CII Jharkhand State Council.

Dangers of Pollution Control

Jamshedpur, 6 March

An interaction was held with Mr R K Sinha, Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, to

create awareness on acid rain, air pollution, hazardous waste, ozone depletion, smog, water pollution, and destruction of forest cover leading to global warming.

Orissa

Orissa Annual Day

Bhubaneswar, 3 March

CII Orissa State Council held its Annual Day with a session on ‘Creating a platform to connect ancillary and downstream



Unveiling of Vision Document Orissa@2022

industries. The vision document, Orissa @ 2022 was unveiled at this forum.

Waste Management

Bhubaneswar, 18 March

CII Orissa in association with the L M Thapar Centre for Competitiveness for SMEs organised a Training Programme on “Waste Management through 5S, 3M and Kaizen.

West Bengal

North Bengal Annual Day

Siliguri, 1 March

Mr Asok Bhattacharya, Minister, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, West Bengal was the Chief Guest at the North Bengal Zonal Council Annual Day. Mr Munsu Narul Islam, Mayor, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, also addressed the gathering.

West Bengal Annual Day

Kolkata, 4 March

Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Chairman CII (ER) and Mr. Mukul Somany, Deputy Chairman, CII (ER) participated in the Annual Session of the CII West Bengal State Council.



West Bengal Annual Day Meet

Breaking the Glass Ceiling



Beth Payne, US Consul General, Kolkata

Kolkata, 7 March

At a seminar on 'Women Prowess: Breaking the Glass Ceiling in the Workplace,' Ms Beth Payne, US Consul General, Kolkata, Ms Raji Ramaswamy, Senior Vice President & General

Manager, JWT, and Ms Meera Harish, Head, Strategy & Business Development, Titan Industries, besides others, shared their experiences with other women employees.

Unveiling of West Bengal@2022

Kolkata, 10 March



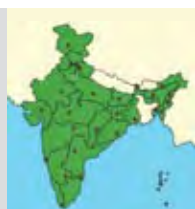
Unveiling of West Bengal Vision Document West Bengal@2022

CII West Bengal State Council unveiled West Bengal @ 2022 - a Vision Document. Mr Rajive Kaul, Past President, CII, Mr Sandipan Chakravorty, Chairman CII (ER), Mr Mukul Somany, Deputy Chairman, CII (ER) and Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, were present on the occasion.

Session with Industry in Haldia

Haldia, 26 March

The Haldia Zonal Council organized an interactive session with Dr Rashmi Kamal, Sub Divisional Officer, Haldia Sub Division, Purba Midnapore, for local industry to flag issues relating to development of industrial and social infrastructure, law and order, land availability, etc.



India
Regional round up

north

Roadmap for India's Transformation

New Delhi, 13 March

In sync with the theme "North in Challenging Times-10 Ideas that will Transform", the Annual General Meeting of CII Northern Region saw insightful deliberations on innovative solutions and out of box ideas by eminent speakers.

Mr Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of State for Communication and IT said, "Investments in health and education, which are normally the last on the agenda of any corporate or are limited to CSR acts, need to be brought to the top of the industry roadmap, if development and progress has to reach all parts of

the country." Mr Scindia pointed out that industry could use the reach and strength of the Indian postal system to reach out to the unreached.

Painting an optimistic view of India in 2026, Mr Sunil Kant Munjal, Past President, CII, & Chairman, Hero Corporate Services Ltd, said sustainable economic activity would help rural areas grow in a healthy manner, and provide job opportunities, growth and markets for the rest of India.

Sharing his experience in taking education to the masses, Mr Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII (2009-10), and Chairman & Managing Director, Jubilant Organosys Ltd said that it was important for industry to join hands



Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of State for Communication and IT, Harpal Singh, Chairman, CII Northern Region & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Ltd, Omkar Goswami, Chairman, CERG Advisory Pvt Ltd, Salil Singhal, then Chairman, CII (NR) and Chairman, Secure Metres Ltd, Sunil Kant Munjal, Past President CII & Chairman, Hero Corporate Services Ltd, and Hari S Bhartia, Vice President, CII (2009-10) and Chairman & MD Jubilant Organosys Ltd,

with the government. Sounding a note of caution, Mr Omkar Goswami, Chairman, CERG Advisory Pvt Ltd said the 6 per cent GDP growth rate forecast for the current year would not be enough to tackle the fast increasing inequalities in income and opportunities in the country.

Mr Salil Singhal, then Chairman Northern Region, and Chairman, Secure Metres Ltd, said that a major challenge facing the northern region was the fragile governance structure. He felt that a confluence of demographical advantage, entrepreneurial spirit and good governance could help the region leapfrog on the developmental front. Emphasising that "India had a chance today to shape the future." Mr Harpal Singh, Chairman, CII Northern Region & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Ltd said that industry must be flexible in its approach to the emerging new institutional frameworks. He said that inclusiveness needed to be redefined, specially in terms of the North-South divide.

Outlining CII's unique initiative India@75, Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said it captures the 'voices' and 'aspirations' of the people of the country into a vision for the country.

Demographic Dividend on our Side: Nandan Nilekani



Nandan Nilekani, Co-Chairman, Infosys Technologies Ltd

The Annual General Meeting also presented Mr Nandan Nilekani, Co-Chairman, Infosys Technologies Ltd, in conversation with Mr Vir Sanghvi, Editorial Director, The Hindustan Times, on the ideas that will herald in the new century for a young, impatient and vital India in a session on 'Impatient India: Transforming Ideas.'

With a young population we have the demographic dividend on our side, said Mr Nilekani. However this

dividend is as good as our ability to cash it. If we are not able to provide education, skills and employment opportunities to this youth, the dividend could turn into a nightmare with a great potential for social unrest, he added.

Areas where there is consensus on undertaking reforms and making progress include education, infrastructure, growing urbanization, and the move towards creating a common single market, he said. However, areas which still remain contentious include labour reforms, reforms in higher education, and issues related to affirmative action, he added.

Among India's structural advantages, said Mr Nilekani, the foremost is India's demographic dividend. India's attitude towards entrepreneurship has dramatically improved and technology finds greater acceptance. The large English speaking population and evolved democracy are other assets.

On what the future holds for India, he said that India would be one of the first countries to recover from the slowdown. He also emphasized on the need for balancing development objectives with environmental concerns. India should look at building itself as a low carbon economy, he added.

Chandigarh

Chandigarh: Where does the Future Lie?

Chandigarh, 9 March

The session on 'Chandigarh: Where does the Future Lie?' deliberated on ideas and suggestions that would form a foundation for the future of Chandigarh. Mr Harpal Singh, Chairman, CII (NR) (then Deputy Chairman, CII (NR)), Mr Partap K Aggarwal, Chairman, CII Chandigarh Council, Mr Y Saboo, Past Chairman, CII Chandigarh Council, and Managing Director, KDDL, and Dr S C Vaidya, Dean – University Instructions, Panjab University, discussed a roadmap to upscale this city as the world's best city to live in. Based on the recommendations of

this Panel, CII also submitted a draft industrial policy for Chandigarh.

Meeting with Chandigarh Administrator

Chandigarh, 24 March

A CII delegation led by Mr Partap K Aggarwal, Chairman, CII Chandigarh Council met Mr Pradip Mehra, Adviser to the Administrator, UT Chandigarh, to take forward the agenda for the rapid, sustainable and coordinated development of the city.

Delhi

Delhi & Haryana Annual Session

New Delhi, 7 March

As a part of the annual session for Delhi & Haryana, a panel discussion on 'Delhi & Haryana: Agenda for Partnership Focus: Commonwealth Games 2010' was organized, where the Government of Haryana assured full support to the Delhi Government for the Commonwealth Games 2010.

Mr Rakesh Mehta, Chief Secretary, Delhi, announced that most of the infrastructure projects for the Commonwealth



Rakesh Mehta, Chief Secretary, Delhi, releasing the Delhi Vision 2022 report

Games 2010 Delhi would be completed by December 2009 and all the 120 projects were being constantly monitored by the government for timely completion. An efficiency rate of 15% per month has been maintained for



At the Haryana Annual Session

completion of Commonwealth Games related projects, he added.

The panelists included Mr. V K Verma, Director General, Commonwealth Games Secretariat, Mr. Sarban Singh, Financial Commissioner & Principal Secretary (Sports & Youth Affairs), Haryana, Mr. Samir Mathur, Financial Commissioner & Principal Secretary, Transport & Civil Aviation, Haryana, Mr Vishva Mohan, Joint Commissioner (Transport), Delhi Government, and Mr. Kulvinder Singh, DCP – Gurgaon, Haryana Police.

Safe and Secure Shopping

New Delhi, 24 March



Maj Gen G D Bakshi (Retd); R C Sharma, Chief Fire Officer, Delhi; Arvind Nair, MD-DLF Retail Developers Ltd and L N Rao, Asstt Commissioner of Police (Special Cell), Delhi Police at the session

The Seminar on Safe & Secure Shopping outlined the need for strategic security management during the upcoming Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010. It also urged for women-friendly shopping complexes, with design and surveillance module to deal with potential safety threats. The seminar mooted employing technology to ensure safety.

Himachal Pradesh

Surviving beyond 2010

Parwanoo, 3 March

CII Himachal's Annual Session on "Surviving Today & Beyond 2010", highlighted that tourism, infrastructure, skilled manpower, strong governance were critical for Himachal Pradesh's survival beyond the incentive year of 2010.

Putting up the case for overall strong governance, the speakers emphasized on the initiatives needed to build industrial and social infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh.

Waste Management and Disposal

Chandigarh, 17 March

A meeting was organised to address the issue in differential in tariff on solid and hazardous waste

management and disposal in different parts of Himachal Pradesh.

HIV/AIDS Awareness

Himachal Pradesh, 26- 30 March

CII Himachal Pradesh State Council in collaboration with H P State AIDS Control Society organised workshops at Kala Amb, Parwanoo, Baddi and Una to galvanise awareness and support of industry towards the issue.

Over 180 industry representatives from 80 industries including industry giants as well as SMEs were sensitised.



Delegation from East Midlands, UK

Punjab

CII Punjab State Annual Session

Chandigarh, 10 March



S. Sukhbir Singh Badal, Deputy Chief Minister, Punjab, releasing Punjab Vision 2022

An interaction with Mr Sukhbir Badal, Deputy Chief Minister, Punjab, marked the CII Punjab State Annual Session. Mr Badal expressed keenness to accelerate the industrial growth of Punjab by strengthening infrastructure and simplifying procedures, with the State Government acting as facilitator in development process. Mr Badal released Punjab Vision 2022. Mr Ramesh Inder Singh, Chief Secretary, Punjab, also participated in the session.

Business Delegation from UK

Punjab, 3-6 March

A 15 member business delegation from East Midlands, UK visited Punjab to forge business ties in different sectors in the state. The CII Punjab State Council facilitated one-to-one meetings with industry members for the business delegation. The delegation, led by Ms Helen Deas, Head, East Midlands, India Business Bureau, visited Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar.

Team from Burkina Faso, Africa

Ludhiana, 26-27 March

A 29 member business delegation visited Ludhiana to explore business opportunities and joint ventures specially in the sectors of food processing, auto components and textiles. CII Punjab State Council organized business meetings for the delegates with various industries. The delegation was led by Mr. Franck Tapsoba, Managing Director, Burkina Faso Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Rajasthan

Challenges for Rajasthan

Jaipur, 28 February

A Session on "Developmental Challenges for Rajasthan" was held on the Annual Day of the CII Rajasthan State Council. The programme sought a consensual approach to security and skill development. Mr K S Bains, Director

General of Police, Rajasthan, Mr M L Mehta, Chairman, Rajasthan Knowledge Corporation and Mr Salil Singhal, Chairman, CII (NR) addressed the session.

Interaction with US Solar Energy Team

Jaipur, 24 March

CII organised a B2B Interactive Session with the visiting US Solar Energy Trade Mission, to explore opportunities for mutual cooperation between Rajasthan and the US



Kishore Khaitan, Chairman, CII Rajasthan State Council with the US Solar Energy Team

in the field of Solar Energy. The 12 member mission, led by Mr William Zarit, Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Department of Commerce, had fruitful discussions with over 40 industry members / representatives from 17 organisations.

Meeting with Industry Minister

Jaipur, 25 March



Rajendra Pareek, Minister, Industry, Rajasthan
with the CII delegation

A CII delegation led by Mr Kishore Khaitan, Chairman, CII Rajasthan State Council called upon Mr Rajendra Pareek, Minister, Industry, Rajasthan, to discuss issues relating to industry in the state. The Minister assured of a meaningful engagement and partnership on issues of mutual significance after the general elections.

Uttar Pradesh

Exploring Opportunities in Crisis

6 March, Noida

Recessions are known to push people into entrepreneurship. The session discussed the scope of starting an enterprise in difficult times, and discussed the initiatives of the state government in this regard.

CII Colloquium on Water

Varanasi, 18 March

A CII Colloquium on Water was held to sensitise industry on water conservation and management through resource optimization.

Elaborating on the theme, Conserve, Mr Praveen Aggarwal, General Manger, Coca Cola India, said the immediate focus of the project would be on watershed based co- management of water by industries and local communities and water use efficiency in the industry. Best practices on water conservation were shared at the session.

HIV/ AIDS Helpline Activities

Lucknow, 27 March

CII Uttar Pradesh State Council is running a HIV/AIDS helpline 9839222444 since July 2003 offering confidential advice, information and referrals on anything to do with



Kiran Bedi at the HIV/AIDS helpline stall

HIV and AIDS. To reach out to the masses, CII Uttar Pradesh State Council showcased the CII HIV/AIDS helpline activities through a stall at CII Coolex-2009 in Lucknow.

Dr Kiran Bedi, social activist, Magsaysay awardee and former senior police officer, visited the stall and appreciated this intervention.

Coolex 2009

Lucknow, 27 March



Dr Dinesh Sharma, Mayor, Lucknow, inaugurating Coolex 2009

Coolex 2009, 12th in the series, presented a wide range of the latest products in refrigeration and air conditioning, with varied cooling solutions to counter the soaring mercury levels. Dr. Dinesh Sharma, Mayor of Lucknow, was the Chief Guest at the inauguration of the expo.

Uttarakhand

CII Delegation meets the Chief Minister

Dehradun, 5 March

A CII delegation led by Mr Rakesh Oberai, Chairman CII Uttarakhand called on Maj Gen (Retd) B C Khanduri, Chief Minister, Uttarakhand, to seek his views and guidance on how CII could contribute better to the development of the state.

The Chief Minister suggested that CII leverage its vast network of resources and knowledge base to identify specific activities that could be promoted in the Hills. The CII delegation also discussed key policy issues in the state, including linking Uttarakhand to the proposed



Maj Gen (Retd) B C Khanduri, Chief Minister, Uttarakhand, with the CII delegation

Eastern Freight Corridor, which would lead to significant reduction in transportation costs for industry in and around Haridwar.

Meeting with Chief Secretary

Dehradun, 5 March



CII delegation with I K Pandey, Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand

A CII delegation led by the new office bearers called on Mr I K Pandey Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand to discuss key policy issues including Linking of Uttarakhand to the proposed Eastern Freight Corridor and Strengthening of the Single Window System.

Training Session on Hospitality & Retail

Dehradun, 7 & 24 March

CII in partnership with National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), under the Ministry of MSME, organized training sessions for 57 SC/ST & BPL candidates in the hospitality and retail sectors. To enhance the quality of the programme, CII Uttarakhand organised guest lectures by industry experts and arranged study tours to hotels and big retail stores. The candidates would also be provided placement assistance on successful completion of the training.

Interaction with RBI

27 March 2009

CII Uttarakhand presented its recommendations during an interaction with RBI on the flow of credit to distressed sectors in Uttarakhand including auto, real estate, hotels, other service providers in the tourism sector and pharma – especially after the announcement of excise duty cuts as the projects are being viewed as unviable by banks.



India
Regional round up

south

CII Southern Region Annual Meeting

Hyderabad, 7 March

CII Southern Region's Annual Meeting was organized followed by a Session on "South India@75 - The Emerging Agenda".

In his special address, Mr R Seshasayee, Past President, CII, and Managing Director, Ashok Leyland, pointed out that the key for future growth is innovation. He called upon the Indian government to initiate confidence-boosting measures for the Indian industry and general economy, besides cash and fund-aid, to meet the challenge of the global meltdown.

Mr R Raghuttam Rao, Managing Director, IMA CS, presented the newly created District Development Plans (DDPs) for the 17 selected districts in the region, covered under the India@75 initiative.

Chaired by Mr Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman, Mission on India@75 & Chairman, TVS Capital Funds Ltd, the panel

discussion on South India@75 highlighted education and skills development, infrastructure, innovation, environment and moral leadership as key focus areas.

Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said CII is taking all steps to make India@75-The Emerging Agenda into a People's Agenda. Mr Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, Infosys, called for a radical shift in the infrastructure policy. He stressed the need to develop new, completely integrated and self-sustained cities and also preserve and protect the old cities with their history and culture.

Mr Vikram Akula, Chief Executive Officer & Founder, SKS Microfinance Pvt Ltd, called on the government to create win-win models for the Bottom-of-Pyramid market. Mr Pradipta K Mohapatra, Past Chairman, CII (SR) wanted more investments in education, and a modality worked out for identifying the people who need proper training in order to produce 200 million graduates and 500 million skilled labour, as aimed in India@75.



C R Swaminathan, Chairman, CII (SR), Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, and Dr B V R Mohan Reddy, Immediate Past Chairman, CII

Speaking on the impact of global warming, Mr M M Murugappan, Chairman, Carborandum Universal Ltd, opined that integrating activities of various organizations and people with that of governmental strategies would achieve greater success.

Mr Ashish Iyer, Partner & Director, The Boston Consulting Group said India should aim for being in 10 most ethical and moral group of countries and ensure that all sections of her people are provided with equal opportunities.

The Annul Regional Meeting also welcomed the in-coming Chairman for the year, Mr C R Swaminathan, Chief Executive, PSG Industrial Institute and Mr S Gopalakrishnan, CEO & Managing Director, Infosys Technologies Ltd as the new Deputy Chairman for the Southern Region.

Advocacy Meet on Skills Scheme

Kanchipuram, 3 March

An advocacy meet was conducted to generate awareness amongst industry members about the innovative scheme by the Government of India to impart specific skills to the youth of the country. 'MES – A Boon to Industries' was chaired by Mr Santosh K Misra, District Collector, Kanchipuram. He urged industries to form consortiums for training youth in specific sectors. He also suggested training of SHGs, promotion of Public-Private Partnerships in skills training and creation of a course module on e-waste management.

Women's Day 2009

Chennai, 5 March 2009

The programme reached out to working women, through the theme "The 21st Century woman: A Great Manager or Leader?" Dr Poongothai, Minister for Information



Women's Day conference 2009

Technology, Tamil Nadu, who was the Guest of Honour, called for intensive social engineering and more support for women at home.

College Excellence Cluster Launched

Coimbatore, 27 March

The CII – College Excellence Cluster has been launched to provide frequent intervention support to the cluster colleges by continuous Industry- Institution intervention. CEOs, COOs and CFOs will interact with the students and faculty to help them understand how to cope with the economic slowdown; develop a robust business strategy; manage and lead teams; competitiveness and management strategies; aligning financial strategies with business goals etc.



Launch of CII College Excellence Cluster

Skill Assessments

March 2009

CII is one of the assessing agencies for issuing the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) certificates under the Modular Employable Skills scheme. Around 8000 candidates were assessed in March 2009 in sectors including electricals, ICT, security, garments, fabrication, construction and hospitality.

Andhra Pradesh

Skills Assessment- Swavlambhan

Hyderabad, 4 March

As a skill development initiative under the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd-supported Project, 'Swavlambhan', CII has trained under privileged students in basic skills required by the industry. External Assessments were conducted by Deloitte to evaluate the performance of the students in basic IT and office



Trainees with CII representatives and the Deloitte team

automation batch. Carrier Air conditioning was the external assessor for the AC & Refrigeration Mechanism batch.

Industry-Farmers' Meet

Warangal, 14 March

The Industry-Farmers' Meet was held to link industry and farmers, and to offer business opportunities to farmers groups, by helping them add value to the readily available local resources.

Car Sharing Schemes

Hyderabad 19 March

The session with Mr Conrad Wagner, Consultant, Mobility Services and Car Sharing Applications, UK, explored possibilities for the car sharing business in India, which offers traffic and energy conservation solutions.

Blue Book Orientation Workshop

Hyderabad, 20 March

The orientation workshop addressed queries on the implementation plan of 300 ITIs covered in 2008-09 under the Upgradation of ITIs scheme.

Economic Agenda for Andhra Pradesh

Hyderabad, 23 March

A dialogue with political parties on the industrial scenario in Andhra Pradesh discussed the 15 point Common Minimum Economic Agenda on "Sustainable Inclusive Growth with Employment Generation in Andhra Pradesh".

The agenda talked about the need for policy standardization and employment generation; improvement in infrastructure; growth of small scale industries; encourage anchor industries; improving the human development index; growth of textile industries; and encourage SEZs in the rain shadow and degraded soil areas.

Kerala

Opportunities in Europe

Kochi, 28 March

The one to one meeting with Mr. Wolfgang Bergthaler, Managing Director, Maya India discussed sector-specific information on market and business opportunities for Indian companies in Europe. Maya India supports European-based SMEs to explore the Indian market (partnership, selling, and sourcing) and similarly provides assistance on the EU market for Indian companies.

Puducherry

Puducherry Vision 2025

Puducherry, 3 March

At the annual Day Public Session, Mr Cholleti Prabhakar, Secretary, Revenue and Tourism, Puducherry, spoke on ACT (Aspire, Contribute and Transform) which is a challenge to the society and requires an action force. He concluded that health, education, water supply, real livelihood generation and rural and urban development were the basic amenities which had to be given first priority to fulfill the vision 2025 goals.

Mr Mathew Samuel, Special Secretary, Industry, and Director, Tourism, Puducherry, said that the vision report clearly indicated the main drivers of the economy.

NCVT Assessment Programme

Puducherry, 30 March

The programme mine was conducted to benefit the higher secondary vocational stream students for upgrading themselves for NCVT (National Certificate for Vocational Training) under the Modular Employable Skills Scheme.



Madan Mohan, Congress Party, N Narasimha Reddy, Telengana Rashtra Samithi, P Madhu, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Dr A Chakrapani, AP Congress Legislative Council, K Vidyadher Rao, Praja Rajyam Party, Dr K Narayana, Communist Party of India, Kishan Reddy, Bharatiya Janata Party, Y Harish Chandra Prasad, Chairman, CII AP, and Shakti Sagar, Vice Chairman, CII AP

Seventeen trades such as auto mechanic, electrical and domestic appliances, welding, accountancy and auditing, dress designing, etc were covered in this assessment.

Tamil Nadu

Agenda Setting Workshop

Chennai, 1 March

Office bearers of various zones and districts deliberated on the District Development Plans of the seven districts (Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Erode, Karur & Thoothukudi) selected under the India@75 initiative in Tamil Nadu. Mr Gopal Srinivasan Chairman, Mission on India@75 & Chairman, TVS Capital Funds Ltd, and representatives from Boston Consulting Group and IMaCS addressed the workshop.

Tamil Nadu@75 Transformational Ideas

Chennai, 2 March

In line with the national theme of India@75, the conference addressed six key areas of concern to make Tamil Nadu a developed State by 2022:

- Healthcare for all
- Improved Public Distribution System
- Quality education
- Skill development opportunities for all
- Balanced industrial development
- Unleashing the innovative entrepreneurship of TN.

In his keynote address, Prof Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission said that there is a need to transfer subsidy to the buyers in expensive areas such as the Public Distributive System. Mr S Ramasundaram, Chairman and Managing Director, TIDCO, in his special address, emphasized the need for “big ticket” investments to develop the industrially backward southern districts.



Prof Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, Virendra Gupta, then Regional Director, CII (SR), B V R Mohan Reddy, then Chairman, CII (SR), Manikam Ramaswami, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu & S Ramasundaram, CMD, TIDCO

Strengthening Arbitration

Chennai, 21 March

The conference, organized with the Nani Palkhivala Arbitration Centre and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre, brought together more than 60 leading arbitration practitioners and lawyers from Singapore and India to discuss a wide range of arbitration related issues.

Zones

Madurai

Integrated 5-S Activities

Madurai, 20 March

The programme explained the need to implement 5-S practices for a sustained competitive edge, with short exercises for the participants.

Visakhapatnam

Roadshow & Members' Meet

Visakhapatnam, 12 March

The session showcased the agenda and activities of CII in Visakhapatnam based on the theme - Sustaining Inclusive Growth in a Challenging Economy. A talk on the present industry scenario by Mr Ajeya Kallam, Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust, and an address on Recession & Tool Kits for SMEs by Mr B Madhav, Investment Banker, were also held.

CII Initiatives

Vijayawada, 19 March

A road show, members' meet and press meet was conducted to update the participants in CII's activities and agenda. The Chief Guest, Mr M K Durga Prasad, Vice Chancellor, Krishna University, Machilipatnam, spoke on Industry – Institution Linkages.

IPR Awareness Campaign

Visakhapatnam, 21 March

The session was held as part of a nation-wide IPR campaign to nurture an eco-system which encourages innovation, inventions and creation of Intellectual Property, while facilitating mechanisms for IP protection and enforcement. The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.



CII Western Region Annual Session

Mumbai, 6 March

“GDP growth rate for India can be reasonably forecasted after the publishing of figures for agricultural output”, projected Dr Arvind Virmani, Chief Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs, Union Ministry of Finance, at the CII Western Region Annual Meeting.

In her keynote address, Ms Usha Thorat, Deputy Governor, RBI, was optimistic about the Indian economic rebounding with vigor. She felt that the tendency of large manufacturers and companies to hold back payments to SME vendors must be discouraged.



Dr Arvind Virmani, Chief Economic Adviser, Dept. of Economic Affairs, Union Ministry of Finance, with Usha Thorat, Deputy Governor, RBI

Mr Banmali Agrawala, then Chairman, CII Western Region and Executive Director - Strategy & Business Development, The Tata Power Company Ltd. observed that power sector was not heavily impacted as the demand for power has not slackened but only grown. He called upon India Inc to look at the opportunities thrown up by the crisis and meet the challenges.

Dr Naushad Forbes, Chairman, CII (WR), (then Deputy Chairman, CII Western Region) and Director, Forbes Marshall Pvt. Ltd., wanted media to play a positive role in raising the confidence levels of the people, and thus boost investor outlook.



Pranav Adani, Chairman, CII Gujarat Council

Awareness Programmes on IPR

Mumbai, 3 March
Ahmedabad, 20 March

The sessions were held under the on-going nation-wide awareness campaign on IPR. CII in association with Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce, and the office of the



Anubhav Jain, Chairman CII Task Force on Anti-Counterfeiting and Piracy & Brand Protection, South Asia, Mercedes-Benz India Pvt Ltd., inaugurating the workshop in Mumbai

Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, is conducting this campaign to create comprehensive awareness and training in IPR for all the stakeholders.

Goa

CII Goa Annual Day

Goa, 2 March



Digambar Kamat
Chief Minister, Goa

Mr. Digambar Kamat, Chief Minister of Goa, was the chief guest at the CII Goa Annual Day. He said that in spite of his Government's decision to scrap the SEZs in the State, Goa still remains the most sought after industrial destination. He informed that an area of 2 lakh sqm at Sancoale has been earmarked for a 'Logistic Hub.'

Mr Nasser Munjee, Chairman, Professional Advisory Board, Government of Goa, made a presentation on the 'Global Economic Crisis' while Mr Dean Menezes, Chairman, CII Goa Council, highlighted that logistics in Goa can be an alternate option for industry and trade as other parts of the country were facing lack of infrastructure facilities. Mr Lalit Saraswat, Vision Ambassador, India@75 / Goa@60 and Director Sancoale Shipping spoke about the needs and aspirations of the people of Goa. Mr V K Jha, Secretary Industries, Goa, also spoke on the occasion.

Gujarat

Delegation from Spain

Ahmedabad, 4 March

CII Gujarat organised one-to-one interactions with a visiting Spanish delegation from AMDA Energia. Mr

Adrien Mallet, Business Head, Wind Division, AMDA Energia, interacted with companies from the field of alternative energy to explore options to set up a joint venture for the production of renewable / wind energy.

HR Study Mission

Ahmedabad, 7 March

To study best practices of Human Resources and Industrial Relations, CII, Gujarat organised a mission to understand the manpower planning and recruitment practices taking place in reputed organisations. The mission also included a plant visit to Claris Lifesciences.

Sessions on ERM/ ERP

Vadodara, 13 March

Ahmedabad, 14 March



ERM / ERP session in Vadodara

CII, with Ernst and Young, organised these seminars to highlight the importance of risk assessment, not only to identify threats but also to enlist potential opportunities that one must not allow to be foregone.

Entrepreneurship Workshop

Nadiad, 17 March

The workshop, held to encourage entrepreneurship among students, included a real case study on building up a successful techno-venture.

Workshop on Lean Manufacturing

Rajkot, 17 March

In order to apprise industries in Rajkot about the importance of lean manufacturing in building a world-class manufacturing organisation, CII organised this workshop with Mr D T Rathnam, consulting engineer, as faculty.

Energy Management

Ahmedabad, 20-21 March

Senior technical staff from CII-Energy Management Cell conducted a training programme on energy conservation and management.

Opportunities in Nanotechnology

Vadodara, 27 March

The seminar on Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Nanotechnology highlighted business-ready projects in the field of decorative and industrial coating, textiles, construction and agriculture.

Madhya Pradesh

Industries – Institute Interaction

Dewas, 7 March

The road show presented to industry the achievements and modern facilities available in ITIs. An MoU has been signed between ITI Dewas and Prestige Institute of Management, Dewas, for training students in soft skills, in addition to their technical training. Through another MoU signed with Indo German Tool Room, Indore, the latter will provide faculty and technical support to train students and employees of Industries situated in Dewas.

Basic Hydraulics

Indore, 21 March

CII Madhya Pradesh & CII-LM Thapar Centre for Competitiveness for SMEs, organised a programme on the basics of the hydraulic system, to ensure trouble-free operation and diagnosis of faults.

MSME IPR Programme

Bhopal, 26 March

CII jointly with the Union Ministry for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises organised a sensitization programme to disseminate knowledge on IPR, effectively address the role of IPR in today's world and to recognize the role of IP in nurturing innovation and its benefits for technological advancement.

Maharashtra

Accreditation of NGOs

Mumbai, 1 March

CII Western Region has undertaken accreditation of NGOs in the context of strengthening Industry-NGO partnerships. The CSR sub committee had a series of discussions on support to resource strapped NGOs and the adaptability of norms developed by the Credibility Alliance for accreditation. A project proposed by a small rural NGO was taken as a test case.

Maharashtra Annual Day

Mumbai, 3 March

The theme for the Public Session was 'Business Continuity Planning: The Indispensable Arthashastra for



Maharashtra Annual Day

India Inc' with speakers from both the Government and corporate sector, as well as ordinary citizens.

Plant Visit for Finishing School Students

Pune, 14 March

CII organised a plant visit for 22 students of the Symbiosis Finishing School students to Demag Cranes & Components (I) Pvt Ltd, Hinjewadi, to give them practical experience about the working environment in industry.



Students at the Hinjewadi plant of Demag Cranes & Components (I) Pvt Ltd

Japanese Business in India

Pune, 18 March

Dr Masanori Kondo, Senior Associate Professor of Economics, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, an expert on India shared his views and



Suhas Baxi, Vice Chairman, CII Pune Zonal Council & MD, Demag Cranes & Components (India) Pvt Ltd, and Dr Masanori Kondo, Sr. Associate Professor of Economics, International Christian University, Tokyo

experiences on Japanese business in India, at a seminar on Indo-Japan Business Ties.

IFRS Summit

Mumbai, 18 March

The Summit was held to sensitize Indian companies about the need to convergence to IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) by 2011. The Summit was chaired by Mr S Mahalingam, Executive Director & Chief Financial Officer,

Tata Consultancy Services Ltd., with the support of the Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

Finishing School Vaedictory Session

Pune, 21 March

As a part of CII Affirmative Action Initiative, the fifth batch of CII – Symbiosis Finishing School was successfully completed. Over 42 students completed their course as part of this batch.

BANKing TECH Summit 2009

Mumbai, 23 March



At the CEOs Interactive Roundtable "Navigating Through The Recession"

'The way to manage downturn and sustain growth in the banking and financial sector is to take advantage of the present crisis and move forward by making IT spending cost effective and revenue generating' said Mrs Shyamala Gopinath, Deputy Governor, RBI, who was the Chief Guest at the Summit. The Guest of Honour, Dr K C Chakrabarty, Chairman & Managing Director, Punjab National Bank, said that this was the time for the Indian banking and financial services industry to turn crisis into opportunity. He called for a focus on inclusive growth by generating domestic demand.

Lecture on CSR

Mumbai, 24 March

SNDT University invited CII to deliver a lecture on Corporate Social Responsibility for its post graduate students. Mr. Ram Vaidya, Chairman, CSR sub-committee delivered the lecture which was followed by a vibrant discussion.