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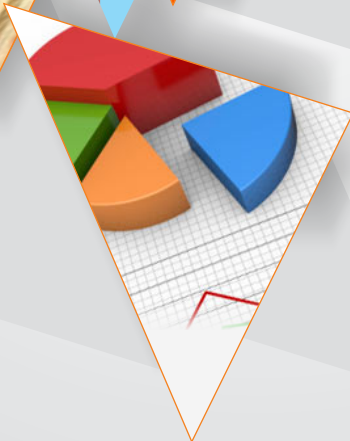
CII COMMUNIQUÉ

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A Comprehensive
and Reform-Oriented

BUDGET
2015-16



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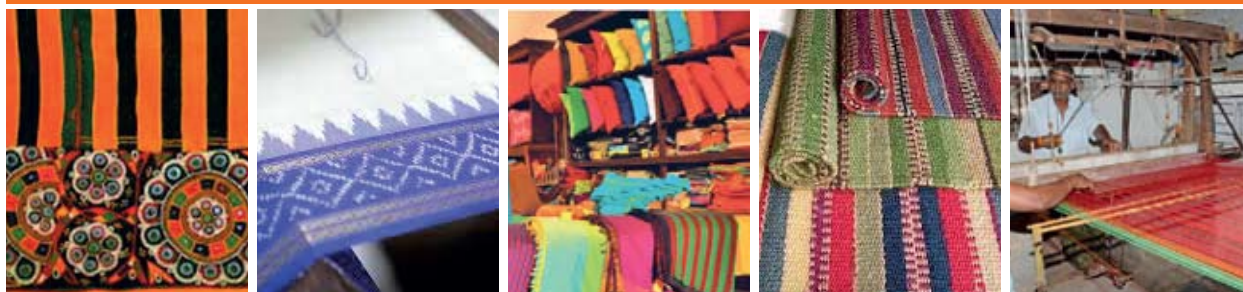
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JOURNAL OF THE CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY

Supporting Handlooms and Handicrafts



Dear Members,

CII has been working in the Handlooms and Handicrafts sector, an employment generator which benefits a large number of people, and keeps our unique heritage alive, for many years now.

Last year, CII established a Working Group on Handlooms and Handicrafts to create a strong brand for this sector. The Working Group focuses on promoting entrepreneurship and mentorship in this sector, helping existing artisans with new designs and marketing of products, up-skilling craftsmen, and reviving old and dying crafts.

The initiative, with Government, Industry and Society joining hands, builds on earlier initiatives by CII such as the SAARC Craft Exchange Programme, supported by the Ministries of Commerce, of External Affairs, and of Textiles, several years ago, to facilitate cross learning among SAARC member countries in this area. Even prior to this, CII, in partnership with NEDFI, had launched a project called 'Art-N-East' to provide design and marketing support to handloom and handicraft artisans in the North Eastern region. CII later took up a similar initiative in the 1990s covering three Southern States.

As Chairman of the CII Working Group on Handicrafts and Handlooms, I urge members to promote handlooms, which are the second largest employment generating sector in the country. In this regard, I request members to use handlooms and handicrafts as corporate gifts for various occasions, and encourage their employees to wear handloom products (saree/kurta) once a week.

I also invite members to choose from various options CII has put together to support this sector, as a part of their CSR initiatives. CII will facilitate contact with concerned artisans, and provide a list of handloom/handicrafts clusters that members can support by providing training and upskilling to artisans, offering raw material/financial support, and buying finished products.

I look forward to your suggestions on ways and means to support this cause and encourage the artisans. Please respond to me c/o Amarpreet Kaur at amarpreet.kaur@cii.in

Regards,

D L Sharma

Chairman

CII Working Group on Handlooms & Handicrafts

Promoting Ethics in Business



Sumit Mazumder, President Designate, CII, Chairman, CII Committee on Integrity & Transparency in Governance, and CMD, TIL Ltd



Sanjay Kothari, Secretary, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; **Deep Kapuria**, Chairman, CII NR Committee on Governance, and Chairman, Hitech Group of Companies, and **Sushanta Sen**, Principal Adviser, CII, at the Seminar on 'Fighting Bribery in Business Transactions' in New Delhi

CII is deeply committed to promoting the cause of ethical business. The CII National Committee on Integrity and Transparency in Governance primarily deals with issues related to corruption and how to bring it down. CII has been working, inter alia, on simplification of forms and procedures, as well as clear and transparent Government policies.

To address issues related to corruption, and to learn best practices from international partners, CII, along with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Economic Forum (WEF), organized a seminar on '**Fighting Bribery in Business Transactions**' on 13 February in New Delhi. The subject of business ethics was in line with the present Government's anti-corruption policy.

Citizens' Right to Services is the cornerstone of a democratic nation, stated Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Bribery is an insidious social evil hampering economic growth and promoting a culture of dishonesty, he said, stressing that, as a society, we need to develop the conviction to fight it. Self-certification and the abolition of attestation are significant steps towards achieving transparency in processes and curbing corruption, he said, pointing to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, the

Central Vigilance Commission, the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013, etc as some prominent measures taken by the Government to fight bribery and corruption.

Mr. Sanjay Kothari, Secretary, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, said that bribery is unethical as well as immoral: it is anti-business, increases the cost of doing business and fosters a business environment ridden with other social evils. The simplification of procedures, elimination of redundancy in compliances, digitalization of transactions and processes, reducing transaction costs, self-certification and abolition of the requirement of affidavits, leveraging the application of technology, etc. are paramount in attaining transparency, he said.

In his special address, Mr. Patrick Moulette, Head, Anti-Corruption Division, Directorate for Financial & Enterprise Affairs, OECD, stated that the Anti-Bribery Convention of OECD is determined to fight bribery in both international and national business transactions. Strongly urging India to join the convention, he highlighted the social as well as economic ills of corruption, such as increased cost of transactions, dishonesty and uncertainty in business processes, compromised integrity and loss of corporate reputation, etc.

Mr Deep Kapuria, Chairman, CII Northern Region Committee on Governance, and Chairman, Hitech Group of Companies, stated that corporates, being an integral part of society, reflect the value system and morality of society. We need to foster an eco-system which rejects corruption and bribery and promotes clean business practices, he declared. ■



Melissa Khemani, Legal Expert, OECD; **St. John Gould**, Director - UK Trade, Investment & Prosperity India; **Patrick Moulette**, Head, Anti-Corruption Division, OECD, and **George N. Sibley**, Minister-Counsellor, Economy, Environment, Science & Technology, US Embassy, New Delhi

Showcasing India's Services Sector

The forthcoming first Global Exhibition on Services is an expression of intent to realize India's Services export potential. With expected participation from over 20 countries, both developing and developed, the event will project India as the emerging leader in the Services sector to the rest of the world, says Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII

The vision of the new Government is to leverage 3Ds: Democracy, Development and Demand, to create a new eco system that facilitates inclusive growth. A careful nurturing of the Services sector fits the bill since it contributes handsomely to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), creates employment opportunities, and has the power to reach out to the common man to bring him/her into the mainstream.

According to the Economic Survey 2014-15, the Services sector's share to GDP stands at 56.1% (with 2004-5 base and 49.6% with 2011-12 base). Mainly driven by IT and IT enabled services, this segment contributes significantly to exports. In the first half of 2014-15, Services exports grew by 3.7% to US \$ 75.9 billion while import of Services grew by 5.0% to US \$ 39.9 billion, resulting in a net Services growth of 2.4%. Net Services have been a major source of financing India's trade deficit in recent years. India's major Services exports in 2013-14 are computer services with 45.8% share, and other business services making up 18.8% share.

The Services sector also continues to dominate the FDI equity inflows into the country. During 2014-15 (April to November), FDI inflows into Services grew by 105.8% compared to 22.2% growth in overall FDI inflows.

CII has been in the forefront in giving a boost to the Services sector. The Services Conclave it has pioneered, along with the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, provides a platform for discussing the outlook for, and challenges of the sector. Two conclaves have been held, inviting stakeholders to discuss the future prospects of Services exports from India, brainstorm on what more needs to be done to consolidate exports, and identify policy and administrative decisions needed to fast-track exports.

The first Global Exhibition on Services (GES) being organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) and CII on 23-25 April, is an expression of

intent to realize the Services export potential of the country. With expected participation from over 20 countries-both from the developing and the developed world-the event will project India as the emerging leader in the Services sector to the rest of the world.

Significantly, Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, will inaugurate the event. GES will also have the presence of several global leaders and experts in the Services sector.

Apart from showcasing India's inherent strength in the Services sector, such as IT and Telecom, Tourism, Media and



► **Rajeev Kher**, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; **Nirmala Sitharaman**, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Commerce & Industry, and **Chandrajit Banerjee**, Director General, CII, at the Curtain Raiser on GES in New Delhi



Entertainment, Healthcare, Logistics, Professional Services, Education, SMEs in Services, R&D, and Space, there will be products and solutions on display from participating countries. Many countries have already confirmed their participation in the three day meet, including the UK, Spain, Greece, South Africa, Singapore, China and Thailand

A notable feature of GES 2015 will be the Business to Business (B2B) meetings facilitated by CII's Online Business Resource Centre. Domestic and international delegates can fix meetings through the online business portal. B2B meetings will take place in designated areas in and around the exhibition halls. It is expected that many structured buyer-seller meetings will take place during the event, making it a meeting place for participating countries, exhibitors and Services sector players to forge new business relationships and enhance international trade. Notably, there will be strong presence of tour operators from all over the world, particularly from the US, South Africa, Singapore, Spain, Russia, Australia, Denmark and Italy.

GES will send out a clear message that India is the evolving hub for sourcing skills. With India's demographic advantage, Indian labour can dominate the global workforce. A study undertaken by CII reveals that while the world overall will face a shortage of 47 million workforce by 2020, India will have a surplus of 56 million people. This potential can be tapped only by skilling people and enhancing their employability.

There is a new coinage, 'celebrating skills.' We have to nurture skills, certify them, and market them to the whole world. Happily, all stakeholders are working in tandem to

unleash that strength. In the recent IETF held in February this year, CII showcased 26 skills ranging from the expertise of a brick-layer to a computer wizard, as a part of the Indian leg of the World Skills Competition, in close coordination with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) of India.

India has a huge challenge of skilling people. The dearth of formal vocational education, wide variation in quality, high school dropout rates, inadequate skill training capacity, negative perceptions towards skills, and lack of Industry-ready skills, even in professional courses, are the major causes of poor skill levels in India. GES will focus on the skill gap and will endeavor to build synergies among various stakeholders. Importantly, there will be good participation from various PSUs, the private sector, and State Governments, which constitute the demand side of skills.

Focus on the small and medium sector is another unique feature of the GES. More than 52% of the Service providers are self-employed, and new business models have to be created for globally positioning this segment to take advantage of the emerging opportunities. SMEs in the Indian IT space have shown how global opportunities can be tapped, irrespective of size and scale. In the same way, we have to orient the architects, chartered accountants, and management experts, etc. to actively participate in the growing global Services trade.

India is endowed with 5Ts-talent, tradition, tourism, trade and technology. We have to strike synergies among these attributes to script a paradigm shift in our development priorities. GES undoubtedly is a step towards that. ■



'Comprehensive & Reform-Oriented'

CII welcomes Budget 2015-16 with its strong focus on growth, investment, job creation and social security

Building on the economic recovery that is now apparent across sectors, the Union Budget 2015-16 took several measures to build a more competitive economy. It outlined a comprehensive vision for citizens with a strong focus on growth, investment, job creation and social security. A forward-looking, counter-cyclical, and pragmatic document, the Budget reassured investors and built consumer confidence. CII is encouraged by the fact that the GDP growth target has been fixed in the Budget at 8.0-8.5% for 2015-16.

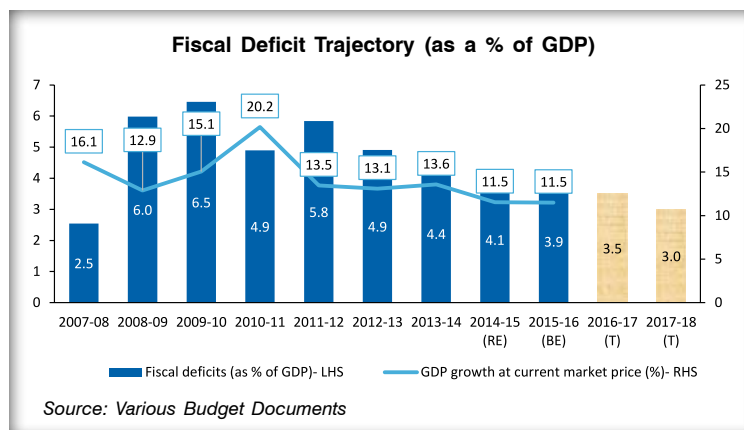
The Government has further committed to targeting inflation at 6% in partnership with the Reserve Bank of India, which would help keep interest rates at a moderate level. As the economy heads towards the 8-plus % rate of GDP growth targeted for next year, we can envision a period of double-digit growth rates, going forward.

Fiscal Trends

The Budget continues to follow the path of fiscal consolidation by aiming to bring down the fiscal deficit to 3.9% of GDP in 2015-16 from 4.1% in 2014-15. There is, however, a relaxation of 30 basis points when compared with the 3.6% target set by the 14th Finance Commission (FFC). The Budget has also delayed the timeline for achieving 3% fiscal deficit target by one year to 2017-18 in order to step up the level of public spending in the infrastructure sector and tap the growth potential. Thus, for the next three years, the fiscal

deficit target is 3.9 % for 2015-16, 3.5% for 2016-17, and 3.0% for 2017-18.

The Budget has also raised the States' share in the total divisible pool of tax revenues to 42% from 32% as per the recommendation of the FFC, recording the biggest-ever increase in vertical



tax devolution. In level terms, the States' share of the divisible pool will rise to ₹ 5,24,000 crores in 2015-16 – twice the share in 2011-12 – from ₹ 3,38,000 crore in 2014-15. This money will help the States design, implement and finance programmes according to their specific needs. In addition, higher tax devolution will also imply that any buoyancy in tax collections will benefit the States to a greater extent, as compared to previous years.

On the revenue side, the Budget has projected an ambitious growth of 15.8% in gross tax revenue over RE 2014-15, with tax-GDP ratio at 10.3% as compared to 9.9% in 2014-15. However, with higher devolution to the States, the tax revenue of the Centre shows only marginal improvement over RE 2014-15, about 1.3%, despite the growth in gross taxes. To compensate for this squeeze in the tax revenue of the Centre, the non-debt capital receipts have been significantly raised upwards from ₹ 42,236 crores to ₹ 80,253 crores, primarily due to higher disinvestment receipts (₹ 69,500 crores).

On the expenditure side, the Budget has outlined a number of initiatives to increase the allocative and operational efficiency of Government expenditures through focus on utilization, targets and outcomes. With the resource base of the Centre shrinking, following a higher sharing of taxes and declining deficit, the increase in non-plan spending has been rationalized to provide for 8.2 % increase in 2015-16, as compared to 9.7% during 2014-15. Non-plan expenditure has been reduced by rationalization of subsidies, primarily the petroleum subsidy. Major subsidies (food, fuel and fertilizer) have been budgeted to reduce to ₹ 266,692 crores in the next fiscal, amounting to 1.6% of GDP from 2.0 % in 2014-15.

Boost to Investment

The Finance Minister has placed strong emphasis on the role of the public sector for enhancing capital investments. This has been accomplished through a slew of measures, including extending fiscal deficit targets for a year, adding resources from public sector enterprises, and the creation of a National Investment and Infrastructure Fund which would add ₹ 20,000 crores annually. Such a move would enable it to raise debt and invest in infrastructure finance companies. Importantly, private sector participation in infrastructure projects has been facilitated through several means, including revisiting the PPP model to rebalance allocation of risk between the public and private sectors.

Regulatory reforms are also promised by the introduction of a law for a common approach to regulation. CII had earlier recommended placing infrastructure projects for bidding after obtaining all approvals and administrative clearances, which would reduce the risk for private sector bidders, and the announcement of this in the Budget through a 'plug-and-play' mechanism would greatly facilitate the auction process. Industry is particularly enthused by the strong emphasis on start-ups and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.

The Finance Minister also announced the creation of a Micro Units Development Refinance Agency (MUDRA) with a fund of ₹ 20,000 crores and a credit guarantee corpus of ₹ 3,000 crores to refinance micro-finance institutions and increase lending to new and existing entrepreneurs. The electronic Trade Receivables Discounting System would also add to working capital for MSMEs. Mr Jaitley has promised an exit scheme through a new bankruptcy law which would enable failing enterprises to be bailed out in a systematic manner. Start-ups are also sought to be encouraged through the Self-Employment and Talent Utilization (SETU) fund to help incubate technology-driven enterprises.

Further, the deferment of the General Anti Avoidance Rules (GAAR) by two years is a significant step that was suggested by Industry. The Budget also mentions indirect transfers in the Income Tax Act, dispute resolution, and avoiding retrospective taxation for imparting stability and predictability to the tax regime.

Tax Rationalization

Talking of rationalizing tax rates, the Budget announces the implementation of a comprehensive Goods and Services Tax (GST) by April 2016, which would be a significant reform in the country's indirect tax structure and could boost GDP growth by upto 2 percentage points. The tax proposals, both on the direct and the indirect sides, are innovative and progressive. The Finance Minister has suggested that the corporate tax rate would be lowered from 30% to 25% over the next four years while tax exemptions are removed. This is also in line with what CII had suggested in its Pre-Budget Memorandum, and would bring Indian tax rates in line with those in other Asian countries, making investment in India an attractive proposition. Currently, the effective tax rate is as low as 23%, given the large number of exemptions, which also leave scope for litigation.

It is also a welcoming fact that peak customs duty has remained at the same level, while the excise rate has gone up marginally. The 2% increase in service

tax rate is reasonable and was needed at this juncture to align it with the proposed GST. Inverted duty structure has been corrected in a number of items to correct the anomalies in duty structure. Such issues were also raised in the CII Pre-Budget Memorandum.

For individual tax payers, there is a successful attempt to boost the financial savings of households. Strong measures to monetize gold would discourage the use of gold as a savings instrument and bring investible resources into the formal financial markets. Additionally, savings are being channeled into the insurance and pension markets and this would ensure greater availability of long term funds for investments.

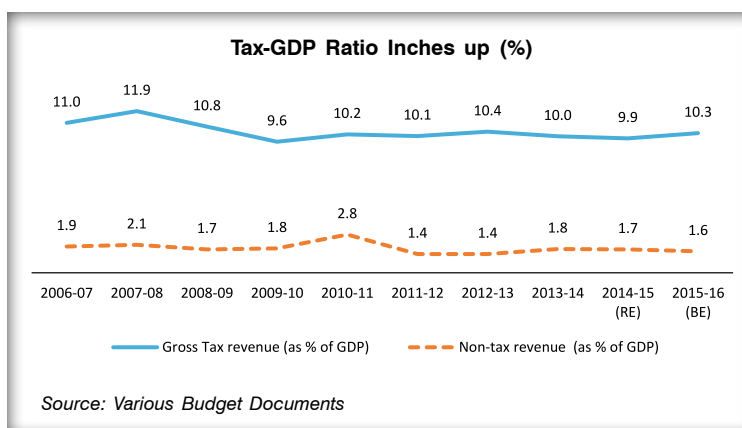
A large number of specific proposals on the direct and indirect tax rates together add to the positive sentiments of the investor community. The needs of investors have been kept high in the preparation of the Budget.

Tax Measures

The Budget proposes to amend Section 80D to raise the limit of deduction from ₹ 15,000 to ₹ 25,000 and for senior citizens from ₹ 20,000 to ₹ 30,000. Such a revision was recommended by CII. Similarly, the rate of tax on payments by way of royalty and fees for technical services to non-residents has been restored to 10%, also in line with CII recommendations.

CII had recommended that the Government extend the benefit of deduction for employment of new workmen under Section 80JJA to all assesseees having manufacturing, rather than restricting it to corporate assesseees only, while reducing the limit of additional workmen from 100 to 50. These suggestions have been accepted in the Budget, keeping Industry sentiments in mind.

An amendment has been proposed in Section 32(1) (iia) of the Act to clarify that new plant and machinery acquired in a year and put to use for less than 180 days, would be eligible for balance additional depreciation @ 10% in the subsequent year, in line with CII recommendations.



Measures to curb black money are needed and a welcome step. Changes have also been made to the legal processes and Settlement Commission sections. The Government has taken various measures for speedier dispute resolution settlement.

The important point to note is that a close examination of the details on the tax side reveals no major hidden evils. This bears repetition, given that some details always creep in during this large exercise that put Industry at a disadvantage.

Social Initiatives

The savings imperative has not been neglected in the Budget, and has been converged with the imperative for social security. Thus, insurance and pension instruments have been leveraged to strengthen social security provisions, with the Government contributing for certain sections of society. The Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana would cover each citizen of the country. Steps to increase tax-free infrastructure bonds and raise exemptions for health insurance would also build up savings.

Flagship projects of the Government have found special attention in the Budget. The Swachh Bharat mission will be accelerated through a cess on taxable services and the clean energy cess on coal will be enhanced. However, the Smart Cities initiative is not mentioned in the Budget. The Skill India mission is expected to be introduced shortly, and rural youth would be empowered through digital vouchers directly in their accounts. We would have expected the Budget to raise expenditure on public education to 6% of GDP as a strategic goal.

While GDP growth has been revised to 7.4% for the current year, many of the underlying indicators remain subdued, and economic activity is still fragile. The Budget assumes a reasonable growth target of 8-8.5%, which, we believe, is likely to be surpassed with the return of investor sentiment. CII welcomes Budget 2015-16 and expects it to usher in an era of greater tax certainty.

Analyzing the Union Budget

CII organized an Interactive Session with the Ministry of Finance on 3 March in New Delhi for an in-depth analysis of the Union Budget 2015-16, which was presented by the Finance Minister on 28 February. Mr Shaktikanta Das, Revenue Secretary, Mr Kaushal Srivastava, Chairman, Central Board of Excise and Customs, and Ms Anita Kapur, Chairperson, Central Board of Direct Taxes, along with senior officials from the Ministry of Finance, addressed the members.

The overall approach of the Government towards tax administration rests on three Fs, i.e. Fair interpretation, Firm execution and Friendliness to the tax-payers, said Mr Shaktikanta Das. Reiterating the commitment of the Government towards bringing forth a non-adversarial and hassle-free tax regime, he elaborated on the various provisions in the Budget aimed at minimizing the discretionary powers of the tax authorities and promoting the ease of doing business.

Towards creating a conducive investment climate for both domestic and foreign stakeholders and reducing the scope of litigations, the Budget, he explained, has taken various steps like the phased reduction of corporate tax rates, phased elimination of exemptions, increasing the rate of Service Tax and putting in place a roadmap for smooth transition to the Goods and Services Tax (GST). He pointed out that duty inversion has been corrected in a large number of items, especially in areas where India does not have a

significant manufacturing capability. However, correcting anomalies in customs duty is a continuous process and is open to amendment, he said.

On the issue of black money, Mr Das said that while there are sufficient provisions in place to deal with this, it is the implementation which needs attention, and the Budget has taken steps in this direction. Touching upon the Budget provision of removing Government Services from the negative list, Mr Das said such provisions need to be enacted in order to widen the tax net. He assured Industry that the Government will be sensitive to various sectors of the economy.

The Indirect Tax provisions of the Budget, said Mr Kaushal Srivastava, aim to resolve the conflicting concerns of taking forward the Prime Minister's initiative to 'Make in India', rejuvenating the manufacturing sector and facilitating job creation on the one hand, while, at the same time, raising revenues for social welfare programmes at a time when fiscal space is limited. He reiterated that the implementation of GST would play a transformative role in boosting the economy.

In order to address the various constraints coming in the way of doing business, the Budget provisions have sought to bring about clarity in the tax laws and rationalize penalty provisions to encourage speedy adjudication of proceedings, he said. Steps taken in the Budget to incentivize 'Make In India' and increase the Ease of Doing Business, include addressing the



Rajiv Memani, Chairman, CII National Committee on Taxation, and Chairman - India Region - Ernst & Young LLP; **Kaushal Srivastava**, Chairman, Central Board of Excise & Customs, Ministry of Finance; **Shaktikanta Das**, Revenue Secretary, Ministry of Finance; **Anita Kapur**, Chairperson, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance, and **R Seshasayee**, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Economic Growth & Investments Council, and Executive Vice Chairman, Hinduja Group India, at the Interactive Session with the Ministry of Finance in New Delhi



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Black Belt Training Programme

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23 April, 2015 | Bangalore
Refresher Programme for CII Trained BE Assessors

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Strategy Deployment for CEOs

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25 April, 2015 | Indore
Green Belt Training Programme

29 April, 2015 | Gurgaon
Regional Summit on Quality in Education

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problem of inverted duty structure, reducing SAD on certain items, subsuming education cess in central excise, allowing direct movement of capital goods for job work, and extending the time limit for availing CENVAT credit, among others.

The Direct Tax provisions of the Budget, said Ms Anita Kapur, maintain a concerted approach to reduce complexities in the tax system and create a conducive business environment through a three pronged approach viz. ensuring simplicity of the tax system, cleaning up litigation, and bringing transformational changes such as abolition of wealth tax and its replacement by a surcharge on the rich. While reviving growth and investments is the underlying theme of the Budget, several steps have been taken to boost investor sentiment and move towards a stable tax regime, she said, noting that the Budget provisions pertaining to deferment of the General Anti Avoidance Rule (GAAR) by two years, granting of pass-through status to Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), and raising the domestic transfer pricing threshold will go a long way in supporting investments in the country. Reducing the vulnerability in the tax administration is another thrust area, and the Budget has sought to break down the contentious issues in the form of legislative provisions, so that the discretionary space available to the tax authorities is compressed, she added.

Mr R Seshasayee, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Economic Growth & Investments Council, and Executive Vice Chairman, Hinduja Group India, remarked that the Budget comes across as a genuine document which has no devils in the fine print, and thereby transparency in the whole exercise. The main agenda is to boost investments, build infrastructure, promote demand, and create employment; thereby making India competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. There are a large number of specific proposals on the direct and indirect tax rates which together would raise the sentiments of the investor community, he said.

The pragmatic and dynamic Budget, said Mr Rajiv Memani, Chairman, CII National Committee on Taxation, and Chairman, India Region - Ernst & Young LLP, has succeeded in delivering on Industry expectations. The three focus areas of the Budget, i.e. effort to resolve contentious issues, focus on the Make in India initiative, and revenue augmentation, have been given a priority even under conditions of limited fiscal space.

Mr Memani requested the Government to step out of the crease and look into the provision to raise capital through Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), so that India gains tax buoyancy through these changes. He also requested the Government to make the offshore funds provision simpler, address contentious issues, further encourage ease of doing business, minimize litigation, and ensure that there is no double taxation.

Understanding the Union Budget



Sumit Mazumder, President Designate, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Ltd; **Jayant Sinha**, Minister of State of Finance, and **Ajay S Shriram**, President, CII, and Chairman & Senior Managing Director, DCM Shriram Ltd, at an interaction in New Delhi



Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways, **Chandrajit Banerjee**, Director General, CII, and **Ajay S Shriram**, at an interaction in New Delhi

The CII National Council met with policy makers on 1 March, in New Delhi, immediately after the announcement of the Union Budget 2015-16, to discuss key issues relating to the Budget. Mr Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways, and Mr Jayant Sinha, Minister of State of Finance, as well as senior Government officials from the Ministry of Finance who were involved in the Budget-making exercise, addressed the meeting.

Exuding optimism that India now has a historic opportunity to propel its economy to double digit growth while at the same time protecting the poor and vulnerable sections of society, Dr Arvind Subramanian, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, said the policies outlined in the Budget have been well-thought out with this overall objective. Indeed, this is a pro-growth Budget which would re-start the engines of investment, he declared. In addition, the spirit of co-operative federalism will help in realizing the ambition of each region in the country, he added.

Talking about the risks to growth, Dr Arvind Subramanian observed that the international trade environment may become more challenging for India, as a number of mega-regional trade deals threaten to exclude the country. Hence, Industry has be watchful and play a conducive role during policy formulation, he said.

Mr Jayant Sinha pointed out that the Budget has drawn extensively from the Prime Minister's grand vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' and attempted to reconcile diverse requirements to arrive at a win-win situation for major stakeholders. In fact, 'sabka labh' has emerged as a centrepiece of the Budget, he said.

Mr Sinha explained that the major provisions of the Budget could be encapsulated under the rubric of ten major reforms. The accent on cooperative federalism in the Budget is a game-changer when it comes to reshaping the roadmap of the country with greater participation of the State Governments, he said, stating that the Budget has unleashed the third wave of reforms after the 1991-92 wave of liberalization.



Sumit Mazumder, **Dr Hasmukh Adhia**, Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance; **Aradhana Johri**, Secretary, Disinvestment, Ministry of Finance; **Shaktikanta Das**, Secretary, Revenue, Ministry of Finance, and **Ajay S Shriram**



Sumit Mazumder; Dr Arvind Subramanian, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance; **Ajay S Shriram; Chandrajit Banerjee**, and **Zubin Irani**, Chairman, CII Northern Region and President, UTC Building & Industrial Systems, United Technologies Corporation India Pvt Ltd, at an interaction in New Delhi

Mr Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways, delineated the areas where the private sector can play a constructive role in facilitating the expansion and modernization of the Railways. He spoke about meeting the ambitious investment targets through innovative measures including both budgetary and off budget allocations. He requested CII to come back with concrete suggestions on the PPP model which the Government is planning to recast in a bid to facilitate larger private sector participation, including inputs on how risks can be apportioned. The setting up of a dispute resolution body would help fast-track several pending projects, he felt.

Other key areas which the Minister focused on related to monetization of rail assets as opposed to sell-off, building new stations, and capitalization of the land bank held by the Railways.

Mr Shaktikanta Das, Revenue Secretary, Ministry of Finance, noted that the Government's acceptance

of the 14th Finance Commission's report, envisaging devolution of 42% share to the States for the first time ever, would signal a complete shift in the operation of public finances in the country

The depth of the market is a major constraint while offloading the shares of Government companies, especially as the stocks in question are extremely large, observed Ms Aradhana Johri, Secretary, Disinvestment, Ministry of Finance. She said the Government would keep its disinvestment plans under wraps and would surprise the markets with its disinvestment strategy.

Dr Hasmukh Adhia, Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, articulated in detail the working of the Bank Board Bureau which would help put in place a professional approach to senior level appointments. Similarly, he cogently explained the plan for financial inclusion by dovetailing the insurance and pension products with the Jan Dhan Yojana, and the creation of the MUDRA bank for funding the under-funded. ■



Technology Beyond Boundaries



Rajive Kaul, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Trade Fairs Council, and Chairman, NICCO Corporation Ltd; **Ajay S Shriram**, President, CII, and Chairman & Senior Managing Director, DCM Shriram Ltd; **Haruhiko Ando**, Deputy Director General, METI, Japan; **Rajeev Kher**, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, India; **Amitabh Kant**, Secretary, DIPP, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, India; **Takeshi Yagi**, Ambassador of Japan to India; **Chandrajit Banerjee**, Director General, CII, and **Deep Kapuria**, Co-Chairman, CII Trade Fairs Council, and Chairman, Hi-Tech Group, at IETF 2015 in New Delhi

The 21st edition of CII's flagship International Engineering and Technology Fair (IETF), one of India's most comprehensive international B2B shows, saw India establish itself as a credible business partner and a preferred global investment destination. Around 5000 business enquiries were generated during IETF 2015.

Japan was the Partner Country at IETF 2015, with 46 leading companies from Japan participating in the event. "When Mr Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, visited Japan, he announced new ideas around 'Make in India' products. We would like to contribute to his idea of Make in India. Thus, Japanese industry is keenly focusing on the manufacturing sector in the country. This is one

of the key features of our participation in this exhibition," said Mr Naoyoshi Noguchi, Chief Director General, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). This was the fourth time that the country partnered with the IETF.

Describing IETF as a flagship event, Mr Rajeev Kher, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, said the mega event plays a key role in galvanizing engineering and technology - the two major sectors of the economy.

The key challenge for the Indian economy is to increase the contribution of the Manufacturing sector in the country's GDP from the present 16% to a higher level, said Mr. Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of

Commerce and Industry.

With 200 exhibitors from 11 countries and exhibits covering an area of over 25,000 sqm, the mega event was hailed as a timely initiative that would benefit Indian industry in its efforts to bring product quality, systems, and competitiveness at par with international standards and immensely help the 'Make in India' campaign attract overseas investors.

There was a special focus on Skill Development which is of great importance to boost Indian manufacturing. For the first time, selections for the World Skills Competition were held in 21 trades, coinciding with the IETF this year. Other specific areas of focus at IETF 2015 included Logistics, Japanese technology for food value chains, Financing Green Energy technologies, Technologies to conserve energy, Solid Waste Management, Business opportunities in the Gulf and MENA region, Robotics, Integrated and collaborative solutions for water conservation, Metal and Metallurgy, and exploring ways for Zero Defect Manufacturing, among others.

Innovative products like Water ATM, 3D printers, novel irrigation pumps, bullet train, etc, were major attractions at the Fair.

Mr Jayant Davar, Co-Chairman, CII MSME Council, and Co-Chairman & MD, Sandhar Technologies Ltd, outlined a five-point agenda to boost manufacturing in India:

1. Accelerate Innovation: Public & private partners to collaborate closely.
2. Encourage Sustainable Businesses: Exploration of alternate energy sources. Make efforts to use greener, cleaner and renewable resources.
3. Establish a dynamic infrastructure: Capacity and efficiency improvements in infrastructure are



Chandrajit Banerjee; Deep Kapuria; Ajay S Shriram; Amitabh Kant; Rajeev Kher; Rajive Kaul, and Talleen Kumar, CEO & MD, DMICDC, at IETF 2015 in New Delhi

critical.

4. Foster new talent: Education policies and ancient content need to be changed.
5. Initiate Policy Reform: Increase transparency and faith in Government policy action.

Once again, the IETF provided a platform for businesses, policy makers and various other stakeholders to come together and forge partnerships.

India-Japan Business Summit

Japan is now the fourth largest investor in India, and aims to build a strong strategic and global partnership which will be mutually beneficial for both countries.

The **India-Japan Business Summit**, organized on the sidelines of IETF on 27 February in New Delhi, was attended by about 100 industry representatives from both India and Japan. A 30-member business delegation from the Japan Business Federation, Keidanren, led by Mr Hiroaki Nakanishi, Vice Chairman, and Chairman of the Committee on South Asia, and Mr Takashi Shoda, Co-Chairman of the Committee on South Asia, participated in the Summit.

Both sides exchanged views on various topics of bilateral cooperation. The Keidanren delegation identified Rail,



Chandrajit Banerjee, Takeshi Yagi; Hiroaki Nakanishi, CEO, Hitachi; Sumit Mazumder, President Designate, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Ltd and Talleen Kumar, at the India-Japan Business Summit in New Delhi

Power, and Tourism as potential sectors for boosting trade and investment between the two countries.

Mr. Sumit Mazumder, President Designate, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Ltd, suggested that India and Japan could work together in areas such as SME Development, Skill Development and the Infrastructure sector. He also stressed on the need to expand Japanese investments in India in high speed rail transit systems, nuclear and solar power generation, clean coal technologies and upgrading of brown coal.

CII and Keidanren agreed that the two organizations would further strengthen their partnership through regular exchange of information and also promote bilateral economic relations through mutual visits and business delegations.

A Japanese consortium, led by the East Japan Railway Company, expressed keen interest in building the 500 km railway high speed network linking Mumbai and Ahmedabad. A presentation on Japan's Shinkansen bullet train technology was made at the event. The estimated cost of the high speed rail project is estimated

to be between \$12.2-13.9 billion. The high speed train, which can accelerate up to a speed of 320 kmph, can cover the distance in two and a half hours from the present eight hours.

Going Green

The International Green Mobility Expo (GMX) 2015 was the first and unique initiative of CII to initiate dialogue to create Green Mobility solutions for India.

The e-vehicle market in India has huge potential for growth. With impetus from the Government in terms of strategic policies, announcements and fund allocation, the vision to produce nearly six to seven million electric vehicles, both four wheelers and two wheelers, in India by 2020 can be fulfilled.

Key brands which participated at GMX 2015 included Tata Motors, Renault -France, Toyota Kirloskar, Maruti Suzuki, Hero Electric, Kinetic Motors, and Lohia Auto, amongst other players.

Challenges of Logistics

The Logistics sector in India is currently facing a multitude of challenges. These include the disruptions caused by the surge of e-commerce, the growth of the organized sector vis-a-vis the unorganized sector, and planned and unplanned growth.

CII Southern Region, along with the CII Institute of Logistics, organized the 8th edition of India's premier Logistics and SCM Exhibition and Conference, 'Logistics 2015,' concurrent to the IETF.

"We are not recognized as an industry in itself. So we are still providing services in the form of a labour contractor or third-party service provider. This prevents us from adding value to customers. Secondly, though overall growth has been seen in the sector, huge hurdles are faced in the supply chain segment. Industry status will help us position ourselves in a different way. Thirdly, the skill gap is also an issue. The number of people and the calibre of the people to be employed are both going to be significantly higher than what we have now. We have to be adequately prepared for this," said Mr R Dinesh, Chairman, Logistics 2015, and Joint MD, TV Sundaram Iyengar & Sons, reflecting on some of the issues facing the Logistics industry today, at the Logistics 2015 conference.

The 3-day Logistics exhibition, held concurrently from 26-28 February, featured more than 50 exhibitors, and was visited by 5000+ business visitors.



Rajeev Kaul; **K U Thankachen**, MD, CRWC Ltd; **R Dinesh**, Chairman, Logistics 2015, and Joint MD, TV Sundaram Iyengar & Sons; **Anshuman Singh**, MD & CEO, Future Supply Chain Solutions, and **Asokan Sattanathan**, Director, Beta Solutions, inaugurating the Logistics Exhibition in New Delhi

For a Digital Future

The corporate world and offices are witnessing a digital transformation. Clear, concise, cost-effective and customized solutions are the way forward to ensure a rapid transition that is bound to affect all facets of the economy and society.

Digitization is important for businesses to utilize internet-based workflows to eliminate process friction and streamline operations.

The interactive session on 'Digital Office - A Paradigm Change,' during the IETF 2015 dwelt upon topics such as high speed internet as a core utility, cradle-to-grave digital identity, mobile phone and bank accounts to encourage participation of people, and ensuring safe and secure cyber space. Other points discussed related to governance and services on demand, seamless integrated departments, services in real-time from online and mobile platforms, making financial transactions electronic and cashless, and making citizen entitlements available on cloud.

"The digital industry is rapidly growing. Some of the innovative things are single database management platform, cloud services and mobility solutions. Until 4-5 years ago, this was a purely product-based, hardware-centric sector. Now, we have moved on to application-based services and, most importantly, we are also providing business process consulting to help businesses grow holistically," said Mr. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, CII Office Automation and Imaging Division, and Executive Vice President & CEO, Ricoh India Ltd.

Mr Dharendra Khurana, Regional Business Manager - Asia Pacific & Japan, HP, and Mr Vipin Abraham, General Manager, Recall, UK, among others, also shared their views.

The World@IETF

Various participating countries sought to capture the imagination of Indian industry in a variety of sectors at IETF's colourful pavilions. The ambassadors of more than 70 countries visited the IETF.

Burkina Faso: The pavilion of this land-locked country in West Africa promoted opportunities in tourism, culture, agro business, animal husbandry, mining, energy and infrastructure.

Emirate of Sharjah: This UAE country sought global attention towards its SAIF Zone, which facilitates global and regional communications with access to both the East and the West coast. There are no currency restrictions in this zone, exemptions are offered from corporate and personal income taxes, and also for imports and exports.

Egypt: Egypt currently has trade with India amounting to \$5 billion, which it aims to take to \$8 billion. The strengths of Egypt lie in its trade, investment, services and diverse business opportunities. Through its pavilion, Egypt sought to boost economic relations with India.

Poland: The European country's main focus at IETF was on food processing, spanning milk and dairy products, fresh and processed foods, meat and poultry, beverages and juices, processed food technology and machinery. Other sectors showcased included health, education, engineering products and underground coal mining.

Romania: The South-east European country sought to attract investors in welding, construction, commercial aircraft, machinery works and transport systems.

Russian & Slovakia: The delegations of the two countries were especially interested in manufacturing and technology.

United Kingdom: With a specific focus on water and water waste management, more than 22 companies represented Britain in this sector and showcased technologies related to water conservation, including sensors and systems for marine water and environment, waste water treatment systems, technology for storm water drainage and safety products for hydro projects, etc.



Boujdaria Jamel, First Counsellor, Embassy of Tunisia; **Mohammed Al Mahmoud**, Commercial Director, Sharjah Free Trade Zone Authority, **Saud Salim Al Mazrouei**, Director – Free Zones, Hamriyah & Sharjah; **Saed Mohamed Almheiri**, Ambassador of UAE to India; **KKM Kutty**, Co-Chairman, CII Gulf & Middle East Committee, and Chairman, South West Group; **Gurpal Singh**, Principal Adviser and Head, CII-Gulf, Middle East & North Africa, and **Khalid Ghazi Rashid**, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Iraq, at an interaction during IETF 2015 in New Delhi

Focus on Skill Development



Pankaj Bansal, Co-founder & CEO, PeopleStrong; **Bandaru Dattatreya**, Minister of State of Labour and Employment; **Jayant Krishna**, Principal Consultant and Regional Head, Tata Consultancy Services, and **Supriya Banerji**, Principal Advisor, CII, at the DGE&T – Industry Interface held during the IETF in New Delhi

One of the focus themes of the International Engineering & Technology Fair (IETF) 2015 was Skill Development.

Skills Development was successfully showcased to all stakeholders, i.e. industry, the youth, the Government, as well as training organizations, through a number of initiatives.

Skills Exposition

The Skills Expo had participation from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), the Directorate General of Employment and Training, (DGE & T), the Ministry of Labour and Employment, UK Trade and Investment, and various other organizations working in the skills ecosystem. Providing the perfect platform for skills providers to showcase their strength and capabilities to fulfil the needs of the current and future workforce, the Expo acted as a catalyst to bridge the demand and supply gap in terms of a skilled workforce. It

- Brought out new, innovative ways of skills training
- Created awareness on the latest skills training in various sectors

- Promoted employment generation through skills and training
- Highlighted various skill initiatives by the Ministries of the Government of India
- Acted as a knowledge platform for the future generation.

WorldSkills India National Selections

The WorldSkills Competition is held every alternate year. India is a member country, with the NSDC and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship leading the initiative, that is supported by CII and other partners. CII supports the NSDC for 7 trades.

At the IETF, the India selections were conducted for 21 trades. The winners will represent India at WorldSkills 2015 to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in August.

Some of the trades are Auto Body Repair; Automobile Technology; Beauty Therapy; Car Painting; CNC Milling; CNC Turning; Electronics; Fashion Technology; Graphic Design Technology; IT Software Solutions for Business; IT Network System Administration; Jewellery-making; Hair-dressing; Mechatronics; Mechanical Engineering Design-CAD; Mobile Robotics; Web Designing and Welding.



CII led the trades of Beauty Therapy, Hair-dressing, Electronics, Mechatronics, and Welding.

The winners of the competition were announced on 28 February at a special Awards Ceremony.

DGE & T - Industry Interface

The Conference, held on 26 February, featured a session on 'Scaling up Amended Apprenticeship Act and Flexi MoUs.'

The session showcased some successful models of how industry could leverage the Flexi MoU scheme to encourage and support employment by providing training opportunities and generating skilled manpower to meet specific industry requirements.

Another engaging session, on 'Industry Participation in Career Centres and Job Portals,' highlighted the initiatives being taken by the DGE&T to set up Career Centres for the creation of an IT-intensive model to cater to the demands of the labour market and the aspirations of the youth. These initiatives aim to disseminate information related to education, apprenticeship, internship, skill development courses, career counselling and guidance.

Addressing the conference, Mr Bandaru Dattatreya, Minister of State of Labour and Employment, said the ministry is taking a technological route to capitalize on India's demographic dividend. The DGE&T is working towards upgrading the ITIs to enhance their credibility, creating one model ITI in every State, appointing an Industry-led chairman in every ITI and promoting meritorious ITI students by making them brand ambassadors, he said.



Pawan Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; **Sunil Arora**, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; **Rajiv Pratap Rudy**, Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; **S Mahalingam**, Chairman, CII National Committee on Sector Skill Councils, and Former CFO, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd; and **Atul Bhatnagar**, COO, NSDC, at the MSDE- NSDC- CII Sectoral Conference in New Delhi

Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship - NSDC- CII Conference

The conference, held on 28 February, featured sessions on nine critical sectors to garner a deeper sectoral perspective into the country's skill requirements. It witnessed a lively discussion with key stakeholders, while giving an Industry perspective on the key initiatives and challenges in the respective sectors and tracing a prospective future roadmap.

Based on the sector-wise skill gap analysis conducted by the NSDC in 2013, the nine key sectors identified for discussion were Logistics, Agriculture and Food Processing, Construction and Plumbing, Retail, Rubber, Textiles and Apparel, Electronics Hardware and IT and ITes, Auto and Auto Components, and Tourism and Hospitality. Apart from the moderator, each session included a panel comprising representatives from the respective Sectoral Skills Councils (SSCs), Industry, training partners, assessment agencies and MSMEs.

Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, stated that greater industry participation and recognition of the SSC certification can give a desired boost to the sector. He suggested that we must capitalize on the available national infrastructure to provide training opportunities. India, he said, would bid to host the 2021 World Skills Competition.



Towards a Water – secure Future

The India Water Tool 2.0, to help companies in India understand their water risks and prioritize actions for sustainable water management by Agriculture, Industry and Government, was launched on 27 February at **Water India 2015**, an international conference on 'Integrated and Collaborative Solutions for a Water – secure Future,' organized by CII as part of the India Engineering Trade Fair 2015 in New Delhi. Industry and Government shared a common platform at the event to promote water use efficiency across sectors.

Launching the tool, Mr K B Biswas, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, stated that India will be able to meet its water needs only if it adopts a scientific approach to water resource management. Lauding the efforts put in by all stakeholders for developing the India Water Tool, Version 2.0, he said the tool would help companies take an evidence-based approach to their water management strategies.

Mr Dhruv Sawhney, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII-Triveni Water Institute, and CMD, Triveni Engineering Industries Ltd, said the first of its kind country-specific tool has three knowledge partners, the World Resources Institute, the CII-Triveni Water Institute, and Skoll Global Threats Fund. Ten companies, namely, ACC, Ambuja, Aditya Birla Group, BASF, ITC, Jain Irrigation, Pepsico, Mahindra, Monsanto and Nestle have worked jointly to develop this tool, he added.

The CII-Triveni Water Institute works to develop viable models of achieving water security that are implemented as a business proposition where returns on water savings are large and attractive. This approach ensures a lesser risk to business, with project funding becoming easier and more practical, explained Mr Sawhney.

Responsible water management requires better information for better decisions, and



K B Biswas, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, and **Dhruv M Sawhney**, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII-Triveni Water Institute, and CMD, Triveni Engineering Industries Ltd, with key stakeholders, at the launch of the India Water Tool Version 2.0. during the IETF 2015 in New Delhi

this tool is the first step towards understanding water risks and developing a management plan, said Mr Joppe Cramwinkel, Director, Water, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Geneva. He urged Industry to understand that water is a shared resource with finite volumes, resulting in collective risk.

Ms Betsy Otto, Global Director, World Resources Institute, Washington, spoke about the relevance of presenting available information in a comprehensive manner that is useful for Industry and other diverse stakeholders.

Ms Shilpa Devikar Nirula, CEO, Monsanto Co. (India Region) and MD, Monsanto India Ltd, highlighted the usefulness of the tool for agri-businesses. "Being an agri-based company, we work with a number of farmers. Our aim is producing more while conserving more, to support growing populations sustainably. This tool helps us move a step closer to our goals. We at Monsanto



Graeme Fenton, International Business Manager, Hydro International, UK; **M Satyanarayana**, Advisor, National Water Mission, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation; **A B Pandya**, Chairman, Central Water Commission, and **Ramani Iyer**, Chairman, CII Northern Region Committee on Water, and Director, Forbes Marshall Ltd

are proud to be a part of this initiative,” she said.

Dr Dilip Kulkarni, President, Agri Food Division, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd, felt that the tool would offer Indian companies a holistic picture of the water situation at their sites while mapping pockets of water availability and delineating water stress areas.

A live demo of the India Water Tool was run at the CII – Triveni Water Institute stall at the Water India Exhibition.

Later, sustainability officers and CEOs of companies deliberated on the design of the India Water Tool Version

2.0 and its vast applications, and shared international case studies showcasing its effective usage.

Eminent speakers, including Mr Tony Henshaw, Group Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Group, Mr Ajay Pradhan, MD, CH2MHill-India, Mr Rajesh Wader, Divisional Manager, Waste Water Treatment, Kirloskar Brothers Ltd and Mr Graeme Fenton, International Business Manager, Hydro International, United Kingdom, highlighted the urgent need for concerted and collective efforts from all stakeholders towards water security.

Water Resource Management through Efficient and Innovative Solutions

The Session on Water Resource Management through Efficient and Innovative Solutions focused on innovative treatment technologies as well as case studies of treated and recycled water usage in Industry, and commercial applications in Asia and European countries.

Mr Anil Wadhwa, Secretary, East,

Ministry of External Affairs, urged the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) member countries to explore technology transfer to improve water usage efficiency in Agriculture, Industry and domestic sectors. Pointing out that the urban population will double by 2025 and that Climate Change will have its toll on water resources, he called for tangible cooperation between ASEM member countries for a desired change in water management.

Mr A B Pandya, Chairman, Central Water Commission, observed that economic growth and water management is interlinked. Water management should shift from the supply to the demand side, he said. He also called for correcting the cropping pattern in certain geographical locations and unscientific appropriation of water in agriculture, affects productivity and the environment.

Mr M Satyanaryana, Adviser, National Water Mission, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, mooted a proposal to demonstrate a project on water usage efficiency in India through innovative partnership between the ASEM member countries, that represent 60% of the world population, and contribute 52% of the world's GDP.

Water governance should focus on innovation where proper and appropriate financing models could promote private sector participation, said Mr Joppe Cramwinckel, Director, Water, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, calling for innovative business models in the context of watershed management.

The session concluded with the message that there has been a paradigm shift in the way countries are managing their water resources, with the focus on waste water management, reuse and recycling, and life cycle assessment of waste water systems.



Anil Wadhwa, Secretary, East, Ministry of External Affairs; **Rajesh Wader**, Divisional Manager Waste Water Treatment, Kirloskar Brothers Ltd; **Graeme Fenton**; **M Satyanarayana**; **Ramani Iyer**, and **Joppe Cramwinckel**, Director, Water, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, at the session on Water Resource Management, in New Delhi

National Risk Summit

With India getting increasingly globally integrated and business landscapes becoming more dynamic than ever before, India Inc needs to become robust and proactive in managing unforeseeable risk of the future for growth and sustainability.

The **CII National Risk Summit** on 'De-risking the Future of India Inc,' held in Mumbai on 10-11 February, focused on 'balancing risk and opportunity through smart risk measures.'

The Summit emphasized the need to safeguard stakeholder interests in areas such as protecting customer data, sustaining the environment, ensuring regulatory compliance and preserving shareholder value, amongst others.

The CII-KPMG White Paper on 'Derisking the future of India Inc,' released on the occasion, highlighted the need for understanding and mitigating risks in the context of strategy, business operations, customer needs, and societal responsibilities in a complex and dynamic economic environment.

The Summit had engaging and interactive discussions on risk management in areas related to • Using Risk Management as a strategic tool in a globalized economic environment • Risk Analytics • Cyber security and privacy risks in a digitally-enabled enterprise • Financial risk management and multiple tax risks • Execution of risk management strategy • Risks from the workplace of the future • Climate Change and Sustainability risks • IPR risks • Regulatory risk implications • Digital Forensics • Risks in Acquisitions • BCP and business resilience risk.



Richard Rekhy, CEO, KPMG India; **Harun Rashid Khan**, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India; **Suresh Senapaty**, Chairman, CII National Risk Summit, and Executive Director and Chief Finance Officer, Wipro Ltd, and **Deepak Parekh**, Chairman, Housing Development Finance Corporation, at the CII National Risk Summit in Mumbai

VOICES

'Corporates must practice responsible management of risk taking, they should be focussed on the risks emanating from large scale foreign currency exposures of individual corporates and their impact not only on the balance sheets of these corporates but also, importantly, on the stability of the overall economic and financial system. Further, corporates must use credit responsibly and be proactive about cyber resilience, especially in the context of growing risk arising out of cyber security.'

Harun Rashid Khan, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India

'The opening of the economy with significant technology deployment comes with associated risks which any corporate should be mindful of, and embed in their strategy. Risk has become a value creation function and is critical for CEO/CFOs to engage in.'

Suresh Senapaty, Summit Chairman, and Executive Director & Chief Financial Officer, Wipro Ltd

'There are a number of risks that banks and financial institutions have to constantly manage, like credit, interest, forex, and maturity risks, but by far the most important risk is reputational risk. If you lose it, it's nearly impossible to get it back again'.

Deepak Parekh, Chairman, Housing Development Finance Corporation

'Risks can be only effectively dealt with if there is a common understanding of their importance and interconnected nature, and readiness to engage in multi-stakeholders dialogue and action.'

Richard Rekhy, CEO, KPMG

New Trends in Green Chemistry



Revisiting a known but critical topic for the Chemicals Industry, CII hosted a workshop on **'New Trends in Green Chemistry'**, on 18 February, in Mumbai. The workshop which was supported by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, discussed business practices focusing on bottom line improvement through product process improvements and environmental efficiency policies. Opinion leaders from the Government, Industry, Academia and Media, deliberated upon simple principles underpinning Green Chemistry that have opened a wealth of opportunities for value creation and hold the key to India's development agenda.

"Green Chemistry is about promoting innovative initiatives to reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and incentivize the development of green products and processes, said Mr. Surjit K. Chaudhary, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, who was the Chief Guest. Strict compliance with the regulatory regime for environmental protection and the adoption of green technological solutions as well as efficient use of resources is the key to the future growth of the industry, he said. To remain globally competitive, the industry needs innovative state-of-the-art R&D laboratories, and spending which is at 1-2%, should be sustainably enhanced to 3-5%," he added.

"Several trends are combining to push green principles to the fore of business strategy – advances in bio-technology

are bringing new scientific horizons within reach. At the national level, Green Chemistry can help make India globally competitive and execute the 'Make in India' and 'Swachh Bharat' (Clean India), initiatives, said Mr. Nadir Godrej, Chairman, CII National Committee on Chemicals, and MD, Godrej Industries Ltd.

"With the Government's thrust on Manufacturing, the chemical and allied industries have a very critical role to play in making the initiative sustainable and environmentally viable. Industry must collaborate with Government to not only regulate pollution levels but also reduce procurement and inventory costs, and achieve optimization in production costs," he said.

Other eminent panelists, including Mr Sapan Ray, Senior Executive Vice President – Petrochemicals, Reliance

Industries Ltd, Prof. G D Yadav, Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology, and Dr. R Rajagopal, COO – KnowGenix, deliberated on the need for cross-sector collaboration and possible realignment in India.

Suggesting that

the innovation roadmap for the chemicals industry must be sector specific, Prof. Yadav emphasized on creating sustainable solutions for availability of potable water. The life cycle assessment of projects is critical for assessing their viability and sustainability. The Clean Ganga project is one example where the chemicals industry can contribute vastly, he said. ■



Sapan Ray, Senior Executive Vice President (Petrochemicals) Reliance Industries Ltd; **Nadir B Godrej**, Chairman, CII National Committee on Chemicals, and MD, Godrej Industries Ltd; **Surjit Kumar Chaudhary**, Secretary, Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers; **Prof (Dr) GD Yadav**, Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai; and **Dr. R. Rajagopal**, COO, KnowGenix, at the Workshop on Green Chemistry in Mumbai



Village Buddha Project

Thirty-two bright leaders from 15 companies participated in the Village Buddha workshop on 'Creating New Business in Emerging Village Markets' on 14-17 February in Bengaluru. The three day programme included a visit to a village to observe and understand the latent needs and then, through a well-defined scientific process, arrive at ideas for new products and services that companies could look at to meet these latent needs of rural India.

The programme enlarges the market for companies, while encouraging the overall development of village economies, believing in 'Happy Village, Happy Society and Happy Business.'

This module also marked the successful completion of the first year of the programme, wherein over



Venu Srinivasan, Past President, CII, and CMD, Sundaram Clayton Ltd & Chairman, TVS Motor Company, and Prof Shoji Shiba, Chief Advisor, CSM, with the participants of the Village Buddha Module 3, in Bengaluru

70 business participants graduated from a three module programme of skills for business and rural development.

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HR Management at the Plant Level

The Indian Trade Union movement has undergone a gradual metamorphosis towards a more participative culture, with both managements and trade unions recognizing the need for mature and focused action, and employee engagement. A workshop held on 25 February discussed these new trends, while factoring in the political changes seen in West Bengal in the recent past.

The workshop examined developments in the statutory environment which govern industrial relations, evaluated the constructive role of trade union leadership, and discussed good practices on contract labour and human resource management. It also addressed issues like motivation and commitment, expectation and compensation management, training and skills development, employees' welfare, grievance management, etc.

CII Naoroji Godrej Centre of Excellence

Strategic Approach to Sales Excellence

A programme held on 3 - 4 February in Mumbai provided the required tools and techniques for optimizing the potential of the sales force and providing a cutting edge to creating a holistic approach in creating a sale turnaround.

Disclosures in Financial Statements-Best Practices

Accounting is the language of communicating financial performance, and accounting standards are the grammar. Corporate governance is a key differentiator of how a company is perceived. Proper disclosures in financial statements create confidence in the minds of investors, analysts and regulators.

A programme on Disclosures in Financial Statements-Best Practices, held on 7 February in Mumbai, enabled participants to appreciate and imbibe best practices which they can replicate while preparing/reading financial statements.

Supply Chain Management (SCM)

Good Supply Chain Management (SCM) practices prevent production loss due to non-availability of required materials, smoothen day-to-day operations and help companies fulfill their delivery commitments.

A programme held on 13 - 14 February in Pune provided practical inputs to SME vendors of Original Equipment Makers (OEMs) to help them develop flexibility to meet their varying requirements.

Modern Management Practices in Real Estate

Modern management practices can help Real Estate developers, contractors and suppliers make revenue faster, free up resources for more projects, and improve profitability and branding. A workshop held on 18 February in Mumbai enabled the participants to learn how

to help buyers to act faster, reduce interest costs, aim for before-time and less than budget delivery, and align contractors, suppliers and other external agencies.

Export Incentives

Export incentives are granted periodically to achieve competitiveness in pricing for export markets. It is necessary for exporters to understand various incentive schemes currently available, to derive best advantage. A programme held in Mumbai on 19 February covered the Duty Exemption Scheme and the EPCG Scheme, which are effective instruments for Indirect Tax management, to optimize cash flow management. It also discussed Advance Authorization, which permits duty free import of inputs for export production, and Deemed Exports with reference to duty exemption and the EPCG Scheme.

Root Cause Analysis

Root Cause Analysis is a rigorous and long-lasting approach to solving problems, which directly defines the reason for the problem when it is present and is influencing the process and its output.

A workshop was held on 20 - 21 February in Mumbai for those charged with the responsibility for both reactive and proactive problem - solving in their own functional areas as well as across functions.

Managing Project Procurement

The ability of an organization to deliver on time, within budget and without compromising, is largely dependent on the supply side being able to match the project needs, which in turn are based on the customer needs.

A programme held in Mumbai on 23 - 24 February covered project procurement strategy, creating and managing contracts, negotiating, and supply risk management.

CII-AVANTHA Centre for Competitiveness for SMEs



HR Excellence Mission members at Ashok Leyland Ltd, Hosur

HR Excellence Mission

An HR Mission to TVS Motor Company Ltd and Ashok Leyland Ltd, Hosur, both well known for excellence in HR practices, was organized on 13 February. The mission helped the participating companies build their organizational competence in HR practices such as maximizing people's potential, and dealing with problems that arise out of differences in temperaments and personalities of individuals, to transform the total work culture and result output of the organization.

MoU to promote ZED Cluster

An MoU was signed between CII and the Automobile Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA) for forming ZED Clusters, in the presence of Mr Anant Geete, Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, on 16 February, in Pune. The Cluster will be implemented by the CII-Avantha Centre for Competitiveness for SMEs and the ACMA Center for Technology (ACT).

The MoU was signed by Mr Jayant Davar, Co-Chairman, CII National MSME Council, and Founder, Co-Chairman and MD, Sandhar Technologies Ltd and Mr. Shrivatsa Ram, President, ACT.

The ZED (Zero Defect Zero Effect) Cluster will facilitate the achievement of the Government's goal of 'Make in India' including that of Zero Defect Zero Effect. The Cluster will be formed with select companies, with Mr C. Narasimhan, Chief Mentor, CII Cluster Programme, and one of the key initiators of Cluster programmes in India, as the mentor.

The purpose of the ZED Cluster is to make participating companies globally competitive, with environmentally efficient systems and mechanisms to protect the environment for future generations. The focus will be on intervention in key areas such as discipline, team work, zero defect, and zero effect on environment,

towards building a sustenance culture.

During this event, Dr Sarita Nagpal, Principal Adviser, CII, was felicitated by ACMA for her contribution to Cluster Development in India.



Signing of the CII-ACMA MoU to promote ZED Clusters, in Pune

Indo-German Manager Training Programme



Awareness session on the Indo-German Manager Training Programme in Nashik

A special awareness session on the outcomes of the Indo-German Manager Training Programme was organized by the AMBAD Industries and Manufacturers' Association, Nashik, on 15 February. During the programme, Sumit Engineers and Consultants Pvt Ltd, was felicitated for successfully collaborating with Strama-MPS Maschinenbau GmbH & Co. for sales and service in India, as an outcome of the Indo-German Manager Training Programme. They have also started manufacturing some components.

Strama manufactures special purpose machines and lines for automobile companies like Audi, BMW, Volkswagen and Bosch, apart from Siemens worldwide.

The Indian segment of the training of the Indo-German Manager Training Programme (IGMTP), was held in Gurgaon from 18-21 February, with 20 entrepreneurs from across India. Dr SS Gupta, Senior Development Officer, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, motivated the participating SME owners to not only focus on export / import but also on technology transfer and bilateral investments, during the study and business tour.

The programme, now in its 7th year, aims to enhance



Inauguration of Indian Leg of Indo-German Manager Training Programme in Gurgaon

the international business and economic potential of Indian enterprises by bringing them in contact with German enterprises.

Over the last 6 years, 178 participants have benefitted from the programme leading to 13 joint ventures / technical collaborations / MoUs, imports worth 4.45 million euros, and exports worth 4.85 million euros, in the last five years. Some of the participating companies have recorded 100 to 300 % increase in turnover.

The Indian segment of the training inducts the participants into topics like macro and micro economic factors, foreign trade, cross-cultural communications, international economic relations, HR management etc.

This batch will be in Germany from 6 April till 2 May, hosted by Traide. A group programme will take place in Aachen, South-West Germany.

Energy Efficiency

A two day training programme on Energy Efficient Systems was conducted in Haridwar on 19-20 February by experienced energy auditors, certified by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power. Senior CII counselors have been handholding, counseling and helping industry reduce their energy consumption by around 10-30% for more than a decade.

Value Stream Mapping

A training programme on Becoming Lean - Production with Competitive Edge using Value Stream Mapping was held on 24 February in Gurgaon. The value stream perspective means working with the big picture, not just individual processes and target improvization at the macro level. The value stream starts with conceptualization and ends with delivery to the customer. A value stream includes all the actions, both value added and non-value added, required to bring a product through the main flows essential to every product. ■

CII Institute of Quality Kaizen Conference cum Competition

**INSTITUTE
of QUALITY**
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The Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) Club India of the CII Institute of Quality organized the 24th Kaizen Conference cum Competition in New Delhi on 25-26 February. The Kaizen Conference is a well-known platform for Indian manufacturing companies to present their innovative improvements, spread the knowledge of TPM and showcase company success stories.

A total of 78 Kaizens were presented by 65 major companies from different sectors across the country to compete for the Best Kaizen Award.

This year, a new evaluation format comprising of categories covering Restorative, Innovative, Renovative and Breakthrough was introduced to make the competition tougher.



Winners of the Kaizen Conference with Counsellors and members of TPM Club India, in New Delhi

For more information on TPM related programmes and the Kaizen Conference, please contact preethi.peter@cii.in

Category	1 st Winner	2 nd Winner	3 rd Winner	4 th Winner
Restorative	Varroc Engineering P Ltd, VEPL IV, Aurangabad	Marico Ltd, Puducherry	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Igatpuri Plant	-----
Renovative	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Mumbai	Vardhman Yarns & Threads Ltd, Unit IV, Baddi	Eimco Elecon (India) Ltd	Titan Company Ltd, Bengaluru
Innovative	Amtek India Ltd, Bhiwadi	TATA Motors Ltd, Sanand Plant	-----	-----
Breakthrough	Mahindra Vehicle Manufacturers Ltd, Chakan	Bajaj Auto Ltd, Rudrapur	-----	-----

CII-Jubilant Bhartia Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence



CII National Award for Food Safety 2015

Aligning the existing expertise of food professionals in India with the skills and knowledge required for assessing the food safety maturity of organizations, CII has so far developed 225 Food Safety Award Assessors through its 2-day award assessor training modules conducted across the country.



Assessor Training Programme for the CII National Award for Food Safety, in New Delhi

The programme conducted in Delhi on 12-13 February was attended by 20 professionals from organizations such as Bakers Circle, Britannia, Cargil, Dr Oetkar, IRCTC, ITC, Jubilant Food Works, Mrs Bector's,

Perfetti, and others.

The CII Jubilant Bhartia Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence's Food Safety and Quality vertical is facilitating a set of 3 publications on 'Best Practices in Food Safety and Quality' this year.

The publication, prepared in three levels, namely the Basic, Advanced Practices and Sector Specific categories, will be released during the Food Safety Master Classes and Poster Competition in September 2015.

CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



CSR Workshop: Implementation, Impact & Reporting

The CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) conducted two workshops on 'CSR Implementation, Impact and Reporting' on 10 and 12 February in Delhi and Mumbai respectively. The workshops gave the participants an improved understanding of CSR legislation, reporting, the latest amendments to the CSR rules, legal and audit compliances, and activities that qualify as CSR and impact measurement tools.

The Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs had notified CSR Rules for companies in furtherance to the Companies Act 2013. With effect from 1 April 2014, every company which either has a net worth of ₹ 500 crores or a turnover of ₹ 1,000 crores or net profit of ₹ 5 crores, needs to spend at least 2% of its average net profit

for the immediately preceding three financial years on CSR activities.

The workshop was attended by 33 participants from diverse functions such as CSR, sustainability, finance, company secretary, corporate communication, legal and human resources from 22 companies including TCS, DSM, JSW, RIL, Aditya Birla, BPCL, SAIL, Ericsson, Canara Bank, HSBC and TATA Power.

Over the last two years, the Centre has been actively involved in the development of the CSR Rules, and in building the capacities of companies in CSR legislation, policies, strategy and impact measurement. In 2014, it conducted nine open programmes, as well as several in-company workshops on CSR.

CII Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre

MoU with CREDA

The CII GBC and the Chhattisgarh State Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA) have inked an MoU for joint partnership in promoting Green Buildings and Renewable Energy technologies in Chhattisgarh.



Exchange of the CII GBC and CREDA MoU in Raipur

The MoU was exchanged between Mr Sanjeev Jain, Chief Engineer, CREDA, and Mr S Raghupathy, Executive Director, CII Godrej GBC, at the Energy Efficiency Conclave 2015 on 20 February, in Raipur.

GreenCo Rating System

The GBC's GreenCo Rating System, the first of its kind in the world, provides a holistic framework to evaluate industries on their environmental performance and defines the path forward. Till date, 32 companies have been GreenCo rated and over 100 companies are working on the GreenCo rating system.

GBC organized a two-day awareness programme on the GreenCo Rating System on 19 and 20 February in Bengaluru.

The 5th GreenCo Forum Chapter was launched in Kolkata on 27 February, adding to the Chapters already set up in Chennai, Mumbai, Pune and Bengaluru.

Training Programme on Green Buildings

The CII India Green Building Council is partnering the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in conducting 10 training programmes on Green Buildings in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, till December 2015.

The first training programme under this partnership was conducted on 19 February in Vijayawada.

First 'Green' Municipal Corporation Building

The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) is the first 'Green' Municipal Corporation Building to be awarded with the IGBC Green Building (Gold) Rating.

Mr V Suresh, Chairman, Policy and Advocacy Committee, IGBC, presented a plaque to Mr Dinesh Waghmare,



Felicitation of NMMC for being awarded IGBC Green Building (Gold) Rating

Commissioner, NMMC, and Mr Mohan Dagaonkar, City Engineer, at a special felicitation programme on 20 February.

Green Building Rating Systems



Programme on Green Existing Building Rating System in Hyderabad

A training programme on Green Buildings on 5- 6 February in Goa imparted knowledge on Green Building concepts, and the IGBC Green New Buildings rating system, and shared best practices in Green Buildings.

A training programme on Green Existing Building Rating Systems was also held on 27 February in Hyderabad.

Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance

The India Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Programme, and the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) launched the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance on 20 February in Mumbai.

The new guidance for companies to measure emissions from purchased electricity is the first major update to the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard, and responds to the rapid growth of renewable energy and other major shifts in the electricity market.

The Guidance provides a consistent, transparent way for companies to show how different types of electricity purchases count towards their emissions targets, and will influence corporate decisions on what kind of energy should power their business.

Energy Audit in Japan

Members of the GBC Energy Team visited ASO Cement Co. Ltd in Japan from 1-12 February to conduct detailed energy audits and training programme at two units, Kanda and Tagawa.



Members of the GBC Energy Team in Japan



Knowledge & Innovation Initiatives



Talleen Kumar, CEO & MD, DMICDC, and Joint Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, (extreme right) at an interaction with design firms in New Delhi

Centre on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT), organized an International Conference on Inclusive Innovation on 10-12 February in New Delhi.

The conference fostered discussion and policy exchange among stakeholders drawn from Government, private sector corporations, and international organizations of developed, emerging

and developing economies, on how innovation can best serve inclusive development.

The participants discussed the major obstacles to scaling up inclusive innovations through commercialization, public programmes, or other channels, while utilizing suitable modalities of public-private collaboration and partnerships. The discussion also touched upon research on inclusive innovation conducted across different regions in the world.

Design

Interactive Session with Design Firms

CII and the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Ltd (DMICDC) organized an interactive session with design firms on 3 February in New Delhi, to discuss the role of Design in the planning of smart cities.

The session explored how Design can visualize and then verbalize the grand vision for a smart city, with regard to services like utilities (water, energy and communications), street lighting, roadways and traffic, public transport, signage, environmental quality, cleaning of public spaces, waste and sewage management, maintenance, security, civil protection, education, public health, social services, town planning, public housing, planning of economic and tourist activities, public safety, and the development and preservation of cultural, historical and neighborhood heritage.

The session was attended by 14 design firms. To take the discussions forward, on-site interactions between design firms and implementation agencies appointed by DMICDC for ongoing smart city projects like Dholera near Gandhinagar, Gujarat, are being planned.

Innovation

Innovation for Inclusive Growth

CII, jointly with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank Group (WBG) and the United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research and Training



Supriya Sankaran, Director, Venture & Fellowship, Ashoka India; **Gopalan Sunderraman**, Vice President, Corporate Development, Godrej & Boyce; **S Gopalakrishnan**, Past President, CII, Chairman, CII Innovation & Entrepreneurship Council, and former Executive Vice Chairman, Infosys Ltd; **Dr Gopichand Katragadda**, Group Chief Technology, Tata Sons; and **Sukla Chandra**, General Manager, GE Global Research, at the International Conference on Innovation for Inclusive Growth in New Delhi

Intellectual Property

Session with Police Officials on IPR Enforcement

Counterfeiting and piracy are global problems that threaten the health and safety of consumers; deprive national economies of vital tax revenues; embolden criminal organizations and erode respect for Intellectual Property Rights. CII has taken a lead role in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy, and remains committed to strengthen the IP ecosystem in the country by continuously engaging with Government and other stakeholders to build a strong legislative framework, enforcement mechanism and conducive policy environment.

To take these objectives forward, CII organizes orientation sessions for enforcement bodies like the Police, Customs, Central Excise, Economic Offence Wings etc, all over the country.

This year, CII joined hands with several police academies to conduct orientation sessions on IPR enforcement for police officials. The first such programme was conducted for about 40 police officers at the Telangana State Police Academy, Hyderabad, on 23 February.

Technology

Technology Transfer in Biotechnology and Life Sciences

The viable transfer of technology is at the heart of economic growth and development, and the progress of countries depends on the extent and efficiency of R & D, IPR and technology commercialization.

Life sciences and biotechnology offer opportunities to address many of the world's necessities as regards health, ageing, food, the environment, and sustainable



At the Seminar-cum-Industry Interaction Meet on 'Technology Transfer - Innovation is Key to Change: Focus: Biotechnology & Life Science,' in Vadodara

development. With a number of major scientific and technological advances in life sciences and biotechnology over the last few years, this sector is widely regarded as being among the most promising frontiers for promoting technology, R&D, innovation and commercialization.

The CII- Gujarat Knowledge Application and Facilitation Centre (CII-GKAFC), jointly with other organizations, organized a seminar on 'Technology Transfer: Innovation is Key to Change: Biotechnology and Life Sciences' on 9 February in Vadodara, Gujarat, to create awareness on the latest development and availability of various technologies.



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3rd edition of the Entrepreneurship Summit, in Bengaluru

Bengaluru

On 21 February, Yi Bengaluru organized the 3rd edition of the Entrepreneurship Summit-Innovation in Entrepreneurship.

Mr Aroon Raman, MD, Telos Investment and Technologies P Ltd, advised young entrepreneurs to focus on innovation, collaboration, newer perspectives, ethics and values.

Dr. G K Jayaram, Founder– Director, Institute of Leadership and Institutional Development, Bengaluru, felt that mentorship is a must for young entrepreneurs keen on building an innovative entrepreneurial eco-system.

Mr. Siddharth Venkatesh, Chair, Yi Bengaluru, and Lead Engineer, GE Aviation India, opined that economic development and entrepreneurship should be linked to job creation.

Bhopal

On 22 February, Yi Bhopal conducted its annual session with the theme 'Victory After Failures.'

Mr Vijay Crishna, Director, Agroviet, spoke about bonding, effective leadership skills, optimism, team-building, interpersonal skills and overcoming challenges.

Mr D N V Kumara Guru, Yi National Chairman, and Director, External Relations, Indian School Business, made a presentation on Yi's reach and activities.



Yi Annual Session in Bhopal



Goa Tower Run 2015, in Goa

Ms Prakriti Jain, Franchisee Owner, Chhabra 555, was appointed Chair for the Bhopal Chapter for 2014-15.

Goa

On 1 February, Yi, in association with Tower Running World Association conducted the Goa Tower Run.

The tower run is a competition to promote bonding. Five buildings of seven storeys each were chosen for the competition, and the participants, over 200 in all, had to move up and down 840 steps in each building.

The competition was flagged off by Mr Bruno Coutinho, renowned football player, and Arjuna Awardee.

Jaipur

Yi Jaipur, in association with the Bharti Institute of Public Policy, held the Yuva Civic Quotient Workshop at the IIS University and Dr. B Lal Institute of Biotechnology, on 2 February.

The workshop was held to educate students about the fundamentals of Indian democracy and encourage youth involvement in civic issues and nation building. It also outlined the role of local governments, provided on-the-job training, and discussed topics such governance, food policies, energy, corporate governance, financial sector policy, education, and activism.

Vijayawada

Yi launched its 36th chapter at Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh on 1 February.

Mr Jay Galla, Member of Parliament (Guntur), Past National Chairman, Yi, and Vice Chairman, Amara Raja Group, Mr D N V Kumara Guru, National Chairman, Yi, and Director – External Relations, Indian School of Business, and Mr V V M Krishna, Chairman, CII Vijayawada Zone, and MD, IMIS Pharma P Ltd were present on the occasion.

Mr Raja Harin Koneru, Vice President, Koneru



Launch of Yi Vijayawada Chapter

Lakshmaiah Foundation, will chair the new Chapter.

Kolkata

Yi members took part in the second cohort of the Leadership Academy on 5 - 6 February. Mr Shivraj Parshad, Former NDTV Journalist, Mr Ramanathan Somasundaram, CEO, vSocialize, Dr Rahul Mirchandani, Past National Chairman, Yi, and Executive Director, Aries Agro Ltd, and Mr Viresh Oberoi, Chairman, CII Eastern Region, and MD, mjunction, shared their ideas on effective leadership skills.

Ludhiana



Session on Drug De-addiction for Factory Workers, in Ludhiana

A session on Drug De-addiction was organized for factory workers at Shingora Textiles Ltd on 5 February, to disseminate awareness about the adverse effects of drugs and share simple therapies to overcome substance abuse.

Salem

On 18 February, Yi Salem conducted a session on personal branding with Ms Tania Desa, Leadership Coach and Corporate Trainer, giving an overview on effective marketing



Session on Branding in Salem

skills, different approaches to personal selling and promotions, skills and modes of corporate communication, to enhance the image of an organization.

Siliguri



Yi Annual Session in Siliguri

Yi Siliguri held its annual session on 17 February with the theme 'Success Stories - Yuva Yinspirations.'

Mr Prabir Seal, Chairman CII North Bengal Zonal Council, and MD, Seal & Company P Ltd, and Mr Kamal Kumar Mittal, Founder Chairman, CII North Bengal Zonal Council, and MD, PCM Cement Concrete P Ltd, addressed the session.

Mr Prabin Agarwal, Proprietor, Fortune Securities, was appointed Chair of the Siliguri Chapter.

Thiruvananthapuram

Yi Trivandrum, in association with CII and Mansion Properties, organized a workshop on 'Overcoming Examinations Stress' on 17 February. Dr Justin Padamadan, Clinical Psychologist, Jubilee Hospital, said the essential factors causing stress included increased levels of competition, fulfilling the expectations of parents and peer pressure, and emphasized the need for parental support and counselling to overcome stress.

Tiruchirapalli



Annual Session on 'Shaping Careers' in Tiruchirapalli

Yi Trichy organized its annual session on 20 February, with the theme 'Shaping Careers.' Mr Sujith Kumar, Head- HR and HR Business Manager, Infosys Ltd, spoke on the need to realize one's own strengths and weaknesses when choosing a career. He also suggested good ways to overcome obstacles, set goals, motivate oneself, and develop effective decision-making and leadership skills.

Africa

Cote D'Ivoire

Investing in Cote D'Ivoire



Dinesh Bhatia,
Ambassador of
India to Cote
D'Ivoire

In an interactive session with CII members on 4 February in New Delhi, Mr. Dinesh Bhatia, Ambassador of India to Cote D'Ivoire, gave a presentation on the country, highlighting its history, culture, economy and trade and business opportunities.

The Ambassador said that Cote D'Ivoire is an export surplus economy based on agriculture and mining, and its currency is pegged to the Euro, which makes it stable.

Egypt

Session with Egyptian Junior Business Association

A networking meeting between the CII India Business Forum (IBF), Egypt, and Egyptian Junior Business (EJB) Association members was held on 15 February in Cairo. Mr Navdeep Suri, India's Indian Ambassador to Egypt, Mr. El Ghazayerli, EJB Board Member, and Head, Unilever Egypt, and other Embassy officials were present at the meeting.

The members identified sectors with scope to increase bilateral trade and investments as IT, pharmaceuticals,



India Business Forum (IBF) Egypt networking meeting with Egyptian Junior Business Association (EJB) members in Cairo

healthcare, agriculture and agricultural equipment, new and renewable energy, etc.

Ethiopia, Djibouti & the African Union

Opportunities in Ethiopia, Djibouti and the African Union

Mr. Sanjay Verma, Ambassador of India to Ethiopia, Djibouti and the African Union, updated CII members on opportunities in these countries, at an interaction on 11 February, in New Delhi.

The Ambassador said that on the ground, there are around 200- 250 active Indian companies in Ethiopia, out of which many are part of the CII India Business Forum (IBF). The IBF, which is the first foreign chamber of Ethiopia, is very well-regarded by the Ethiopian Government, he said.



Sanjay Verma,
Ambassador
of India to
Ethiopia,
Djibouti and
the African
Union

Kenya

Strengthening ties with Kenya



**Yogeshwar
Varma,** High
Commissioner
of India to
Kenya

Indians in Kenya today number around 100,000 and hold almost half the economy and more than half of the real estate, said Mr. Yogeshwar Varma, High Commissioner of India to Kenya, at an interaction with CII members on 5 February, in New Delhi.

Pointing to opportunities in the banking sector, Mr Varma also said there was potential for investment in the leather, textile, geothermal and wind energy sectors, as well as in healthcare. He suggested that the Indian diaspora in Kenya may like to get into collaborations with new companies from India.

Kenya invites Indian Investment

Kenya is the seventh most attractive destination for investment in Africa, said Ambassador Dr Amina C Mohammed, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign



Florence Weche, High Commissioner of Kenya to India; **Vinay Kumar**, Joint Secretary (E&SA), Ministry of External Affairs, India, **Ambassador Dr Amina C Mohammed**, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Kenya, and **Rajeev Mehrotra**, CMD, RITES Ltd, at a session in New Delhi

Affairs and International Trade, Republic of Kenya, inviting CII members to invest in her country, at an interaction on 12 February in New Delhi. Though bilateral trade between India and Kenya is on the rise, the trade deficit is skewed towards India and this needs to be addressed jointly, she said. She also called on both the countries to move up the value chain.

Amb. Mohammed pointed out that Kenya's young population is enterprising and IT aware, and is seeking skills development. Kenya is also developing a Free Trade area which will be lucrative and open for business, she said.

Mr Vinay Kumar, Joint Secretary (E&SA), Ministry of External Affairs, India, said Kenya offers good

opportunities for Indian Industry in areas such as capacity building, education, healthcare, infrastructure, etc

Ms. Florence Weche, High Commissioner of Kenya to India, and Mr Rajeev Mehrotra, Member, CII Africa Committee, and CMD, RITES Ltd, also spoke.

During the interaction, members highlighted issues in licensing and work permits which are blocking the investment process. The Cabinet Secretary assured them that these issues would be addressed.

South Africa

Opportunities in South Africa

CII organized an interactive session with Ms Ruchi Ghanashyam, High Commissioner of India to South Africa, on 4 February in New Delhi.

The High Commissioner observed that while South Africa is high developed in some ways – especially in terms of infrastructure and ease of doing business, there are gaps that need to be filled, offering opportunities for Indian business, especially in the Power and Mining sectors. Around 150 Indian companies are successfully operating in South Africa, she said.



Ruchi Ghanashyam, High Commissioner of India to South Africa

Asia

Japan

Interactive Session with Indian Ambassador to Japan

CII organized an Industry interactive session with Ms Deepa Wadhwa, the Ambassador of India to Japan, on 5 February in New Delhi. Senior representatives from around 20 companies such as HiTech Gears Ltd, IL&FS, GMR, TCS, YES BANK, Reliance, Snapdeal, and ONGC participated in this session, evincing keen interest in collaborating with Japan through Joint Ventures in sectors such as Infrastructure, Services, IT, Renewable &

Sustainable Energy, Water and Waste Management, and Pharmaceuticals.

Ambassador Wadhwa assured Indian companies of full support for setting up and running their operations

in Japan. She also urged them to participate in the monthly seminars on 'Doing Business in India' organized by the Indian Embassy in Japan across the length and breadth of the country.

Japan, she said, plans to invest roughly US\$30 billion in India in the next 5 years, especially in infrastructure and technology along the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor. However the main concerns of the Japanese remain



Deepa Wadhwa, Ambassador of India to Japan, and **Deep Kapuria**, Chairman Hi-Tech Group, at an interactive session in New Delhi

visa issues, land acquisition and taxation policies in India, she said.

South Korea

Interactive Session on South Korea

CII organized an interactive session with Mr Vishnu Prakash, Ambassador of India to South Korea, on 11 February in New Delhi. Senior representatives from around 15 companies such as Hi-Tech Gears Ltd, Bharat Forge Ltd, Alinz Agro, IL&FS, Kalpataru Power Transmission, Monnet Ispat and Energy, Tata Consulting Engineers Ltd, and PTC Ltd, participated in the meeting.

Ambassador Prakash discussed India's Comprehensive

Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with South Korea, and the Industrial Park in Kotra, Rajasthan, which has attracted huge Korean investments. He said that Korean companies are keen to enter sectors such as Energy, Coal, Gas, Infrastructure, IT Hardware and Electronics.

Expressing concern over issues faced by Korean companies in India such as land acquisition, the taxation process, lengthy and complicated registration procedures, labour issues and poor infrastructure facilities, Ambassador Prakash advised Indian companies exploring joint ventures with their Korean counterparts to provide them with a suitable investing climate, and maintain time discipline.

Europe

Germany

Interaction with German Delegation

CII organized an interactive session with Mr Uwe Beckmeyer, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, Germany, and the accompanying delegation, on 18 February in New Delhi. The session focused on defence and disaster management.

Beginning with its high profile partnership in India's Rourkela steel plant, Germany has forged a strong brand image among Indian consumers for its consumer durables and machinery and equipment. Today, over 1000 German companies are present in India.

Mr. Beckmeyer said that India is on the verge of a major transformation and collaboration as far as industry is concerned. Germany's business community is deeply interested in new initiatives like 'Make in India,' he said,



Dr Dirk Grabowski, Head of Division for Security & Defence Industry, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs & Energy, Germany; **Uwe Beckmeyer**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs & Energy, Germany; **Dr Sudhir Kapur**, MD & CEO, Country Strategy Business Consultants and **Dr Corinna Fricke**, Minister Counsellor and Head, Economic & Commercial Division, Embassy of Germany, at an interaction in New Delhi

calling for a higher level of cooperation between the SMEs of India and Germany, to boost trade between the two countries.

The members of the delegation and the Indian participants discussed opportunities for cooperation and investment in sectors such as defence, security, disaster management and business continuity, among others.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Sudhir Kapur, MD and CEO, Country Strategy Business Consultants.

Middle East

Lebanon

Interaction on Agriculture

An Agriculture delegation from Lebanon, including members from the Lebanon Wine Makers Association, and the Association for Development of Lebanese Indian Relations (ADLIR), with interest in areas such as bio-pesticides, pheromones, quinoa growing and

processing, export of Lebanese premium wines, organic fresh produce, olive oil, premium grapes and apples, soil instrumentation, investment in agriculture and agro industry and poultry, met members of the CII National Committee on State-Level Coordination in Agriculture, in New Delhi on 5 February.

Mr. Louis Lahoud, Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon, said that Agriculture is the third

most important sector in Lebanon, and employs around 20% of the active population. Mr. Henri Atallah, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lebanon, was also present.

It was suggested that a joint working group of Industry from both India and Lebanon be constituted to take forward the discussions on enhancing cooperation in Agriculture and allied sectors.

Ms Anita Nayar, Ambassador of India to Beirut, Lebanon, highlighted opportunities for agri exports from India. Given the increasing demand for olive oil in India, she suggested collaboration for oil produced from olives grown in Lebanon.

Mr B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII National Committee on



Interactive Session with Agriculture Business Delegation from Lebanon, in New Delhi

State-level Coordination in Agriculture; and Executive Director and President, Blue Star Ltd, who chaired the session, pointed to the potential market in India for Lebanon to export organic produce, premium wines, grapes and apples. Fertilizers, dairy development, protected cultivation and food processing are other areas with scope for cooperation between the two countries, he said.

Latin America & the Caribbean

Doing Business with Latin America and the Caribbean

CII organized an Industry - Government interaction on Latin America and the Caribbean on 2 February in New Delhi, to enable Industry members doing business in the region to share their business experiences, discuss issues and challenges, and share future plans for the LAC region with Joint Secretaries, LAC, from the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Mr Madan Mohanka, CMD, Tega Industries Ltd, who chaired the session, said that although the LAC region provides immense potential for investment and has steadily opened up its economy, Indian companies still confront two major problems while doing business: complex and lengthy visa procedures, and the huge difference in the working culture of the two regions.

Ms Riva Ganguly Das, Joint Secretary, LAC, Ministry of External Affairs, noted that a lot of bilateral interaction had taken place between India and LAC last year, and that trade, commerce and investment are the focus of the Government's agenda. The Ministry's trade analysis shows that

the bulk of items traded were listed in the Mercosur PTA, she said.

"There cannot be a single broad-based policy while dealing with LAC, as there exist sub-groups within groups which have unique characteristics. From the Commerce Ministry's point of view, there is a lot of interest in the region, specifically focusing on Mercosur, Chile and the Pacific Alliance," said Mr Dammu Ravi, Joint Secretary, LAC, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The interaction was attended by industry members representing various sectors such as engineering, automobiles, auto components and electronics,



Madan Mohanka, CMD, Tega Industries Ltd; Dammu Ravi, Joint Secretary, LAC, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, and Riva Ganguly Das, Joint Secretary, LAC, Ministry of External Affairs, at the Session on Latin America & Caribbean in New Delhi



CII members with **Ambassador Amarendra Khatua**, Ambassador of India to Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay; **Ambassador Sunil Lal**, Ambassador of India to Brazil; and **Ambassador Manpreet Vohra**, Ambassador of India to Peru & Bolivia, in New Delhi

logistics, food and agro processing and banking, amongst others. The significant barriers to trade which were brought up by Industry included language barriers, logistics issues, lack of FTAs and PTAs with most LAC countries, variance in the validity of business visas, lack of project financing, stiff competition with Chinese counterparts, high import duties, and excessive regulatory regulations.

Interactive Session with Ambassadors

CII organized an exclusive interaction with Mr Amarendra Khatua, Ambassador of India to Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, Mr Sunil Lal, Ambassador of India to Brazil, and Mr Manpreet Vohra, Ambassador of India to Peru and Bolivia, on 11 February in New Delhi, during their visit to India for the annual Heads of Missions Conference.

Chairing the session, Mr Anurag Khera, Vice President – Corporate Affairs, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, noted that the many initiatives announced by the Government and decisions taken across key areas of the economy had greatly reassured businesses and enhanced investor confidence. Steps taken in the areas of labour reforms, skill development, stability of taxes, extension of investment incentives, and ease of doing business and simplification of regulations and procedures, amongst others had cheered Industry, he remarked.

Ambassador Khatua said that due to the sovereign debt default, trade facilitation in Argentina stood choked at present. For Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay collectively, five sectors offered business opportunities: IT, Auto parts, Pharmaceuticals, Mining, and Textiles,

he said. The embassy, said Ambassador Khatua, had facilitated a 48 hour reply window for all queries and released a 'How to do business' book for all three countries every six months.

Peru, said Ambassador Vohra, has been amongst the strongest economies in Latin America for the last 12-13 years owing to a positive growth rate and political stability, and provides an attractive high and middle income market for Indian goods and services. Indian companies such as TVS, Hero and Bajaj in two wheelers, and Mahindra in four wheelers and automobile components, were already present in the Peruvian market. One of the most attractive sectors for investment was solar energy and hydroelectricity, he said. Also, there is huge scope for teaching English in Peru and IT companies should make the most of this opportunity, he added.

Throwing light on the economic opportunities in Brazil, Ambassador Lal pointed to the huge market for agri products, renewable and conventional energy, and commodity trade. Brazil could be used as a base to set up business in Latin America as EXIM bank was also planning to open an office in Sao Paulo shortly, he said.

Representatives from sectors such as Automobiles, IT, Defence Equipment, Mining, Pharmaceuticals, Energy, Infrastructure, and Textiles, represented by companies that included Tata Motors, TCS, MKU (P) Ltd, Moserbaer, Glenmark Pharma, Aptech, NMDC, and Mohan Energy, amongst others, flagged the issues faced while doing business in Latin America, particularly in Argentina, Brazil and Peru.

Connecting with the Diaspora

The 13th Pravasi Bharaitya Divas (PBD) 2015, marking the centenary of the return of India's iconic Pravasi Mahatma Gandhi to India from South Africa, was held in January in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC), in its endeavour to expand the engagement of a heterogeneous community of over 25 million overseas Indians with India, organized its 9th Market Place at PBD 2015. Inaugurated by Ms Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs, and Ms Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat, the OIFC Market Place was a unique platform to facilitate pre-investment business dialogue between overseas Indians and Indian companies.

The emphasis was on encouraging business discussions, showcasing investment opportunities in key Government initiatives, and securing feedback from Overseas Indians on how best to improve the services of OIFC to facilitate economic engagement with India.

OIFC Publications

OIFC brought out two publications which were released by Ms Sushma Swaraj and Ms Anandiben Patel:

- 'Spinning India's success, Growth on the wheels': The publication details the key initiatives announced by the new Government to stimulate economic growth and opportunities for engagement for the overseas Indians.

E book: <http://www.oifc.in/spinning-indias-success-growth-wheels>



Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat, and Sushma Swaraj, Union Minister of External Affairs, releasing the two OIFC publications at PBD 2015 in Gandhinagar

- 'The Overseas Indian and India-Weaving a new global fabric': The publication assesses the emerging economic linkages of Overseas Indians with India and attempts to define a framework for scaling these.

E book: <http://www.oifc.in/weaving-new-global-fabric>

MoUs

To foster mutually beneficial networks, OIFC signed two MoUs with the Middlesex Asian Business Association (MABA) UK, in the presence of Ms. Priti Patel, British Member of Parliament, and the Indo European Business Forum (IEBF) UK, respectively.

The MoUs will not only build linkages with these two

diaspora associations but will also help increase the outreach of OIFC to their Overseas Indian members.

Both MoUs incorporate MABA and IEBF as OIFC's Associate Partners.

Business Delegations

OIFC facilitated business delegations from Bahrain (14 members), UK (15 members) and Netherlands (11 members).

Business Meetings

OIFC arranged 176 B2B meetings and 8 B2G meetings through its online and offline meetings platforms between PBD delegates, Government officials and members of Indian Industry.

Feedback Survey

OIFC conducted a survey to seek feedback about its services.

India REGIONAL R O U N D U P

East



G Bhaskar, President, Andaman Chamber of Commerce & Industry; **Dipankar Chakrabarti**, Director, Risk & Quality Management - Advisory Ethics - Tax & Advisory, PwC Pvt Ltd; **T V Narendran**, Chairman, CII Jharkhand, and MD, Tata Steel Ltd; **Lt Gen Ajay Kumar Singh**, Lt Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; **Viresh Oberoi**, Chairman, CII ER, and CEO & MD, mjunction services ltd; **Anand Prakash**, Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, and **Bishnu Pada Ray**, Member of Parliament, at a conference on 'Growth Opportunities in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, in Port Blair

Conference on Andaman & Nicobar Islands

29 January, Port Blair

Coinciding with its Regional Council Meeting, CII Eastern Region organized a conference on Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Growth Opportunities. The objective was to help the Union Territory build a modern containers port and become a vibrant and prosperous region near the international trade corridor.

Lt Gen Ajay Kumar Singh, Lt Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, requested CII to prepare a road map to help the islands take the leap from a strategic outpost to a springboard.

Mr Anand Prakash, Chief Secretary; Ms Rashmi Krishnan, Industry Secretary, Mr S K Bhandari, Power, Administrative Reforms & Personnel Secretary; Ms Rina Ray, Revenue, Health & Transport Secretary; Mr G Theva Neethi Dhas, Science & Technology, Environment, Shipping, and Vigilance Secretary, and Mr Rakesh Bali, Tourism Secretary, were among the senior representatives of the local administration present at the conference.

Mr Viresh Oberoi, Chairman, CII Eastern Region, and CEO & MD, mjunction services ltd; Mr T V Narendran, Chairman, CII Jharkhand, and MD, Tata Steel Ltd; Mr G Bhaskar, President, Andaman Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Md H Jadwet, Past President, Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, also participated in the conference.

Destination East 2015

5-6 February, Kolkata

Stakeholders from 25 countries, including the USA, UK, Denmark, France, Switzerland, China, Colombia, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, took part in the 5th Destination East, one of the largest buyer-seller tourism meets held in the country. Organized in partnership with the West Bengal Tourism Department, the two-day meet featured more than 3,000 pre-scheduled one-

on-one meetings between Indian sellers and foreign buyers, and familiarization (FAM) trips to Darjeeling, the Sunderbans, Santiniketan, Bishnupur, etc, and also Sikkim and the North-East, for the delegates.

Addressing the inaugural session, Mr Bratya Basu, Minister of Tourism, West Bengal, shared the Government's plans on a policy on home stay in prominent tourism destinations in the State. Mr A R Bardhan, the Tourism Secretary, said the Department is studying a proposal for financial assistance for home-stay owners.



Bratya Basu, Minister of Tourism, West Bengal; **A R Bardhan**, Tourism Secretary, West Bengal; **Vijay Dewan**, Chairman, Tourism sub-committee, CII (ER) and MD, Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels Ltd; and **George Kuruvilla**, Co-Chairman, Tourism Subcommittee, CII (ER) and General Manager Oberoi Hotels & Resorts, at the 5th Destination East, in Kolkata



Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister of Mizoram, inaugurating Infra East 2015 in Kolkata

Infra East 2015

5-6 February, Kolkata

Infra East 2015 was a CII initiative to build strong infrastructure and improve connectivity in the East, open up the sector for private investments, and link the Northeast with the rest of the country.

Mr Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister of Mizoram, joined a number of senior Government officials and industry leaders in preparing a roadmap for the sector. Mr Debashish Sen, Urban Development Secretary, West Bengal, announced that the State will set up the Kolkata International Arbitration Centre to boost overseas investments. There was broad consensus that private participation would not only augment the efforts of the public sector, but will also bring in much-needed speed, a stronger delivery mechanism and top-class managerial expertise.

Among the other dignitaries who attended Infra East were Mr Alapan Bandyopadhyay, Transport Secretary, West Bengal; Mr Manish Jain, Deputy Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust; Mr Moyukh Bhaduri, CMD, HSCL, Mr Santosh Mahapatra, Director, Dhamra Port Co Ltd, and Director, Adani Group (Odisha Operation); and Mr Abhaya Krishna Agarwal, Partner & Leader (PPP Government & Transaction Advisory Services), E&Y India.

Corporate Governance & Business Ethics

6 February, Kolkata

The Union Government is preparing to release the notification for implementation of the proposed Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) soon, which will enable India to attract foreign capital and access global capital markets, said Mr Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Ind-AS adoption will bring India on a par with about 105 countries where International Financial Reporting Standards are mandatorily followed, he said. Mr Bhatia underscored the need for greater harmonization between different regulatory bodies, to build a more



Manoj Kumar, Chief Vigilance Officer, Coal India Ltd; **Viresh Oberoi**; **Amardeep Singh Bhatia**, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs; **Cristina Albertin**, Country Head, UN Office on Drugs and Crime, and **Dr PVS JM Rao**, Central Council Member, Institute of Cost Accountants of India, at the seminar on Corporate Governance, in Kolkata

transparent society, which, he said, will help “reduce the cost of raising capital.”

Mr Manoj Kumar, Chief Vigilance Officer, Coal India Ltd, said it is difficult to codify ethics, which is subjective.

Session with the Chief Minister of Jharkhand

7 February, Ranchi



Sunil Bhaskaran, VP-CS, Tata Steel Ltd; **Dr Saugat Mukherjee**, Regional Director, CII ER, **Rajiv Gauba**, Chief Secretary, Jharkhand, **Raghubar Das**, Chief Minister of Jharkhand, **T V Narendran**, Chairman, CII Jharkhand, and MD, Tata Steel Ltd; and **Himani Pande**, Secretary, Industry, Jharkhand, unveiling the Jharkhand Agenda for Development, in Ranchi

CII organized an Interactive Session with Mr Raghubar Das Chief Minister of Jharkhand, with the theme of ‘Evolving an Agenda for Trade and Industrial Growth in Jharkhand.’ The main objective was to apprise him of the challenges faced by Industry and identify policy interventions for industrial growth and sustainability. As a build-up to this, CII had organized a series of sector-specific brainstorming sessions involving local industry members and other associations in the State, focusing on sectors such as Mining, Auto and Auto Ancillaries, Power and Coal, Metal, MSMEs and some common issues.

Mr Rajiv Gauba, Chief Secretary, Jharkhand, said the single-window system for industries will be in place very soon.



At the Industry-Rural India Skill Connect in Ranchi: **Chaudhary Birender Singh**, Union Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water & Sanitation (left); **Rahul Sharma**, Secretary, Labour, Employment & Training, Jharkhand; **Tarun Daga**, Vice Chairman, CII Jharkhand, and MD, The Tinplate Company of India Ltd; **Sanjay Kumar**, Principal Secretary to the Jharkhand Chief Minister; **N N Sinha**, Principal Secretary, Rural Development, Jharkhand; **Nilkanth Singh Munda**, Minister of Rural Development, Jharkhand, and **Raghubar Das**, Chief Minister of Jharkhand

Agro Bihar 2015

11-14 February, Patna

About 115 companies – many of national and international repute – took part and over 30,000 footfalls were recorded in the 5th Agro Bihar organized by CII in association with the Department of Agriculture in Bihar. Spread over 25,000 sqm, the four-day fair on farm mechanization featured a Kisan Pathshala to educate farmers on post-harvest technology, latest irrigation technology, machinery and equipment, fertilizers, seeds, better use of agricultural land, complementary inputs, etc. Agro Bihar 2015 was inaugurated by Mr Jitan Ram Manjhi, the then Chief Minister of Bihar. Also present at the inauguration were Mr Narendra Singh, Minister of Agriculture, Bihar, and many senior Government officials. A Policy Roundtable on Agriculture and a Road Show on Farm Mechanization Policy were also held.



At Agro Bihar, in Patna

Rural-Industry Connect

17 February, Ranchi

In a bid to make Jharkhand the Skills Capital of India, the State Government has set a target of skilling 2.7 million people in five years, said Mr Raghubar Das, Chief Minister of Jharkhand, at the Roshini Certificate Distribution Ceremony of the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana organized by the Union Ministry of Rural Development, and the Jharkhand Rural Development Department, in association with CII.

Chaudhary Birender Singh, Union Minister of Rural

Development, Drinking Water, Sanitation and Panchayat, shared the Centre's plans to consider providing specialized skills to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) workers to not only help them transition from informal jobs to jobs in the organized sector but also improve the quality of their lives.

The audience included 215 young men and women from the extremist-affected districts of West Singhbhum, Palamau, Latehar, Chatra, Garhwa and Gumla districts in the State, who received certificates for successful training under Project Roshni. Most of them have been placed in companies like Big Bazaar, Avon, Café Coffee Day, Trident Inn, and Geeta Fashions amongst others, in jobs with minimum salaries of ₹ 6,000 per month. The 'Roshini' initiative is skilling 54,036 rural youth in 9 States, of whom 21,511 candidates are being trained in Jharkhand.

Mr Sudarshan Bhagat, Union Minister of State of Rural Development, also underscored the need for imparting top-notch training.

Interaction with Australian Trade Commissioner

19 February, Bhubaneswar

Mr Stuart Rees, the Australian Trade Commissioner to India, offered suggestions on how Australia can partner with CII in imparting world-class skills required for the mining sector in eastern India, in a lively and productive



Stuart Rees, Trade Commissioner, Austrade, and **Partha Sen**, Business Development Manager (East), Austrade, at an interaction in Bhubaneswar

interaction with CII Odisha members.

Energy Efficiency Conclave 2015

20-21 February, Raipur

The Energy Efficiency Conclave 2015 presented views and perspectives to prepare a road map for a strong and sustainable energy sector in Chhattisgarh. The two-day Conclave came alive with focused

discussions and presentations by ABB, Siemens, Rockwool, Grundfos, TMEIC, etc., on energy efficiency and conservation. An MoU was signed between the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) and the Chhattisgarh State Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA).

Activity Snapshot

6 February, Kolkata	Seminar on Emerging Trends in Corporate Governance and Business Ethics
23-25 February, Howrah	27 th Eastern Regional Work Skills Competition
West Bengal	
3-5 February, Haldia	Haldia Fair 2015
16 February, Kolkata	Developing Implementation Strategy on Vision Document on Education for West Bengal
17 February, Kolkata	Interaction with Chief Environment Officer
25 February, Durgapur	Awareness Seminar on Quality Management Standards/Quality Technology Tools

North East



Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State of Development of the North Eastern Region, Atomic Energy & Space; Prime Minister's Office; Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, at an interaction with Sumit Mazumder, President Designate, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Ltd, and Industry members, in New Delhi

Exploring Opportunities in the North Eastern Region

14 February, New Delhi

CII is working closely with the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region (DoNER) for catalyzing grass root level development in the region, which, as a result of the changing socio-economic profile, and the focused attention and enhanced allocations of the Government, is poised for growth and offers varied opportunities for business development in different sectors.

To better understand the priorities of the Central Government for the region, CII organized an Industry Interaction with Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State of Development of the North Eastern Region, Atomic Energy and Space; the Prime Minister's Office;

Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Industry leaders from sectors such as Infrastructure, Tourism, Skills and Education, Agriculture, and Energy joined the interaction.

Dr Singh said that the North Eastern region has great business potential and Government is actively working with stakeholders to promote economic activity in the region. Organic farming is one of the thrust areas, which, when combined with connectivity and infrastructure, can generate revenue for local farmers and entrepreneurs. He emphasized that regular interactions with Industry would help the Government develop plans for the region.

Mr R Vijaykumar, Secretary, DoNER, invited Industry participation in meat processing, floriculture and rubber.

North

Development of Chandigarh

2 February, Chandigarh

A CII delegation called upon Mr Vijay Kumar Dev, the newly-appointed Adviser to the Administrator, UT Chandigarh, to discuss the areas of cooperation between CII and the Administration for the city's growth and development.



Vikram Hans, MD, Multi Overseas India Pvt Ltd; **Vijay Kumar Dev**, Adviser to the Administrator, U T Chandigarh; and **Darpan Kapoor**, Chairman, CII Chandigarh, and Vice Chairman, Kapsons Group; at an interaction in Chandigarh

Conference on Smart Urbanization

5 February, Gurgaon



Neeraj Munjal, MD, Shivam Autotech Ltd; **Vikas Gupta**, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Gurgaon; **Gaurang Pandya**, MD, Carrier Air-conditioning and Refrigeration Ltd; and **Sameer Munjal**, Vice Chairman, CII Haryana, and MD, Satyam Auto Components Ltd releasing the CII- PwC report on Smart Urbanization, in Gurgaon

The Conference focused on key parameters like policy framework, governance model and Government – Industry engagement. Transportation, security and accessible healthcare facilities should be the priorities for smart urbanization. We need to benchmark cities to create competitiveness that would lead to the creation of smart cities, said Mr T L Satyaprakash, Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon.

Arogya Fairs



Vasundhara Raje, Chief Minister of Rajasthan

13 – 16 February, Jaipur
20-23 February, Panchkula

The National and State Arogya fairs, held in partnership with the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH), and the State Governments of Rajasthan and Haryana, respectively, promoted the latest developments in,

as also the efficacy and affordability of the AYUSH systems of medicine. The fairs also sought to integrate AYUSH into mainstream healthcare delivery to improve the overall healthcare scenario in India.

Students Placement Week

16 - 21 February, Dehradun



Students at the CII - Uttarakhand Technical University Placement Week in Dehradun

The initiative provided a platform to connect Industry and students in Uttarakhand. More than 500 students from 31 UTU affiliated colleges participated in the event, from the engineering, pharma and MBA streams.

Growth Drivers for J&K

17 February, Jammu



Khurshid Ahmed Ganai, Financial Commissioner, Industry & Commerce, J&K, addressing a session in Jammu

The session identified thrust areas and forward looking sectoral policies with suitable infrastructure for specific sectors like tourism, hydro energy, food processing and IT, especially for the benefit of MSMEs.

"The State Government is in the process of formulating a new industrial policy with a number of incentives for Small and Medium Enterprises," stated Mr Khurshid Ahmed Ganai, Financial Commissioner, Department of Industry & Commerce, J&K.

Interaction with Haryana Chief Minister

18 February, Chandigarh

A CII delegation met Mr Manohar L Khattar, Chief Minister of Haryana, for a special Industry interaction to discuss sector-specific issues. The Chief Minister gave



Manohar L Khattar, Chief Minister of Haryana, addressing Industry members in Chandigarh

his assurance that most issues raised by CII would be resolved. He also promised a revised and transparent Industrial policy and its effective implementation and monitoring for industrial growth and employment generation across the State.



Harish Rawat, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand

Meeting with Chief Minister of Uttarakhand

20 February, Dehradun

A CII delegation met Mr Harish Rawat, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, to discuss how investments can be attracted to the State. They also discussed areas where CII and the State Government can work together.

Meeting with Mr Arvind Kejriwal

21 February, New Delhi

A CII delegation called on Mr Arvind Kejriwal, Chief Minister of NCT of Delhi, to congratulate him on taking charge as the 8th Chief Minister of Delhi. Mr Arjun Wallia, Chairman, CII Delhi, and Group Founder and Chairman, The Walsons Group and Securitas India, and Dr Alka Kaul, Vice Chairperson, CII Delhi, and Director, Horizon Industrial Products P Ltd, assured Mr Kejriwal of CII's full support for the holistic development of Delhi, and briefed him on the work that CII is doing with the Delhi Government.



Arjun Wallia, Chairman, CII Delhi, and Group Founder & Chairman, The Walsons Group & Securitas India, **Arvind Kejriwal**, Chief Minister of NCT of Delhi, and **Dr Alka Kaul**, Vice Chairperson, CII Delhi, and Director, Horizon Industrial Products P Ltd, in New Delhi

Meeting with Mr Manish Sisodia

25 February, New Delhi

A CII Delhi delegation also called on Mr Manish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi. Mr Sisodia suggested that CII and the Delhi Government could work together in the areas of environment and education, which are two key areas for the growth of any nation.



Manish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of NCT of Delhi

International Conference on Zero Defect Manufacturing

27 February, New Delhi



Rattan Kapur, Chairman, CII Haryana, and CMD, Mark Exhaust Systems Ltd; **Dr Wilfried Aulbur**, Managing Partner, Roland Berger Strategy Consultants (P) Ltd; **Ajay Shankar**, Former Member Secretary, NMCC; and **Jayant Datar**, Co-Chairman, CII MSME Council, and Co-Chairman & MD, Sandhar Technologies Ltd; at the International Conference on Zero Defect Manufacturing, in New Delhi

The conference showcased technical advancements and next best practices towards manufacturing excellence to make Indian Industry stronger, cost effective, globally competitive and most importantly, a major manufacturing hub. Many global brands shared their advanced practices which have made them world leaders in productivity and innovation.

To overtake China as the manufacturing hub of the world, India needs to focus on skilling, design, quality and Zero Defect manufacturing. Our aim should be to increase the share of Manufacturing to around 28-30 % of GDP, declared Mr Ajay Shankar, Former Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC).

Session on 'Ease of Doing Business'

27 February, Lucknow



Session on the 'Ease of Doing Business' in Lucknow



Union Budget Viewing Session in Chandigarh

The session focused on the key parameters required for 'Doing Business in Uttar Pradesh' such as the ease of starting a new business, land acquisition, taxation, contract enforcement, dealing with permits, trading across borders, etc.

Live Union Budget Viewing Sessions 2015-16

28 February, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Lucknow, Jammu, Dehradun
Live Budget Viewing Sessions were organized for Members and the media, to discuss the impact of budget announcements on Industry and the Economy.

Activity Snapshot

6 February, Chandigarh	Meeting with Mr Anurag Aggarwal, Home Secretary, UT Chandigarh
21 February, Chandigarh	Meeting with Mr Vineet Garg, MD, HSIIDC
23 February, Chandigarh	IPR Meeting
24 February, Dehradun	Meeting with Ms Indra Hridayesh, Minister of Industries, Uttarakhand
17 February, Dehradun	Meeting with Dr K K Paul, Governor of Uttarakhand
20 February, Dehradun	Awareness Session on The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013
20 February, Lucknow	MSME Excellence Summit 2015
9 February, New Delhi	Interaction with Members of Parliament from Delhi
25 February, New Delhi	Meeting with Mr Satyendra Jain, Minister of Industry, Health & Power, NCT of Delhi
25 February, New Delhi	Workshop on Leadership and Workplace Dynamics-Transformation from Good to Great

South



Dr Naushad Forbes, Vice President, CII, and Director, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd, addressing the Regional Conclave on Management Education, in Chennai. Also seen (L-R): **J N Amrolia**, Chairman, IR Sub-Committee, CII (SR), and CEO, Chennai Business School, and **MM Murugappan**, Vice Chairman, Murugappa Group

Conclave on Management Education

11-12 February, Chennai

CII Southern Region organized the maiden edition of the Regional Conclave on Management Education with

the theme, Management Education for a VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous) World.

In his inaugural address, Dr Naushad Forbes, Vice President, CII, and Director, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd, advised B-schools to focus on education, be committed to excellence, and foster the ability to think. To the educators in the audience, Dr Forbes offered two suggestions: One, encourage project work in the classroom, and discuss cases from the real world. Cases can be developed on successful and challenging processes adopted in organizations, to create the ability to take what we read and relate it to what we see. Two, do research on the world-defining processes of Indian industry, and bottom-of-the-pyramid marketing.

Mr M M Murugappan, Vice Chairman, Murugappa Group, in his keynote address, gave instances of global business dynamics, ranging from oil prices to currency volatility. "What seems to happen in a smaller sphere of

operation may have its impact on a larger arena, and we have to adapt to this new reality. Management talent has, therefore, to be equipped with vision, understanding, clarity, and agility,” he emphasized.

Mr C R Swaminathan, Chairman, Education Sub-Committee, CII (SR), and Former Chief Executive, PSG Institutions, said management education for a VUCA world needs to create agile leaders, driven by values of integrity and responsibility, and decisive leaders who can modify their personal styles to the context and work with the bigger picture in mind.

The conclave had a dedicated session for students and young managers to share their perspectives.

Annual Meeting of CII Visakhapatnam

13 February, Visakhapatnam



Catherine Carlton, Mayor of Menlo Park, USA, addressing the session in Visakhapatnam. Also seen: **Sanjay Vijayakumar**, Chairman, Start-up Village, Kochi, and **Neeraj Sarda**, Vice Chairman, CII Visakhapatnam, and Director, Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd

CII Visakhapatnam organized its Annual Day with a session on ‘Entrepreneurship, Environment and Ethics & Values.’

Ms Catherine Carlton, Mayor of Menlo Park, USA, in her presentation on ‘Exploring Twin City Relationship between Visakhapatnam and Menlo Park,’ described the Menlo Park region as an ideal destination for investment.

Mr Neeraj Sarda, Director, Sarda Metals and Alloys Ltd, and Dr V Murali Krishna, MD, Mahatma Gandhi Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, took over as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the CII Visakhapatnam Zone for 2015-16.

Tamil Nadu MSME Summit

19 February, Chennai

The 3rd edition of the Tamil Nadu Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Summit had the theme, ‘Futuristic approach to enhance MSME Competitiveness.’

In his inaugural address, Mr. Kumar Jayant, Secretary, MSME, Tamil Nadu, emphasized the need for the sector to be more competitive to sustain growth.

Mr. S M Jamkhandi, Director, MSME Development Institute, Government of India, encouraged SME



S M Jamkhandi, Director, MSME Development Institute, Chennai; **Jayakumar Ramdass**, Convenor, CII-TN MSME Panel, and MD, Mahendra Submersible Pumps P Ltd; **Kumar Jayant**, Secretary, MSME, Tamil Nadu, and **S Sridharan**, MD, S-10 Technologies Ltd, at the Tamil Nadu MSME Summit in Chennai

entrepreneurs to venture into new markets.

27th Regional Work Skill Competition

23-25 February, Chennai

The 27th Regional Work Skill Competition covered trades such as Miller, Turner, Electrician, Fitter, Industrial Electronics, etc.

Mr C Samayamoorthy, Director, Department of Employment and Training, Tamil Nadu, inaugurated the Competition, while Mr G Nandakumar, Regional Director, Regional Directorate of Apprenticeship Training, Government of India, also participated in the inaugural session.

Quality Circle Competition

25 February, Kochi



QC competition winning team from Kancor Ingredients Ltd, Angamaly, in Kochi

Seventeen Quality Circles from CII member companies participated in the Kerala State-level Quality Circle Competition. The top three winning teams were from Kancor Ingredients Ltd, Angamaly, Apollo Tyres Ltd, Kalamassery, and Apollo Tyres Ltd, Perambra.

Union Budget Viewing Session

28 February, Chennai

Post the live Budget Viewing Session, Mr Navas Meeran, Chairman, CII Southern Region, and Chairman, Eastern Condiments Pvt Ltd termed the Union Budget 2015-16 as positive, reform-oriented and



Union Budget viewing session in Chennai

one that would encourage growth and investment. Mr T T Ashok, MD, Taylor Rubber Pvt Ltd, welcomed the initiative to set up a Micro Units Development Refinance Agency (MUDRA) for SC/ST entrepreneurs and the support for SMEs.

Mr ParasuRaman R, Chairman, Conserve Consultants Pvt Ltd, felt that long term educational investments and social security schemes will have a positive impact. Similar sessions on the Union Budget were held in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi and Vijayawada.

Activity Snapshot

Region	
2 February, Chennai & Madurai	CII-Bosch Skill Training Project, supported by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation
10-27 February, Chennai, Bengaluru, Mysore & Hyderabad	Continuing Health Education Programme
11,18 & 25 February, Live from Chennai	Online Sessions on 'New Companies Act 2013–Legal Requirements & Its Implications – with Special Reference to CSR'
17 February, Bengaluru	Training Programme on CSR Management
20 February, Chennai	Workshop on Coaching and Mentoring for Managers
Andhra Pradesh	
7 February, Vijayawada	Seminar on Finance Availability for MSMEs
7 February, Warangal	CSR Mission to Gangadevipalle, Warangal
11 February, Visakhapatnam	Workshop on Enhancing Employee Productivity
24 February, Vijayawada	CII Vijayawada Annual Day
Karnataka	
4 February, Bengaluru	Karnataka Annual Water Conference
14 February, Hubli	Hubli Members Meet
16 February, Bengaluru	Meeting with Mr Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister of Karnataka
26 February, Bengaluru	Learning Mission on Best Manufacturing Practices in Aerospace Sector
27 February, Mysore	CII Mysore Zone Annual Day
Kerala	
11 February, Kannur	Launch of FLAG 2015@ Kerala
19 February, Kochi	Session on 'Investing in Recovering India'
25 February, Kozhikode	Interactive Session with Mr Shyam Srinivasan, Chairman, CII Kerala, and MD & CEO, The Federal Bank Ltd
25 February, Kozhikode	Session on 'Dreaming to be Great' with Mr Sarathbabu Elumalai, Founder & CEO, Food King
Puducherry	
6-7 February, Puducherry	Workshop on 'Explore the Knowledge - Optimum Utilization of Advanced Microsoft Excel 2'
28 February, Puducherry	CII Puducherry Annual Meeting and Session on 'Innovation - Entrepreneurship - Employment Generation'

Tamil Nadu	
12 February, Salem	CII Salem District Annual Day
12 February, Erode	CII Erode Zone Annual Day
13 February, Chennai	CII Chennai Zone Annual Day
19 February, Chennai	Tamil Nadu MSME Summit
19 February, Karur	CII Karur District Annual Day
19 February, Trichy	CII Trichy Zone Annual Day
20 February, Dharmapuri	Session on Processing and Value Addition of Millets
20 February, Madurai	CII Madurai Zone Annual Day
20 February, Thoothukudi	CII Thoothukudi District Annual Day
26 February, Tirupur	CII Tirupur District Annual Day
Telangana	
13 February, Hyderabad	Interactive Session with Telangana State Pollution Control Board
22 February, Hyderabad	CII Telangana Corporate Cricket Cup – Finals

West



At the EdgeFarm Competition, in Mumbai

HR Case Study Writing Competition

27 February, Mumbai

CII Western Region organized a new and unique initiative for B School faculty - EdgeFarm, to nurture a culture of research and knowledge sharing in B schools, with huge implications for practical application in teaching.

A distinguished 7 member jury consisting of Mr M Damodaran, Former Chairman, SEBI, IDBI Bank and UTI; Mr K Ramkumar, Executive Director, ICICI Bank; Mr Thiruvengadam, Senior Director, Deloitte Consulting; Dr Asha Bhandarkar, Dean (International Relations) and Distinguished Professor, IMI Delhi; Mr Prabir Jha, President and Group Chief Human Resources Officer, Reliance Industries Ltd and Mr Prasad Sawant, Associate-Operations (Employee Surveys, Data Analysis and Research), Great Places to Work – selected the top three winners from among the top 8 top cases. A total of 22 cases were submitted by faculties from all across the country.

Mr Susanta Kumar Sarma, Assistant Professor, T A Pai

Management Institute, Manipal, emerged as the winner, while Dr Archana Shrivastava, Associate Professor, Balaji Institute of Modern Management, was the 1st Runner Up.

Goa Investment Summit - A Prelude

6 February, Goa



Mahadev N Naik, Minister of Industries, Goa; **Manohar Parrikar**, Union Minister of Defence; **Chetan Tamboli**, Chairman, CII (WR) Council, and MD & CEO, Steelcast Ltd, and **Sanjay Kirloskar**, Deputy Chairman, CII (WR) and CMD, Kirloskar Brothers Ltd, at the prelude to the Goa investment Summit in Goa

The Goa Investment Summit is expected to draw investors from across India and the world to announce their intent to invest in Goa. There was significant representation from the Government, including Mr Manohar Parrikar, Defence Minister of India, and the Chief Minister of Goa, and Industry leaders from Goa and Western India, at the event.

Business Leaders Roundtable

11 February, Mumbai

There was an engaging discussion between some of India's key business leaders and Mr Jacob Lew, Secretary, United States Department of Treasury, on the global and Indian economy and business climate, with a focus on policies to propel manufacturing, infrastructure,



Thomas Vajda, Consul General, US Consulate Mumbai; **Thomas Connors**, Deputy Director, US Federal Reserve; **Stanley Fischer**, Vice-Chairman, US Federal Reserve; **Nathan Sheets**, Under Secretary, US Department of the Treasury; **Adi Godrej**, Past President, CII, and Chairman, Godrej Industries; **Sanjay Nayar**, CEO, KKR India; **Swati Piramal**, Vice Chairperson, Piramal Group; **Anil Ambani**, Chairman, Reliance Group; **Secretary Jacob J. Lew**, US Department of the Treasury; **Rajiv Lall**, Chairman, IDFC; **Anand Mahindra**, Past President, CII, and CMD, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd; and **Richard Verma**, Ambassador of USA to India, at a Business Leaders Roundtable in Mumbai

and investment growth in both India and USA, at this exclusive a closed-door meeting chaired by Mr Anand Mahindra, Past President, CII, and CMD, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.

27th QC Regional Finals

11 February, Aurangabad



At the 27th QC Regional Finals in Aurangabad

The team from VE Commercial Vehicles Ltd, Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh, was awarded the first place at the 27th QC Regional Competition, which brought together QC winning teams from the Western Regional Level Competitions held in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

IWN Initiative - 100 Hours of Change

12 February, Mumbai



Students of D Y Patil University School of Management at an IWN programme in Mumbai

The 100 Hours of Change Indian Women Network (IWN) programme aimed to provide young aspiring female students the tools, direction and confidence needed to advance in their careers and impact their personal well-being. The mentors explained their own life stories and took up questions from the students on situations women face at various stages of life.

6th edition of TELETECH

19 February, Pune



Dr Milind Pande, Project Director, MIT School of Telecom Management; **Avinash Purandare**, MD, Kirloskar Systech Ltd; **P Balaji**, Director Regulatory & External Affairs, Vodafone India Ltd; and **Hemant Joshi**, Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells, at Teletech 2015 in Mumbai

The vision of Digital India is to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, empowering citizens and businesses through new age technology. The conference provided a glimpse into promising solutions and digital innovations that are powerful, pervasive and have multiple indirect impacts. Tele-commuting, tele-presence, tele-radiology, e-learning have the power to disrupt traditional models of business and, at the same time, create opportunities to innovate, and reduce the carbon footprint.

27th CII Regional Workskills Competition

23 – 25 February, Mumbai

The 27th CII Regional Workskills Competition, which is recognized by the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Union Ministry of Labour, was organized



At the 27th CII Regional Workskills Competition, in Mumbai to promote skill development, and encourage workers by recognizing excellence in skills through organized competition. The participants demonstrated their skills across 12 trades, and two categories.

2nd CII (WR) SME SUMMIT

25 February, Mumbai

With the theme of 'Making Indian MSMEs Globally



At the 2nd CII (WR) SME Summit in Mumbai

Competitive,' the 2nd CII (WR) SME Summit had discussions on key topics like Make in India with 'Zero Defect and Zero Effect', Growth opportunities for MSME, and New and Emerging Avenues of Financing for SMEs.



Industrial Site visit to the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Mumbai



At the Roadshow on Corporate Governance in Panjim



CII Awareness Session on Quality Management Standards and Quality Technology Tools in Surat



At 'CII Connect for Health' in Aurangabad



Study Mission to T&R and Swati Switch Gears, in Ahmedabad



Pune Annual Day & Panel Discussion



CII North Maharashtra Zonal Annual Day, in Nashik



Training Programme for Fresh Mechanical Engineers in Steam Engineering, in Pune

Activity Snapshot

Region	
16 February, Mumbai	Industrial Site Visit for WR EEF Members
18 February, Mumbai	Webinar on Eating Right
24 February, Mumbai	Industrial Site Visit for WR EEF Members
Goa	
16 February, Panjim, Goa	CII Roadshow on 'Corporate Governance- Ease of Doing Business in India'
Gujarat	
6-9 Februar, Dholavira, Kutch	Run the Rann
7 February, Ahmedabad	Study Mission to Transformers & Rectifiers Ltd and Swati Switchgears (I) Pvt. Ltd
9 February, Vadodara	Seminar-cum-Industry Interaction on Technology Transfer - Innovation is the Key to Change: Focus: Biotechnology & Life Science
11 February, Ahmedabad	Industry Interaction Meet on Development & Commercialization of Biotechnology-based Antibodies: Collaboration Opportunity with CCAB, Canada
12 February, Gandhinagar	IGBC Study Mission Tour
12 February, Ahmedabad	CII School Excellence Conclave: 'Attaining School Excellence through Teacher Empowerment'
13 February, Surat	CII Awareness Session on Quality Management Standards and Quality Technology Tools
15 February, Ahmedabad	100 Hours of Change Session – Indian Women's Network, Gujarat Chapter
20 February, Rajkot	CII Genius Talk Show on India@2022 – Challenges & Opportunities
21 February, Rajkot	Members' One Day Cricket Match
26 February, Anand	Seminar on Recent Innovations in Solar Energy (RISE 2015)
28 February, Rajkot	Union Budget Viewing Session
28 February, Ahmedabad	Union Budget Viewing Session & Post Budget Analysis
Madhya Pradesh	
13 February, Indore	CII Indian Women's Network Session on 'Overcoming Societal Barriers'
15 February, Indore	CII Indian Women's Network Session on 'Skill Building and Economic Independence'
16 February, Indore	CII Indian Women's Network Session on 'Women Entrepreneurship'
Maharashtra	
1 February, Aurangabad	CII Connect for Health- Devgiri Fort Run
4 February, Nashik	CII North Maharashtra Zonal Annual Day
13 February, Mumbai	Webinar on Leadership Styles & Tendencies
19 February, Kolhapur	CII Southern Maharashtra Annual Day
23 February, Nagpur	CII Vidarbha Annual Day & 1 st Meeting of Vidarbha Zonal Council
Pune	
6 February, Pune	CII Affirmative Action Initiative in association with Forbes Marshall – Training Programme for Fresh Mechanical Engineers in Steam Engineering
10 February, Pune	CII Affirmative Action Initiative in association with Forbes Marshall – Valedictory Session for the 10 th Batch of Instrumentation & Electronics Engineers in Control Instrumentation
12 February, Pune	CII Pune Annual Day & Panel Discussion on 'The Pune We Want'
25 February, Pune	CII Affirmative Action & CSR Panel's Waste to Resource Initiative - Follow-up Session on Composting
27 February, Pune	CII Affirmative Action Initiative in association with Forbes Marshall for Non-Engineering Graduates