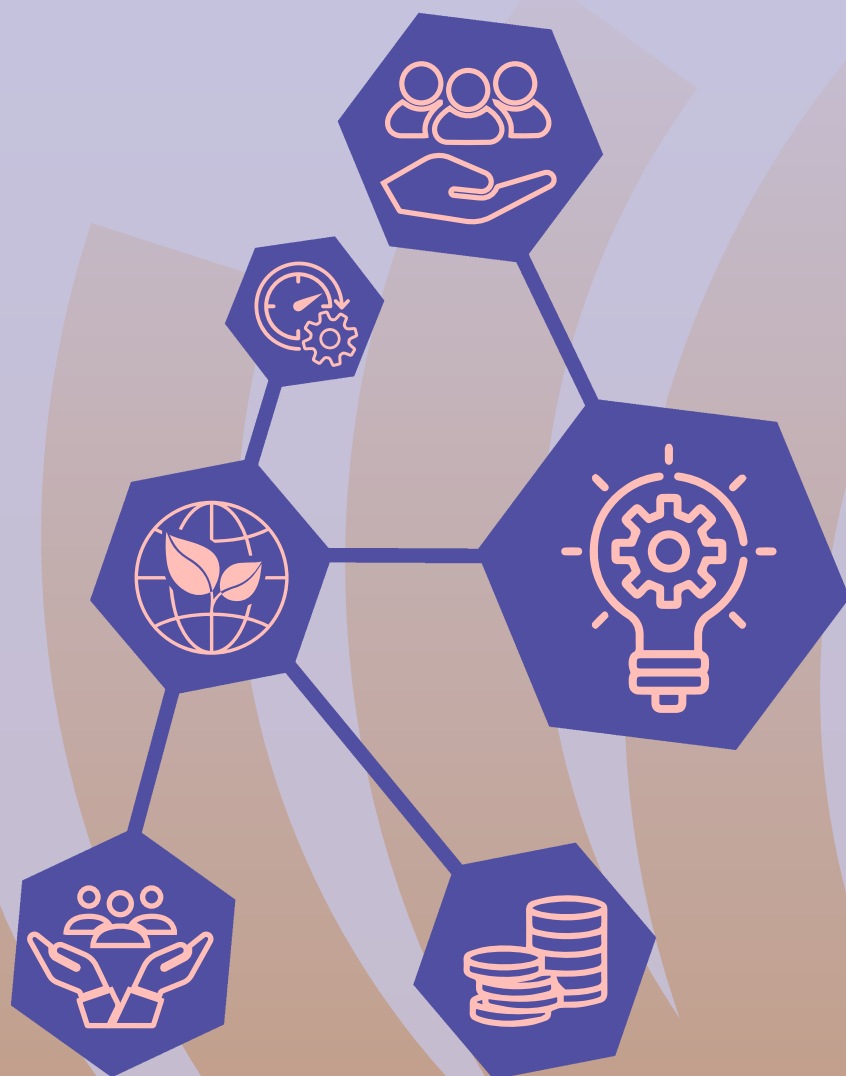


B20 SUMMIT INDIA 2023



Connecting World Business

Contents

Volume 45 No. 9 September 2023

COVER STORY

08 B20 Summit India 2023

The B20 Summit India 2023 held in August, saw one of the largest gathering of leaders from the national and global stages, who converged to share their perspectives covering a huge spectrum, spanning almost all facets of growth and development. Addressed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Summit underlined India's position as a leader on the global stage. The strong participation of international delegates clearly indicated the keen interest to partner in India's growth story. The cover story presents a detailed coverage of the Summit

FOCUS

03 Create in India for the World

MINDSPACE

23 India-LAC Partnership – for a Shared Future

27 India-Lac Partnership: Turning A New Leaf

SPOTLIGHT

29 India-Greece: Strengthening Bilateral Relations

31 Strengthening Global Partnerships for Sustainable, Equitable and Inclusive Development

PLUS...

IN THE NEWS

INDIA AND THE WORLD

SECTORScape

PORTFOLIO FOR EXCELLENCE

REGIONAL REVIEW

... AND MORE

We welcome your feedback and suggestions. Do write to us at sharmila.kantha@cii.in

Edited and published by Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, on behalf of Confederation of Indian Industry from The Mantosh Sondhi Centre, 23, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003, Tel: 91-11-24629994-7, Email: sharmila.kantha@cii.in, Website: www.cii.in

All stock photographs sourced from © shutterstock.com

JOURNAL OF THE CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY

Create in India for the World

The CII SummitFX - Global AVGC and Immersive Media Summit brought together stakeholders from the Government and Industry as well as internationally renowned experts who deliberated on issues pertaining to the sector, at a time when digital transformation, convergence of technology and Artificial Intelligence are changing the rules of the game



The Indian Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) Industry has experienced significant growth in recent years. It has emerged as a key player in the global market, with a strong talent pool and cost-effective production capabilities. The Indian AVGC Industry is estimated to be around USD 3.5 billion, with steady growth expected in the coming years.

In line with the Draft National AVGC Policy, which aims to boost India's domestic capacity and develop opportunities in the Industry, CII organized the 4th edition of Global AVGC and Immersive Media Summit – CII SummitFX from 8-9 August in New Delhi around the theme 'Create

in India for the World'. This flagship summit brought together AVGC stakeholders from the Government and Industry as well as internationally renowned experts. The speakers at the summit deliberated on issues related to the sector at a time when digital transformation, convergence of technology and Artificial Intelligence are changing the rules of the game.

Shri Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India said that the Government is considering raising the quantum of incentives offered under the Incentive Scheme for Audio-Visual Co-production and shooting of foreign films in India as part of its effort to strengthen the growth of



(L-R): Biren Ghose, Vice Chair, CII National Committee on Media & Entertainment and Country Head, Technicolor; Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India and Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India at the CII SummitFX in New Delhi

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Power packed sessions on animation, visual effects, gaming and comics
- Around 15 sessions
- 55+ eminent speakers from the Industry
- Attended by stakeholders including policy makers, Industry leaders, regulators and academia
- Industry presentations, case studies and technology showcase
- Over 350 delegates
- Networking events and B2B meetings

the AVGC sector and its ecosystem. Taking the audience through some key initiatives of the Government, he emphasized the importance of the AVGC sector having its own international festival in India, like the Annecy International Animation Film Festival, which will help to establish international relationships, showcase animation and VFX capabilities and open new doors of opportunities for Indian animators, studios and content creators.

Skill development in the AVGC sector can create massive employment opportunities. Enlightening the audience on this, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India said that the AVGC Task Force has made seminal contribution towards the sector, which will soon come to fruition. He added that the Government has made great inroads in terms of creating skilled talent in the sector with around 55 universities in India now offering courses in animation and 38 in VFX. The secretary said that India is focusing on developing future skills and AVGC is an integral part of this strategy.

The sector is experiencing several trends including emergence of Generative AI and is overcoming the dependence on TV commercials. Talking about the future growth prospects, Mr Biren Ghose, Chairman, CII National AVGC Committee, Vice Chairman, CII National Media & Entertainment Committee and Country Head, Technicolor India said that the AVGC sector has the potential to grow three times its current size in the next five years, even if it continues to grow at the current rate. The Government of India is keen to support growth, ease the process of funding and help in building the ecosystem, said Shri Prithul Kumar, Joint Secretary (Films) & MD, National Film Development Corporation

(NFDC). He highlighted the approach of the Ministry in providing incentives to the eligible beneficiaries by ensuring all the funds are not exhausted for production activities and a part is left for the post production phase. Incentives are being released to one player and 4-5 others are in the pipeline, he said.

During the session on 'National Center of Excellence (NCoE) – Turbo Charging the Sector', Shri Armstrong Pame, Director (Films), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India acknowledged the phenomenal role of private sector in bridging the skill gap and added that the Government intervention in the form NCoE is necessary to help the talent in tier II and tier III cities to find the opportunities.

Engagement of more students for recently introduced training and skilling program by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in the field of animation is necessary.

The two-day summit covered subjects and issues such as talent pipeline, policy regime, creative freedom as well as those which pertained to specific verticals within the AVGC sector such as films, animation, visual effects, AR/VR and XR.

As many as 55 speakers shared their views on emerging innovative technology, content creation, skilling, Government incentives for co-production and post-production and role of states for the growth of AVGC Industry. The summit focused upon the current scenario, challenges and the way forward for the AVGC Industry in India. Industry networking and business to business meetings also took place on the sidelines of the summit.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Emphasis should be on 'Make for India' first to cater the domestic audience
- Character, music and voice in animated feature must be world class for targeting large pool of audience worldwide
- The Government is actively working to establish the National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) in animation, visual effects and gaming soon
- Industry needs to work together to reduce the carbon footprint and increase the capacity simultaneously
- AI will make things faster, which will allow more time to spend in the creative process
- There is a paradigm shift from certificate courses to degree and diploma courses in Animation and VFX
- There is need for an International Festival of Animation in India on the lines of the Film Festival in Goa to boost the growth of the Industry in India
- National AVGC policy is ready for approval by the Government of India.

QUOTES



P Jayakumar, CEO, Toonz Media Group

The key aspects of making a high-quality animated film are strong story, well-developed characters, excellent voice, acting and incredible music.



The passion that I found in Indians when I first came down to work here was amazing. We in the west were jaded with the politics that went on in animation Industry. To witness the passion and motivation of Indian team members, we were rejuvenated and felt motivated.

Sean Mullen, Associate Global Head of Animation, Mikros Animation



houses.

R K Chand, Executive Director - Creative Production and Services, THE MILL



Co-production is great only when you have rights to IP, but even beyond that, there is a lot of sweat and work. The incentive from the Government will act as a breather for production houses.

With the Government's focus on VFX and animation sector, it is good not only for the sector but also for the country. The Government should also focus on the National Broadcast Infrastructure. Incentivizing co-productions would be a nice step as it helps in creation of an Indian IP. National broadcast infrastructure will be a great step ahead along with bringing out an OTT platform from Doordarshan.

Sriram Chandrasekhar
Founder & CEO, BROADVISION + STUDIO56



The requirement of computing would be much higher in the future. To reduce the carbon footprint, we put both the Graphics processing unit (GPU) and Central Processing Unit (CPU) together. With this the power consumption reduced but the capacity increased.

Ganesh Mahabala, Director - Strategic Business, HPC & AI, South Asia, NVIDIA



Anuj Kacker, CEO - Interim, Aptech Ltd

Students are apprehensive of taking up a certificate course but now we've diplomas and degree courses that they can pursue, which is a sign of moving in the right direction.



CBSE is offering several futuristic tech-based courses that students can take – media studies, animation, amongst others at the Grade 11 level. Mass sensitization is required to make AVGC a popular choice. With the National Education Policy 2020, we are discussing competency-based learning. But we need joyful learning along with this.

Biswajit Saha, Director (Trainings & Skill Education), CBSE



Srikant Sinha, CEO, Telangana Academy for Skill, and Knowledge (TASK)

We need to create programs according to the Industry's requirements and we have witnessed this change. If a child is willing to accept a career in gaming, he should be encouraged.

QUOTES



There is a lot that goes under the bigger umbrella of gaming, from tech to testing to training. We need to understand what the Industry means by skilling and what we mean by it.

Manvendra Shukul, CEO, Lakshya Digital



The process of content creation flows from top to bottom. If the creators at the top start thinking of creating a content that is at its core Indian, then we would not be relying on foreign IPs.

Virendra Patil, Creative Director, Zebu Animation Studios



India is so culturally rich that we can generate endless content and thus there is a huge scope for Indian IP. Being a content creator myself, I believe that we should first create content

for India and then look at creating content for projects outside India.

Charuvi Agrawal, Founder, Churavi Design Labs



We need to take our stories to foreign lands if we want to move ahead from the mediocrity that is forced upon us due to shoestring budgets. We can get better budgets only if we make

content for a wider audience.

Soumitra Ranade, Chairman, Creative Director, Paper Boat Design Studio



Creativity with the help of technology can create experiential content that you will retain forever.

Vineet Sabharwal, Co-founder & Director, Studio Trika



We're in the experiential economy and today everything is gamified. We have tried to bring VR along with a social element, something that has never been done before.

Parinitaa Rajgarhiaa, Founder & Managing Partner, Samrey Entertainments



The foundation of VFX and animation is the same, the only thing that changes in immersive content is vision. When you put the viewer in an immersive environment, it leaves an everlasting

impression on them.

Anirban Deep Dutta, Founder & Creative Director, Pixel & Ratio



The uniqueness of storytelling comes from the creators. The telling of a particular story is the most critical component and we want to retain the soul of storytelling throughout the production.

Vaibhav Kumaresh, Founder, Vaibhav Studios



Content finds its audience in all its spaces. Even though the audience matures, the nostalgia keeps bringing them back and consuming content.

Manoj Mishra, CEO, Powerkids Entertainment



We need to keep the target audience in mind and without that we cannot be in the right direction. Kids these days are waiting for new content, they are not keen on repeat telecasts.

Amit Gulati, Vice President, Viacom18



Confederation of Indian Industry

IREE 2023

15th INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION

Global Platform for Railway Technology & Services

12-14 October, 2023 | Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

www.ireeindia.com

Concurrent Shows



Metal@Railways



➤ An opportunity to be a part of largest ever **modernisation and expansion plans** of Indian railways

➤ Showcasing the latest **technological advancements, new products** and innovations

➤ Exhibitors and delegates from **across the globe**

➤ **Only show where maximum people from Indian Railway Present**

KEY FOCUS AREAS FOR INDIAN RAILWAY

Freight, Logistics & Disaster Management (NDRF co-ordination)

Technology & Training

Self-Propelled Passenger Train-Sets

Loco-Hauled Passenger Coaches

Environment, Housekeeping Energy, Heritage & Sustainable Development

Scan here to register



Event Sponsor



KNORR-BREMSE

For exhibition details, kindly contact : **Rajesh Wadhwa** | +91 99102 67148 | rajesh.wadhwa@cii.in



Communiqué

September 2023 | 7

B20 SUMMIT INDIA 2023

Connecting World Business

The B20 Summit India held from 25-27 August in New Delhi was addressed by some of the leading figures from the Government and businesses, from both the national and global stages. The cover story presents a detailed account of the proceedings

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Lays Down a Vision for Global Businesses

Speaking at the B20 Summit India 2023 in New Delhi on 27 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi opened his address with a mention of the celebratory moment that was ushered in by the successful Chandrayaan landing. Noting the role of ISRO, he also acknowledged the significant contribution of Industry in the mission as many components of Chandrayaan were provided by the private sector and MSMEs. "This is a success of both science and Industry," he said.

Speaking about the B20 theme 'R.A.I.S.E', the PM said that even though the 'I' represents innovation, he pictures another 'I' of inclusiveness. He informed that the same vision has been applied when inviting the African Union to permanent seat at the G20. He

1500+
Delegates

800+
Overseas Delegates

65+
Speakers

59
Countries

25+
Sessions



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee, Head, B20 India Secretariat and Director General, CII; R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd and N Chandrasekaran, Chair, B20 India and Chairman, Tata Sons, India welcoming Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India to the B20 Summit India 2023 in New Delhi

R.A.I.S.E.

Responsible Accelerated Innovative Sustainable Equitable



“

Business can transform potential into prosperity, obstacles into opportunities, aspirations into achievements.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

”

noted that the success of the decisions taken here will have a direct impact in dealing with global economic challenges and creating sustainable growth.

The PM noted the irreversible changes that have come about, from the shattering of the edifice of mutual trust to disruptions in global supply chains, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. India has stood with confidence and humility raising the banner of mutual trust, he said, adding that India had made medicines available to more than 150 countries, living up to its status as the pharmacy of the world. Questioning the efficiency of global supply chains, he underlined that India is the solution to the disruptions that the world is dealing with today.

The PM highlighted the contributions of global businesses, saying, “business can transform potential into prosperity, obstacles into opportunities, aspirations into achievements. Whether they are small or big, global or local, business can ensure progress for everyone.” Expressing happiness that B20 has emerged as a robust platform for businesses of G20 economies, PM Modi stressed the need to focus on sustainability. He asked global business to move forward as sustainability, in itself, is an opportunity as well as a business model business model. The PM said that society has now become conscious about health and that people presently evaluate the futuristic impact of any activity. He said businesses and society should have a similar approach towards the planet and analyse the impact of their decisions on the planet. He informed the gathering about India preparing a framework of green credit, which emphasises on planet positive actions. The PM urged global business to join hands to make it a global movement.

He underlined that a profitable market can be sustained when there is a balance in the interests of producers and

consumers, and it also applies to nations. He stressed that treating other countries only as a market will not work but harm even the producing countries sooner or later. Further, he urged business leaders to give thought to making businesses more consumer-centric where these consumers could be either individuals or countries. He said that their interests need to be taken care of and suggested coming up with an annual campaign for this. Shri Modi asked global business leaders to dedicate a day to talk about the interests of consumers and asked global business to think about an ‘International Consumer Care Day’, which will help in strengthening trust between businesses and consumers.

He underlined that issues like climate change, energy sector crisis, food supply chain imbalance, water security, cyber security, etc., have a big impact on businesses and stressed on increasing efforts to counter these challenges. He also touched upon challenges that did not exist 10-15 years ago, such as cryptocurrency and AI, and stressed the need for a more integrated approach for creating a global framework where issues of all stakeholders can be addressed.

Concluding the address, the PM said that businesses have successfully gone beyond borders and boundaries but it is now time to take businesses beyond the bottomline. He said that this can be carried out by focusing on supply chain resilience and sustainability.

Shri Modi expressed confidence that the B20 Summit has paved the way for a collective transformation. “Let us remember that a connected world is not about connection through technology. It is not only about shared social platforms but also about a shared purpose, shared planet, shared prosperity, and shared future,” the Prime Minister remarked.

LEADERS' SPEAK



Five key priorities critical to bring global economies to the path of sustained recovery are taming inflation, increasing the emphasis on investment, especially public investment in physical assets to spur growth, to augment investment in education and health, financing climate change and diversification of supply chains to fortify growth.

Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, Government of India



India was acutely conscious of the absence of voice of the Global South in G20, therefore Hon'ble Prime Minister decided to convene the Global South Summit to hear the voices, challenges and opportunities of 125 countries directly, and on their behalf, these have been made central to the G20 agenda.

Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India



I truly feel very redeemed when I see the enthusiasm that the B20 has been able to generate across continents, the high quality of dialogue and discussion, and the serious interest in the India story that we see around the world. It's a moment of pride for all of us.

Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India



The focus is to make India an R&D hub and not just a backend office for companies. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, several missions have been launched to strengthen research. A National Research Foundation is being established to facilitate research at academic institutions.

Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India



The recommendations made by the B20 will find a place in the Leaders' Declaration that will come out. India is holding the G20 Presidency at a time when the world is facing unprecedented challenges. But, every crisis is a huge opportunity and India's G20 Presidency is an opportunity to be inclusive, decisive and action-oriented.

Amitabh Kant, G20 India Sherpa



Multilateral Development Institutions (MDIs) play an important role in financing global challenges. If MDIs lend USD 120 billion, it's a significant contribution, but it's still not enough to meet the financing gap. To bridge this gap, countries need to explore innovative financing mechanisms.

N K Singh, Co-Convener, G20 Independent Expert Group (IEG) on Reforms in Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)



The Jan-Dhan Yojana, launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, is the world's largest financial inclusion programme. Through financial inclusion acceleration what India did in the last 9 years would have taken 47 years by traditional means, and with the use of technology we went from one of the least financially inclusive countries to among the most inclusive.

Nandan Nilekani, Chairman and Co-Founder, Infosys and Founding Chairman, UIDAI (Aadhaar)



India at present has a historically unique set of circumstances, combining a strong sense of political leadership and willpower with political and macroeconomic stability, improved ease of doing business, a youthful population, and unparalleled investment in physical and digital infrastructure.

Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary, DPIIT, Government of India



The B20 India is tabling very specific initiatives like the global SDG acceleration fund and one market for transition finance. These will create stronger growth that the world needs and also build a sustainable economy for a better future.

Mark Carney, UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance; Co-Chair, GFANZ and Chair & Head of Transition Investing, Brookfield Asset Management



Deployment and infusion of technology are the two most important inflections for the generative AI. This is a year that is historically important in the development of technology. Just as 2007 was the inflection point for the mobile era or the 1990s when the Internet exploded, this year is the inflection point for AI.

Brad Smith, President and Vice Chairman, Microsoft



The digital transformation had a remarkable impact on India by adopting technologies at a pace that has never been done thus delivering public services at a remarkable pace through digital IDs, payments, and creating secure digital.

N Chandrasekaran, Chair, B20 India and Chairman, Tata Sons



The key recommendations of the Action Council on ESG entailed establishing universally adaptable ESG standards and disclosures that are comprehensive, transparent, inclusive and equitable, across all geographies.

R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd



B20 has evolved and become a stronger voice of G20 with an extensive global representation, thus granting us the privilege of hearing some of the best minds across the globe.

Chandrajit Banerjee, Head, B20 India Secretariat and Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry

Key Priorities for Sustained Global Economic Recovery

Sustaining global economic recovery has emerged as a major challenge at a time when the world is passing through the aftermath of Covid-19 and its spill-over effects, food and energy security, and climate change. Besides, each country has a unique situation that needs specific handling to rebuild their economies. This was stated by Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, during the session on key priorities for Sustained Global Economic Recovery. Ms Sitharaman went on to highlight five key priorities that she felt were critical to bring global economies to the path of sustained recovery.

Among the first was taming inflation, wherein she stressed that the task before Central Banks was to keep in mind the primacy of growth while keeping inflation in check. The second priority was to increase the emphasis on investment, especially public investment in physical assets, to spur growth, while the third priority was to augment investment in education and health. She alluded to the issue of finance to tackle climate change



(L-R): N Chandrasekaran; Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, Government of India and R Dinesh

as the fourth priority, while the last one was related to diversification of supply chains to fortify growth.

On the India story, Ms Sitharaman stated that the country has emerged as the fastest-growing economy. It has performed impressively as investments have perked up and the first quarter GDP of the current fiscal is expected to show robust numbers. She also disclosed that the FTA agreement with the UK is very close for a final call and that it should be concluded by the year end.

Role of Global South in Emerging World 2.0



The endeavour now is to seek a re-globalization that is more diversified, democratic and one where there would be multiple centres of production, not just of consumption and that is where business can make a crucial difference.

B20 has risen to the occasion by prioritising inclusive growth, resilient supply chains, services trade, digital technologies, innovation and sustainability.

Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India

Speaking at the B20 India Summit, Dr S Jaishankar said that today's India is one where the world can simultaneously witness experimentation, scaling up, deployment, innovation and breakthroughs. The models in India have not only solved many of India's problems but have also provided replicable models for the rest of the South. He complimented the B20 for rising to the occasion by prioritising inclusive growth, resilient supply chains, services trade, innovation and technology and establishing itself as a credible partner of Governments that are working for the same goal. The Minister highlighted the significance of the Global South Summit, convened by the Prime Minister, to hear the voices, challenges and opportunities of 125 countries directly, making them central to the G20 agenda.

He stated that they would play an increasingly important role in the re-globalisation that is currently taking shape. The forthcoming G20 Summit will provide the inspiration and direction to all stakeholders to move in unison and build a better world. Progress and prosperity can only last when they are shared both within societies and between them.

India is for Open Government, Expanding International Trade



Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India with trade ministers from 14 countries at a Special Session

Through the G20 Presidency, we have expressed our collective future in business and trade, having agreed to map global value chains, enable active contribution of least developed countries, create large database for MSMEs and commit to digitalisation and paper free international trade, said Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India. He noted that India stands for open Government and expanding international trade.

Shri Goyal said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has articulated that the Global South should have a greater say in decision making and high policymaking bodies. He said that MSMEs contribute significantly to economic activities around the world, provide jobs to

millions and are truly the gems of most economies. "MSMEs, due to inability, small size, and lack of information are not able to encash several opportunities as we would like them to. We shall strengthen the databases that will help in greater participation of the MSMEs in international trade and economic activity," he said.

Shri Goyal highlighted that traditionally US and India used to have many disputes, however, more recently, the two countries have resolved 6 out of the 7 ongoing disputes bilaterally, in a first for WTO.

The Minister also said that UAE and India, in a historic milestone, had recently concluded their FTA in 88 days, fastest ever negotiated comprehensive economic partnership in the history of the world.

Government Focussed on Making India an R&D Hub

New technologies will be a harbinger of new order and India with its vast talent pool is at the forefront of this new order, said Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India at the session on "Aligning Education to Emerging Imperatives" at the B20 Summit India 2023.

Shri Pradhan emphasised that, India is witnessing a path breaking scenario in skilling and entrepreneurship. It is the third largest startup ecosystem in the world with 100 unicorns driven not only from metro cities but also from tier 2 and 3 cities.

Shri Pradhan also informed that the Government's key focus is to make India an R&D hub and not just a backend office for companies. By strengthening educational institutions, incubators and accelerators,



(L-R): Atul Keshap, Senior Vice President, US Chamber of Commerce and President, US-India Business Council, USA; Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, India and Chandrajit Banerjee

we are strengthening the research and innovation system.

B20 India Statement: A Transformative Strategy for Future Businesses



Chairs of B20 Task Forces and Action Councils with N Chandrasekaran and Chandrajit Banerjee

We, Business 20 (B20) India, representatives of Business Federations and companies of the Group of 20 countries put forth our Communique to Group of 20 on 27 August 2023

The G20 under India's Presidency worked with the theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future. Inspired by this all-encompassing principle of common good for all, B20 India adopted the theme: "R.A.I.S.E. - Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable, and Equitable Businesses".

Anchored in the foundational principles of R.A.I.S.E, B20 India's deliberations were guided by the broader vision of fostering a robust, resilient, and equitable global economy. We believe that this is a moment where the world must look towards the future while dealing comprehensively with the current global uncertainties.

The force of businesses must be strengthened through a conducive ecosystem, enabling businesses to contribute to the global good, leverage digital transformation, ensure productive human talent, and enhance sustainability actions. We call upon the G20 to collaborate and coordinate for devising novel solutions to global development issues through greater partnership with the private sector. Some innovative ideas that can be acted upon by the G20 include a Global SDG Acceleration Fund, widespread use of digital public goods for trade and social development, accelerating digital transformation and repurposing public finances towards clean energy investments with clear pathways for decarbonisation, among others.

We urge the G20 to recognize the critical role of the business community in shaping policies that drive

economic growth, foster innovation, and promote social and environmental responsibility. The B20 has long served as the voice of businesses within the G20 framework, and the work of our Task Forces and Action Councils is a testament to the power of collaboration and shared purpose.

Through the unwavering dedication and expertise of our Task Forces and Action Councils, we have delved into key areas that require urgent attention, aligning our efforts with the broader G20 agenda and taking the work of previous B20 years to a new trajectory. We constituted seven Task Forces and two Action Councils with around 1500 members from the business community, think tanks, academia, international organisations, and other stakeholders. These groups convened several times and contributed thoughts, ideas and insights to reach consensus on the policy actions that the G20 can take to best meet the objectives of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and prepare businesses for reshaping the future.



Responsible

- Creating a sustainable and responsible future involves embracing Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) processes in supply chains, implementing progressive approaches to promote their adoption, bolstering governance mechanisms, and nurturing business resilience and disaster management. These measures collectively foster a business environment

that prioritizes sustainability, resilience, and ethical leadership. Recognizing this, we have laid out recommendations for universally adaptable ESG standards and disclosures and clear ESG governance frameworks.



Accelerated

- We urge the G20 to work on sustainable finance standards and build the capacity of national financial sectors to ensure adequate financing for achieving SDGs. We also recognize the vital role of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises MSMEs in driving economic growth and job creation and recommend that governments create a credit enhancement fund for MSMEs and alternative financing mechanisms, supporting their access to markets and innovation
- We stress upon the necessity of making Global Value Chains (GVCs) more inclusive, resilient and sustainable to support robust global trade and investment. B20 urges the G20 to explore risk mitigation measures by implementation of tech-enabled mechanisms, proactive stress testing and easing procedures for green lanes for critical goods. Unlocking Trade 4.0 benefits by enabling digital trade and using technology to ensure resilient supply chains would boost GVC integration. G20 must ensure that services trade across borders is unleashed to its full potential by easing regulatory requirements. It is also important to enable conditions for enhanced participation of the Global South in trade by bridging the digital divide for least developed economies, MSMEs women and youth
- With financial inclusion as one of the catalysts for economic and social empowerment, we recommend greater private sector involvement supported by Digital Public Infrastructure, financial literacy and reducing the cost of borrowing for underserved society segments.



Innovative

- Recognizing the transformative potential of digital technologies, we recommend ways to harness digitalization for sustainable development, ensuring

digital inclusivity, privacy, and cybersecurity. We request the G20 to consider setting up a body for developing unified standards and metrics for digital literacy to facilitate the movement of talent across countries and create an inclusive and ready workforce for the future. Multilateral cooperation for harmonizing and advocating cybersecurity standards must also be promoted

- B20 India places emphasis on utilizing new age technologies and promoting sustainable practices. We call upon the G20 to promote technology, innovation and R&D through a digital platform, enabling global collaboration to tackle some of the most pressing challenges faced by businesses. A nurturing ecosystem for startups, responsible adoption of deep and emerging technologies and leveraging space technologies to address some of the world's gravest concerns of food and water crisis are among our key asks.



Sustainable

- In addressing the urgent climate crisis, B20 India advocates for global cooperation in accelerating net-zero transitions with emphasis on government-industry collaborations, particularly for mobilizing private sector investments
- We urge the G20 to set up a clear mandate for multilateral development banks (MDBs) to support energy transitions and advise reform of these institutions to maximize investments into developing countries, including through increased co-investments with the private sector. MDBs need to also re-orient existing platforms and institutions to accelerate funds for both mitigation and adaptation interventions, particularly for the Global South
- B20 India firmly believes that G20 countries should focus on achieving an inclusive and just transition, ensuring affordable energy access and nature-positive transitions through biodiversity conservation. Reinforcing similar recommendations from previous presidencies, it is essential that G20 countries adopt a balanced approach that considers the employment opportunities for all segments of society, provides opportunities for skill development and prioritizes public financing in initiatives that lead to energy security, access, and affordability for all. It should recognize the vulnerability of MSMEs to disruptions

during the energy transition and support them in building resilience. G20 countries should integrate ecosystem-based approaches (EbA) in national and sectoral adaptation plans and strategies to ensure that the targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are met.



Equitable

- With rapid technological transformations, it is becoming increasingly important to identify and classify the skills necessary for the future. We advocate developing a framework, using ontology, to identify the skills of the future and score skill proximities. Identification of skilling needs and pathways for building them will help create a future ready workforce
- Developing a Universal Labour Information Management System (ULIMS) based on existing national-level Labour Market Information Systems (LMIS) can help create a more seamless global labour market, benefitting workers, employers, and governments. The G20 must take a leadership role in developing a framework for data collection, sharing, and analysis, as well as exchanging best practices in data governance
- Considering the importance of Africa as a potentially large economy, we believe that its economic integration can be fostered through strengthening human capital, making agriculture more productive, enabling private sector investments and energy access, trade facilitation and physical and digital connectivity. We call upon the G20 to consider including the African Union as its member to ensure greater visibility to the continent's economic growth. Three transformational initiatives are proposed by B20 India to action on an ongoing basis for future readiness of business and for meeting pressing global challenges.



Global SDG Acceleration Fund (GSAF)

GSAF is recommended as a global multi-donor fund wherein the G20 and the next ten largest countries, by GDP, are proposed to pool in capital in GSAF, following

a formula based on their GDP and per capita GDP as a percentage of world per capita GDP. GSAF's objective would be to bring governments, private sector, and philanthropies together to bridge the SDG financing gap by leveraging credit enhancement tools and blended finance.

This would represent a groundbreaking initiative aimed at accelerating the achievement of the United Nations' SDGs on a global scale. As a vital mechanism to mobilise resources and align efforts, the GSAF is envisioned to finance SDGs as global public goods (initially geographically fungible) while simultaneously building the capacity of domestic financial sectors for effective SDG financing.

By creating a unified financial platform, the GSAF can leverage diverse funding sources to address the pressing challenges towards the achievement of the SDGs. The fund would aim to drive innovative, transformative, and scalable projects that have a significant impact on sustainable development.

GSAF would be a pure credit enhancement fund, housed at an existing Multilateral Development Bank (like the World Bank) to leverage existing capacities and deliver projects deploying more than USD 1.25 trillion across developed and developing countries.



Decarbonising the emerging G20 nations

While many actions will need to be taken by developing countries themselves, B20 India identified certain pathways that indicate many opportunities for advanced economies to deliver their commitment to help accelerate the decarbonization of developing countries. The five sectors identified will require an estimated USD 9-10 trillion in financing till 2050 from a range of sources if they are to decarbonize successfully.

Private capital from advanced economies can help support viable projects with specific solutions provided to cover systemic risks; less bankable projects can be supported by blended finance that catalyses private funding through interventions from multilateral development banks and development finance institutions. These include projects in areas like developing a supply chain for scrap-based steel, scaling public charging infrastructure for EVs, and building transmission and distribution infrastructure for power, etc.

Moreover, technology transfer, indigenization and capability building will be necessary for several advanced

technologies - for example, hydrogen-based steel-making, hydrogen-internal combustion engines (H2-ICE) and carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS). Lastly, trade will need to be encouraged to strengthen global raw material supply chains and to facilitate demand offtake.



B20 Global Institute

To address looming global challenges and chart a path towards a brighter economic future, focus is required in six key areas: building resilient global value chains, leveraging services in the global economy, harnessing digital technologies, promoting innovation and sustainable practices, prioritizing an ESG agenda, and fostering inclusion and integration of the marginalized economies, sections and businesses into the global economy.

While existing organizations have made significant contributions in these areas, there are gaps and opportunities that need to be addressed. B20 India proposes the establishment of a global institute to focus greater attention on emerging economies and offer tailored solutions to address emerging challenges globally.

This institute will also collaborate with existing think tanks and G20 legacy institutions and focus on four key areas: connecting decision-makers and stakeholders to provide a better representation of economies, conducting cutting-edge research to address capability

and knowledge gaps, bridging the gap between insight and implementation through policy advocacy and public-private partnerships with a particular emphasis on the Global South, and ensuring continuity in G20 and B20 initiatives by monitoring KPIs.



Compendium of Best Practices on Innovation Projects from India and other G20 Economies

The B20 Task Force on Technology, Innovation, and R&D, in its task of creating an environment that encourages the G20 nations and the world to pursue solutions that lie beyond the obvious, created a Compendium of Innovation Projects from India and other G20 nations. The Compendium is a compilation of more than 125 interesting technology projects deployed across G20 nations and is meant to serve as a knowledge resource for economies around the world.

Conclusion

Supported by the expertise and commitment of the Task Forces and Action Councils, B20 India has facilitated robust dialogues, cultivated strategic partnerships, and advocated for sustainable and equitable business practices. The collective efforts of the Task Forces and Action Councils have been instrumental in shaping the B20 India agenda, effectively representing the voices and perspectives of the business community, to drive meaningful change on a global scale.



B20, Be Prepared and Begin

Businesses must partner with Governments for sustainable growth and prosperity for all. We have an opportunity and an obligation to use our expertise, innovation, and resources to build a more robust and equitable global economy, says N Chandrasekaran



India's G20 presidency comes at a remarkable time, given the country's emergence as the world's fifth-largest economy and largest populated country. B20, the G20 engagement group relating to industry representation, defined the business voice over the course of the year's deliberations. B20 India prioritized inclusive growth, resilient global value chains (GVCs), services trade, digital technologies, innovation and sustainability, in not only the G20 countries but also across the world.

The business community must partner with governments, which is why B20 recommendations have become even more relevant. As business leaders, we must lead in driving sustainable growth and fostering inclusive development.

The central theme of B20 India, R.A.I.S.E – Responsible, Accelerated, Inclusive, Sustainable, and Equitable Business – provides the global business community with a platform to deliberate initiatives with long-term impact. Over the year, B20 India reached out to nearly 20,000 stakeholders in India and overseas through almost 100 policy initiatives to disseminate key messages.

It formed task forces that explored financing for economic recovery; inclusive GVCs for resilient global trade and investment; financial inclusion for economic recovery; digital transformation; tech, innovation and R&D; energy, climate change and resource efficiency; and future of work, skills and mobility. B20 India also

worked to build industry initiatives through two crucial action councils on ESG in business and African economic integration.

B20 Themes

Financing for economic recovery: For accelerated growth, an inclusive world economy must be build, and foundations must be strengthened for win-win outcomes. B20 India discussed robust measures for augmenting liquidity and access to funding, particularly for small businesses and the promotion of sustainable finance.

Inclusive GVCs for resilient global trade and investment: Growth also depends on driving greater inclusion in GVCs through resilient trade and investment models. Services trade entered the B20 dialogue vigorously this year, and we prioritized the imperative to enhance the use of technology in trade facilitation to lower costs and expand information.

The greater participation of least developed countries (LDCs), MSMEs, women and youth in GVCs must be fostered to make trade more inclusive. We suggested increased transparency, equitable policy cooperation at an international level, and the integration of SMEs to ensure diversified GVCs.

Last-mile financial inclusion to empower all sections of society: B20 India recommended measures to make financial services more accessible to underserved



communities and MSMEs, to promote digital financial literacy, and to leverage technology to provide affordable financial services. India's UPI platform drew high attention as it has created fintech opportunities for millions of users.

Digital transformation: This can flourish by strengthening international policies for data governance, promoting digital literacy and ensuring cybersecurity in an increasingly connected world. Regarding AI, B20 India called for establishing global standards and a regulatory framework that helps the private sector deploy AI to increase competitiveness and build a sustainable, inclusive future.

Tech, innovation and R&D: An innovative world economy needs to be built to generate new growth drivers. In the domain of tech, innovation, and R&D, B20 India calls for the nurturing a global culture of innovation, fostering international R&D collaborations, and formulating policies that fuel technological advancement.

Energy, climate change and resource efficiency: Sustainability must be at the core of our agenda. The world needs to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, invest in renewable energy, and adopt circular business models that reduce waste and conserve resources. B20 India advocate for transitioning to RE sources, commitment to carbon-neutral practices, and resource-use efficiency.

The Global South can participate further in decarbonization and climate change mitigation through adequate funding, while recognizing the countries' differential developmental status and ability to contribute. Again, India's achievements and progress offered a model for advanced and developing economies to consider.

As responsible businesses, our commitment to integrate ESG considerations into our work must be unwavering. B20 India explored steps to encourage companies to embed ESG into their corporate strategies and mechanisms for nations to strengthen and standardize ESG metrics.

Equitable growth and empowerment are the heart of B20's endeavours over the year. Participants explored how to work towards reducing inequalities and providing equal opportunities for all, particularly small businesses and women. We propose a set of lifelong learning initiatives, skill development programs and more flexible international policies that permit talent to move seamlessly across borders.

Geographically, a major opportunity for the world's businesses lies in the closer and deeper integration of the African economy into the global economy. A special action council proposed greater private sector participation in healthcare and education, infrastructure construction, digital connectivity and industrial development across the African continent.

The results of the B20 engagement reinforce the idea that we stand at the crossroads of a new era. The decisions we make, and the paths we choose, will determine the shape of the global economic landscape for years to come. B20 India worked to make sure we pursue a path of inclusivity, sustainability and prosperity for all.

(This article was contributed by Mr N Chandrasekaran, Chair, B20 India and Chairman, Tata Sons and was first published in the Economic Times on 26 August 2023.)

Business Action is Critical for the G20 to Meet Its Larger Objectives

The B20 task-forces focused on Industry priorities aligned with larger G20 issues. The B20 platform converged on 54 recommendations and 172 policy actions for G20 consideration. It is immensely gratifying to note the close synergy between B20 India proposals and the New Delhi declaration, says Chandrajit Banerjee



India's G20 presidency came at a time when the world economy was beset with new challenges in meeting the sustainable development goals. The G20 Leaders' Declaration under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's astute navigation represents momentous progress, with the Indian presidency setting new benchmarks for global collaboration under the G20 India theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. It was under the same theme that the Business 20 (B20) engagement group of the G20, representing global businesses, developed a wide range of recommendations to the G20 over the year. Hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the B20 platform brought together about 1,500 members from G20 and invitee countries, and numerous other stakeholders from across the globe. The sub-theme of RAISE – Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable and Equitable Businesses – articulates the current and future priorities identified in B20 deliberations.

The B20 task-forces focused on industry priorities aligned with larger G20 issues. In all, the B20 platform converged on 54 recommendations and 172 policy actions for G20 consideration. It is immensely gratifying to note the close synergy between B20 India proposals and the New Delhi declaration.

One, for financing a global economic recovery, B20 has called for improving MSME access to finance and ensuring funds for sustainable and resilient infrastructure through alternative financing instruments, blended finance and the use of technology and digital platforms. The G20 trade ministers proposed strengthening of an MSME information portal.

Two, on building resilient and inclusive global value chains, the forum asked for crisis mitigation and tech-enabled mechanisms for early risk detection. Services trade was forcefully taken up with recommendations related to superior data and better definitions and transparency in compliance information and procedures. Trade facilitation through technology at scale across borders can help enhance efficiency. All of these were well covered under the trade ministers' outcome document, while the G20 declaration highlighted the need to create inclusive, sustainable and resilient global value chains as well as to promote ease of doing business.

Three, the priority of financial inclusion was emphasized through ecosystem enablers, financial products, and legal and regulatory measures. Digital public infrastructure (DPI) can allow unique single-number digital identification of MSMEs and individuals that is recognized across countries, and help promote financial



inclusion. DPI was a key item in the G20 document, with the Indian experience as a model.

Four, the G20 can work on developing skills related to environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation, as well as needs of the care economy. Facilitating global workforce mobility necessitates the removal of policy hindrances and use of technology to enable cross-border labour movement. This was reflected in the leaders' declaration on well-managed skills-based migration pathways and mapping of global skill gaps.

Five, the energy, climate change and resource efficiency forum focused on driving the achievement of net-zero emissions across various industries and suggested industry-specific alliances. The G20 placed great emphasis on expanding the capacity of multilateral development banks to support energy transitions where concessional finance to emerging economies could work well. The document's focus on adaptability and resilience resonated with B20 perspectives on climate change, and differentiated country actions were strongly taken up.

Six, the group accorded high priority to digital transformations, entailing moves to ensure high-quality, high speed and reliable access to the internet. Developing global minimum standards for digital literacy would enable international portability, while an internationally accepted digital toolkit and framework can support MSMEs in their digital transformation. Nations must also work together to promote digital trust by developing harmonized cybersecurity standards and frameworks.

Seven, on tech, innovation and R&D, creating a rich repository of projects can help G20 countries learn, adopt, scale up and collaborate. The G20 could consider a common patent protection mechanism and also set up a centralized patent management mechanism with one application across all G20 countries. A G20 technology collaboration platform could be instituted to enable tech and R&D transfers across industry, institutes, startups and civil society.

Eight, with ESG as an important future imperative, the B20 recommended a standard set of definitions/taxonomies to ensure harmonized and transparent ESG frameworks for disclosures, reporting and rating.

Nine, it was greatly heartening that India championed the inclusion of the African Union (AU), ensuring that it became a member of the G20. The B20 recommendations also covered support to education, agricultural transformation, industrialization and trade facilitation and infrastructure development. With the participation of the AU in G20 deliberations from now onwards, these causes would receive a huge impetus.

Apart from inputs for the G20 to consider, B20 India brought forth key business actions to enhance the contribution of industry to global growth.

First, B20 India has proposed a global institute to track recommendations and follow through on their implementation, which would provide continuity across B20 presidencies.

Second, B20 India aims to align sector-specific decarbonization pathways for key sectors.

Third, B20 India recommends the establishment of a Global SDG Acceleration Fund that will draw in private capital for projects towards achieving 2030 goals. This is proposed as a pure credit enhancement fund to help bridge the financing gap across developed and developing economies.

Fourth, the forum compiled a compendium of best practices on innovation use cases to kick off an ongoing portal of technology use for development.

The G20 leaders' declaration has much to offer businesses, particularly in the Global South, and the B20 will continue to work with the G20 on shaping effective policies for inclusive development.

(This article was contributed by Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII and was first published in livemint, on 11 September 2023)

KEY TAKEAWAYS OF B20 INDIA

- Global SDG Acceleration Fund:** B20 India recommended creating a Global SDG Acceleration Fund that will draw in private capital to augment public resources and accelerate projects to help achieve SDG 2030 targets. This is proposed as a pure credit enhancement fund which will help bridge the SDG financing gap across developed and developing economies
- Financing Decarbonisation:** B20 India aimed to fast-track financial support for decarbonisation in the Global South. Building upon B20 Indonesia's programmes, this initiative aligns sectoral decarbonisation pathways and establishes mechanisms for financing, technology support and knowledge transfer to encourage emissions abatement regulations
- Compendium of Best Practices on Innovation Projects:** With the aim of fostering an environment that stimulates G20 economies and the global community to seek unconventional solutions, B20 India has developed an Innovation Projects Compendium featuring over 125 technology driven initiatives from India and other G20 member economies. Its purpose is to function as a valuable knowledge repository for economies across the globe
- B20 Global Institute:** The B20 Global Institute will pursue recommendations coming from the B20 Summit India; provide ongoing thought leadership on focus areas such as global value chains, digital technologies, sustainability and inclusion; and provide continuity through successive G20 presidencies. Led and driven by business, and focused on issues key to global business, the Institute will plug a crucial gap in the global institutional architecture.

Special Moments



India hands over B20 Presidency to Brazil



(L-R): N Chandrasekaran; Rafael Lucchesi, Director of Education and Technology, Communication, Institutional Relations and Technology and Innovation, SENAI; Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary, DPIIT, Government of India; Chandrajit Banerjee

India – LAC Partnership – for a Shared Future



The 9th CII India-LAC Conclave set the stage for deeper strategic, economic and business partnerships between two regions that are natural partners in progress



Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India with senior leaders from Latin America and Caribbean countries at the 9th CII India-LAC Conclave in New Delhi

The India – Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) economic and strategic partnership, emblematic of deep South-South cooperation in a rebalancing world, demonstrates the growing complementarity of two key regions that until recent times, were largely distant from each other owing to the expansive geographical divide. Technology is bringing together regions and countries that are geographically far apart and this is particularly evident in the instance of India-LAC relations.

The 9th CII India-LAC Conclave organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi on 3-5 August, in association with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce & Industry brought forth the new dynamics that determine the changing contours of India-LAC strategic, economic and business partnerships.

The conclave drew the participation of 350+ delegates from 26 LAC countries and 10 non-LAC countries, as well as 600 delegates from India. It underlined the critical role of private enterprises in forging long-term cross-border partnerships. That was evidenced by the 500+ formal B2B meetings conducted at the venue.

New Ambitions

Sharing his vision for a wide-ranging India-LAC partnership, Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India said that the India-LAC bilateral trade volume that reached ~USD 50 billion in 2022-23 could be doubled to USD 100 billion by 2028. He highlighted four key pillars of cooperation between the two regions including supply chain diversification; resource partnerships; sharing of developmental experiences and addressing global challenges.

Referring to Indian companies' active operations in the LAC region, Dr Jaishankar said their presence is most notable in sectors like agriculture, energy including renewables, information technology, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and automobiles. India's cumulative investment in the LAC regions is ~USD 15 billion.

Making a specific reference to agriculture and food security, Dr Jaishankar said that India's sustainable farming techniques complement LAC's availability of arable landmass, thereby ensuring productive, efficient and sustainable agriculture using digitisation and water conservation technologies.



Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India and with senior leaders from Latin America and Caribbean countries

In a similar vein, Mr R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd called for deep India-LAC cooperation in areas, such as, resource sharing for sustainability, transfer of technology and R&D to reinforce food security in the two regions. He also argued for interventions at the country level to promote integration with global value chains in sectors like horticulture, Mutual Recognition Agreements for pharmaceuticals, a bilateral infrastructure dialogue, digitalisation and innovation that deliver best cost solutions, and more cultural interaction between Indian and LAC societies.

Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII highlighted the high level of participation from across the LAC region and India as the barometer for diverse India-LAC cooperation endeavour.

India-LAC bilateral trade growth is pivotal to the expansion of the bilateral economic and business partnerships. Addressing this dimension in the Special Ministerial Session on Trade that had the participation of trade ministers from several LAC countries, Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India said that India and the LAC region need to collaborate more closely and reinforce trust in each other, as well as share developmental experiences. Shri Goyal called for drawing up a roadmap for increasing trade flows between the two regions by assessing the comparative and competitive strengths of each country; leveraging the bilateral partnership for greater investment flows and supply chain integration; deeper cooperation to realise the potentials in tourism and hospitality in both regions; and collaborations in healthcare to take affordable solutions across the world.

Trade facilitation measures are key to expanded bilateral trade flows. A session on trade facilitation drove home the imperative of facilitating tech-based bilateral trade and investment to further the development and prosperity of people living in both the regions. The discussants called for interoperability between single window systems in India and LAC countries to facilitate real-time exchange of information in trade transactions. One way, the speakers discussed, would be to encourage the adoption of innovative technologies like blockchain to improve transparency, traceability, and efficiency in trade processes.

The conclave was set in the context of deeper South-South cooperation. A focused session on this theme brought forth the imperative for building robust intra-Global South cooperation in sectors like renewable energy, biotechnology, agriculture, and tourism and investments in areas like digital innovation, artificial intelligence, supply of critical minerals, among others.

Sectoral Engagements

The conclave featured sectoral sessions covering healthcare & pharmaceuticals, electrical & automotives, IT & electronics, infrastructure & energy, agriculture & food processing, security & defence industries, and chemical value chains.

The session on pharmaceuticals and healthcare threw light on the imperative for increasing cross-flow of FDI in the pharmaceutical sector, particularly in R&D for pharmaceuticals and medical devices, and enhancing medical tourism and healthcare delivery models. The session on electricals and automotive sectors directed attention on engaging the private sector in establishing ethanol manufacturing plants in India in collaboration with entities in the LAC region. The discussants also



Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India with Narayan Sethuram, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on EXIM and Managing Director, Sanmar Matrix Metals Ltd and Julio Cesar Lestido, President, Chamber of Commerce and Services of Uruguay (CCSUY) and Alberto A. Guani, Ambassador of Uruguay to India at the MoU exchange between CII and CCSUY

spoke about flexi-fuel as an alternative green fuel, an aspect where Indian businesses could benefit from the LAC countries' expertise. Both regions could also step-up joint efforts for sustainable manufacturing of lithium batteries and disposing them.

In the session on IT & Electronics, experts advocated deeper India-LAC partnerships to promote digital transformation and technology-driven advancements. They suggested to leverage bilingual language skills, cost-effectiveness, and time zone advantages for software and tech service delivery from LAC countries. They also recommended to develop regional data centres and a cloud environment to enhance resilience and service offerings.

Underlining the critical importance of sustainable practices, discussants in the session on energy & infrastructure said that Earth's abundant resources, such as minerals, land, and renewable energy, are to be used as a foundation for holistic development, moving away from carbon-intensive practices and supporting a sustainable growth path.

In the session on agriculture & food processing, the experts called for building cross-border partnerships to improve warehouse infrastructure, supply chain management, techniques for farming, harvesting, and post-harvest processing.

In the realm of defence & security, the discussants touched upon aspects, such as, policy initiatives

to boost defence exports and self-reliant manufacturing, engagement of MSMEs in defence production, development of defence industrial corridors, etc.

The conclave also featured focused sessions on cooperation in sustainable chemicals and India's bilateral engagements with regional groupings including SICA and CARICOM, and countries like Guyana and Venezuela.

At the valedictory session, Ms Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India called for unified voice of the Global South in the current multipolar world in regard to climate change mitigation, dismantling of trade barriers, among others. She said that the 9th CII India-LAC Conclave needs to be viewed as a call to action to bring alive more engagements between the two regions.

Glimpses



QUOTES



Our business creativity, the demand in each economy, especially the growing middle-class demand, and the competitive capabilities that we both have can truly create great synergies.

Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India



If India prospers, India wants everybody else to prosper because that is the principle we live by. 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' not just a sentence. It is the very basis of our cultural existence.

Meenakashi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India



Venezuela has been suffering from sanctions for a long period of time and it is time for them to be lifted. Special emphasis should also be laid on conducting trade in local currency to enhance monetary synergies.

Dr Delcy Eloina Rodríguez Gómez, Executive Vice President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Minister (E) of People's Power for Economy, Finance and Foreign Trade



There is an opportunity to create significant financial linkages between India and the LAC region for interoperability of digital platforms as well as to leverage digital innovations for the benefit of both markets.

R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd



Nuevo Loen is the best place to invest. As an example, three big Indian technological companies TATA, Infosys and HCL are investing in Nuevo Leon. I want to invite investors to visit us and I'm sure you will invest very soon and multiply your money.

Samuel Alejandro García Sepúlveda, Governor of Nuevo Leon State, Government of Mexico



The Latin American and Caribbean countries working together with India can become a force multiplier, a force for global good.

Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry; Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Government of India



There is huge importance of India in the global value chain, which is diversifying. Therefore, we are looking at the LAC region in terms of the FTA model that we can adopt.

Sunil Barthwal, Secretary – Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India



It is of utmost importance that in these times of geopolitical tensions, both India and the LAC region must focus on ensuring food and energy security. Guyana is especially looking towards India to seek supervision in developing healthcare, IT and security systems.

Dr Frank Christopher Stanislaus Anthony, Minister of Health of the Cooperative, Republic of Guyana



I am pleased to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to advancing sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. We recognise the immense potential inherent in the region's strategic location and the array of free trade agreements it boasts.

Antonio Morales, Principal Executive, Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean



Indian Industry is exploring how India and LAC businesses can come together to reshape the global value chains through greater bilateral trade and investment flows.

Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII

India-LAC Partnership: Turning a New Leaf



This dynamic partnership between India and the LAC region has now become a significant strategic force on the global stage. Their shared economic interests and collaborative initiatives have paved the way for a comprehensive alliance, says Jai Shroff

The relationship between India and Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) region has evolved into a multifaceted partnership that encompasses trade, investments, industry collaborations and culture, all rooted in their shared historical experiences and aspirations. Despite the geographical distance, these two regions have forged a strong partnership driven by mutual economic interests and a commitment to multipolarity and inclusive growth. This has led to a surge in India-LAC bilateral collaborative efforts, particularly in sectors such as agriculture & food processing, mining & minerals, IT, healthcare & pharmaceuticals and automobiles.

This dynamic partnership between India and the LAC region has now become a significant strategic force on the global stage. Their shared economic interests and collaborative initiatives have paved the way for a comprehensive alliance with a focus on four key areas of cooperation: diversification of supply chains; resource partnerships; exchange of developmental experiences; and joint efforts to address global challenges.

CII India-LAC Conclave: A Platform for Shared Growth

A remarkable manifestation of this alliance was witnessed during the 9th CII India-LAC Conclave in New Delhi, organized by CII, in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce & Industry of India.

The conclave's inaugural session, titled 'Furthering Economic Partnerships for Shared & Sustained Growth', resonated with the vision of amplifying India-LAC bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Dr S Jaishankar,

Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, illuminated the trajectory of India-LAC bilateral trade, underscoring its growth potential. He set an ambitious target to elevate the bilateral trade volume from nearly USD 50 billion achieved in 2022-23 to USD 100 billion by 2028. Four pivotal pillars of collaboration were brought to the forefront: diversifying supply chains; forging resource alliances; exchanging developmental insights; and jointly confronting global predicaments.

The LAC region has been a pivotal arena for Indian enterprises, particularly in sectors like agriculture, renewable energy, IT, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and automobiles. Indian companies have made an estimated cumulative investment of about USD 15 billion in the LAC region, which is expected to increase significantly in the wake of expanded India-LAC ties.

Deliberations in the Special Ministerial Session on India-LAC Trade delved into the intricate fabric of enhanced trade facilitation as a catalyst for exponential growth in bilateral trade flows. Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India, passionately advocated for deeper collaboration, reinforced trust, and shared developmental experiences between India and the LAC region. He espoused the need to construct a strategic roadmap, grounded in an understanding of each nation's comparative strengths, fostering investment flows and synergising supply chains. Additionally, he emphasised upon the need for greater collaborations in tourism and healthcare.

The Minister underscored the significance of setting realistic targets, tailored to the nuanced understanding



of each region's capabilities. He impelled both sides to work toward Mutual Recognition Agreements in the pharma sector and streamline associated regulatory practices.

Trade Facilitation & South-South Cooperation

A pivotal theme resonating through the conclave was the necessity of tech-driven bilateral trade and investment for holistic development. To reach the USD 100 billion bilateral trade aspiration by 2028, addressing non-tariff barriers and harnessing digital platforms for seamless trade emerged as imperatives. These tenets highlighted the overarching objective of mutual prosperity.

In the spirit of South-South Cooperation, a dedicated session emphasised the significance of balanced partnerships for sustainable growth. Collaboration across diverse domains including renewable energy, biotechnology, agriculture, and tourism emerged as key pathways to boost bilateral trade and investment flows. The discussants called for intensified trade and investment activities within the Global South, particularly in areas of innovation and green mobility solutions.

Exploring Multidimensional Collaborations

The conclave reverberated with focused sectoral sessions that delved into the intricacies of healthcare, electrical & automotive, IT & electronics, infrastructure & energy, agriculture & food processing, security & defence, and chemical value chains. The deliberations facilitated a deeper understanding of collaborative potential in each domain.

Additionally, dedicated discussions explored India's engagement with SICA and CARICOM groupings, along with insightful Country Sessions on Guyana and Venezuela, unveiling latent opportunities for engagement.

Fostering Unified Action

The conclave culminated in a poignant valedictory session, where Ms Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India underscored the paramount importance of unified action in the global arena. She articulated the need for a harmonized voice from India and the LAC countries, united in navigating complex challenges, from climate change mitigation to trade barriers dismantling.

Ms Lekhi accentuated the conclave's role as a clarion call to action for nurturing deeper engagements between the two regions. She highlighted the regions' synchronized endeavours as exemplary of South-South Cooperation, a narrative grounded in recognition of their inherent synergies. In this ever-evolving landscape of global dynamics, the 9th CII India-LAC Conclave stood as a testament to the evolving India-LAC partnership. From bilateral trade aspirations to targeted sectoral collaborations and overarching South-South Cooperation, the Conclave painted a vivid picture of the potential for growth and transformation. As digital connectivity paves the way, India and the LAC region are poised to write the next chapter of their dynamic alliance, enriching the tapestry of global economic partnerships.

(This article was contributed by Mr Jai Shroff, Chairman, CII LAC Committee and Chairman & Group CEO, UPL)

India – Greece: Strengthening Bilateral Relations

CII led a business delegation to Greece, coinciding with the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Athens. This story presents excerpts from the discussions

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Athens, Greece on 25 August, at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Greece, HE Kyriakos Mitsotakis. The two leaders acknowledged that both Indian and Greece shared historical ties and that there was a need to enthuse new energy into the relationship, given the rapidly changing international world order.

Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Mitsotakis held wide ranging talks on bilateral, regional, and international issues of interest and agreed to step up bilateral engagement across diverse sectors including defence, shipping, science and technology, cyber space, education, culture, tourism and agriculture.

CII coordinated a meeting of Industry leaders from India to Greece who participated in the Greece- India Business Leaders' Meeting and business interactions. The event saw the participation of leading CEOs from India and Greece, representing diverse sectors including infrastructure, engineering, textiles, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and food processing, energy, shipping, among others. Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and India's National Security Advisor Shri Ajit Doval were also present during the business interaction.

The Prime Minister of Greece during the business interaction emphasized the strategic position of Greece as a Gateway to Europe for Indian businesses and invited Indian investments into Greece.

During the luncheon interaction, Prime Minister Modi highlighted India's progress across sectors such as renewables, startups, IT, digital payments, infrastructure, and others, and also underlined the several initiatives undertaken by the Indian Government to encourage



Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, amongst other delegates during the visit to Athens, Greece

businesses. PM Modi emphasized the important role played by the Indian Industry and businesses in strengthening India's bilateral partnerships and promoting economic cooperation between the two sides.

With a facilitative and conducive business environment and a progressive FDI policy, India today has become one of the most preferred investment destinations globally. During his remarks, the Indian Prime Minister mentioned India's digitization efforts and continued focus on Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) reforms and the high potential of sectors such as defence, which have now been opened up for foreign investments. He also emphasized the strong potential for collaboration in areas such as co-development and co-production.

Urging the business leaders to take advantage of the positive momentum in the bilateral relations between the two sides, PM Modi also encouraged the business leaders to leverage the many trade and investment opportunities in India and be a part of India's growth story.

Business Roundtable Discussions - Highlights

Key Takeaways

- The Indian economy is the fastest growing major economy of the world and recorded a growth rate of 7.2% during FY 2022-23. The Indian Government's strong reform push has placed the Indian economy on a strong global footing and today India has become a key player in fostering global economic growth
- The economy of Greece has also posted robust and resilient growth and grew at the rate of 8.43% in 2021, after strongly rebounding from the financial crisis
- India and Greece have shared age-old and long-standing ties. In recent times bilateral ties have significantly expanded, with total bilateral trade between the two sides reaching USD 2 billion during 2022-23
- Indian exports to Greece registered a significant increase in the recent past, with Indian exports to Greece standing at USD 786 million and Indian imports from Greece reaching USD 1,158 million during 2022-23
- Current levels of trade and investments between the two sides remain below potential and a lot more needs to be done to elevate bilateral ties further
- Greece has made significant progress in terms of policies over the last year and has created a stable finance and fiscal tax environment which will make investments to Greece simpler and more flexible
- India can benefit from Greece's manufacturing expertise as well as cross-border transactional power.

Potential Areas of Cooperation

- Textiles is a priority sector for India. Greece is the only cotton producing country in the EU, while India is the largest producer of cotton at par with China. Both countries therefore can work together in the area of environmental clothing
- The Greek merchant navy is the largest in the world. Shipping and logistics are critical aspects of international trade. Both India and Greece can collaborate in this area to enhance logistics infrastructure for greater mutual advantage
- India has leveraged Greek expertise in pharma manufacturing. Greece can emerge as the Gateway of Europe for India in the pharma space, due to its strategic location and strong pharma Industry
- Some potential opportunity areas for activities across the value chain in pharma include contract research, manufacturing and warehousing distribution

- Appropriate time for India and Greece to cooperate in Research & Development, particularly in areas such as gene therapy
- Given the importance of shipping in global trade, shipping is a potential cooperation area between two sides
- Education and worker training are important areas that require greater focus from both sides.

Issues/Challenges

- Longer regulatory approval timelines, high claw backs and rebates are some challenges faced by Indian companies while doing business with Greece
- India faces strong competition from other established and traditional EU partners of Greece such as France, Germany, and Italy, among others, which have strong business networks with Greece. Creating a level playing field for Indian investors with greater incentives would be helpful in this regard
- The withdrawal of India's GSP benefits in EU since January 2023 also has important implications for India's trade with Greece. Further, EU suppliers also enjoy a competitive advantage over India as a result of their duty-free status
- EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism framework, which imposes a fee on carbon emissions contained in certain imports is likely to impact trade and investments from India to EU in sectors such as iron and steel, cement, fertilizers, aluminum, among others. This move particularly impacts India's engineering Industry.

Suggestions

- Simpler framework for drug policy and pricing can create a level playing field in the pharma space for Indian investors
- Continued focus on ease of doing business reforms unlocks more potential for greater investments inflows and will greatly encourage Indian investors to undertake more investments in Greece
- Greater relaxations to Indian Industry in terms of trade restrictive quotas and tariff and non-tariff barriers will help foster greater investments from India
- Greater joint investment projects can be explored in areas such as R&D, drugs, biosimilars and biologics
- The faster conclusion of the India EU Free Trade Agreement is critical for boosting India-Greece ties.

Strengthening Global Partnerships for Sustainable, Equitable and Inclusive Development

CII-CESD's flagship Sustainability Summit delved into the imperatives of climate action, circular economy & resource efficiency, ESG & value chain, changemakers in sustainability and sustainable living & inclusive action

Sustainability is increasingly becoming the bedrock for businesses, ensuring their enduring success and making a positive impact on society. In view of this, the 18th Sustainability Summit, a flagship event of CII, was organized by the CII ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) from 22-23 August in New Delhi, under the ambit of B20 India. It was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha and was addressed by Mr Jon Moore, CEO, Bloomberg New Energy Finance, amongst others.

Around 150 speakers from the national and international stage, representing diverse sectors including FMCGs, automobile, manufacturing, infrastructure and IT, shared their perspectives at the summit. From the international arena, speakers joined from over 12 countries including France, UK, US, Canada, Israel, and Netherlands, among others. The two-day summit included 22 sessions focused on various issues including climate action, circular economy & resource efficiency, ESG & value chain, changemakers in sustainability and sustainable living & inclusive action. Over 400 delegates took part in various side-events, activities and 160 B2B meetings held during the summit. The event was organized with the support of 25 partner organisations.

To develop a roadmap towards net zero emissions for Indian Industry, the CII Net-Zero Program Brochure was launched at the Summit. The roadmap will help in leveraging existing frameworks and consider policy



(L-R): Sanjiv Puri, President Designate, Confederation of Indian Industry, and Chair, B20 India Action Council on ESG in Business and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited; Ravi Shankar Prasad, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha; and Jon Moore, CEO, Bloomberg New Energy Finance ANZ, SABIC at the 18th Sustainability Summit in New Delhi

actions to enable an efficient, accelerated and inclusive transition. The CII Climate Action Charter (CCAC) Insights Report was also launched during the summit, which contains the key findings from the seven clusters. CESD has developed the CCAC platform specifically for Indian companies to map climate change as a material risk across value chains and develop long-term resilience actions. The Eco Edge Certificate Felicitation was also held during the summit.

On the sidelines of the summit, India Plastics Pact (IPP) held its 2nd Annual Conference and 7th Advisory Committee Meeting. Informative sessions, break-out activities and panel discussions were held that aimed to inform IPP signatories of the Pact's activities in the past year, strategize action in the coming year and galvanize and motivate IPP signatories with examples of best practices from the plastics sector in India.



Skoda Auto Volkswagen India Private Limited and value chain partners receiving Eco Edge Emerging certificates

A high-level roundtable discussion was organized by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) on 'India's Leadership in Green Industrialization'. The objective of this discussion was to engage key stakeholders in exploring potential breakthrough projects in the Indian context that contribute to value chain development and green industrialization. Participants engaged in in-depth discussion to conceptualize innovative value chain or green industrialization breakthrough projects, specifically tailored to the Indian context to link to G20 goals and COP28 efforts through to COP30. The roundtable provided a platform for business leaders to share insights and expertise on policy measures and regulatory frameworks necessary to facilitate the identified breakthrough projects.

Key highlights of discussions

Imperatives for transitioning to net zero: Transitioning to net-zero with economic viability and ensuring a just transition is the key. People are at the centre of this transition. The pace and scale of the transition must consider the needs of people, be it livelihoods, water, food, or nutrition, all of which are at risk due to extreme climate vulnerabilities. Global frameworks for this transition require localization. Industry should establish adaptable business models that take into account risks from climate change. By establishing an interdisciplinary approach in the making of policy and program frameworks, to gain perspectives from stakeholders across diverse sectors, businesses will be able to move into customized adaptation capacities.

Support to MSMEs: Transition of MSMEs requires to be supported with collaborative partnerships and capacity building among all stakeholders, from consumers to the Government. It is time for businesses to create

opportunities, interventions and actions to integrate MSMEs into their sustainability strategies and targets. Not only would this support an inclusive and sustainable growth, but it would also allow stakeholders – large and small, to align with regulatory frameworks such as EPR and ESG, identify gaps in knowledge, build resilience and accelerate holistic growth.

Collaborative Approach: There is an over emphasis on the E of ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) at the cost of overlooking issues of DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion). Effective ESG implementation needs a collaborative ecosystem that enables stakeholders including Industry, MSMEs and Government as the largest procurer to integrate ESG into their ethos and functions. Larger Industry stakeholders need to lead the way and mentor value chain partners to also participate in the journey.

Resilience and capacity building: Sustainability at scale can only be achieved through interconnected efforts and knowledge exchange in the form of capacity building. Capacity building at all levels of stakeholders is the pressing priority and enhances capabilities of stakeholders to meet contextualized demand of the country. Achieving sustainability goals requires not just partnerships but also technological integration into business activities, with a strong emphasis on transparency and accountability.

Private sector's involvement: Enabling private sector participation in enhancing climate finance is key. For this, we need to improve the risk-return nexus and not only focus on purely financial concerns but also consider geopolitical, social and climate adaptation issues.

The excerpts from the summit will be used to create an action plan for the next year and CII-CESD will work with all stakeholders to implement the plan.

QUOTES



The ethos of sustainability is enshrined in our Indian culture since decades. Communities in India have followed age old practices, which are deeply connected with nature conservation and protection of

our natural heritage.

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha



The key measures required to achieve the net zero targets are: a vision - to know our choices, developing a plan, bringing all stakeholders together along with an enabling policy framework and mobilising finance.

Jon Moore, CEO, Bloomberg New Energy Finance



Businesses have both social and economic responsibility. The three words gaining currency these days are ESG. It needs to be the core of business strategy. It is critical to not look at sustainability in a silo and

mainstreamed into core business strategy.

Sanjiv Puri, President Designate, CII & Chair, B20 India Action Council on ESG in Business and CMD, ITC Ltd



Climate change cannot be tackled in the traditional way. We all need to be at the table and work together like we have never worked before. This needs technology, governance, consumers, society and

investors. We need to bring solutions together to the table and it is only possible through this kind of gathering.

Marc Andre Blanchard, Co-Chair, B20 India Task Force on Energy, Climate Change & Resource Efficiency and Executive Vice-President, Head & Global Head of Sustainability, CDPQ Global



Water storage is critical. We are making the most of the existing infrastructure through the world's largest dam rehabilitation program. Surface storage needs action by everyone including states and communities. Ground

storage needs mapping.

Debashree Mukherjee, Special Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti



Businesses are the answer - they are the engines that will deliver the 2030 SDGs agenda. The two days of the 18th Sustainability Summit has shown how to move from ideas to action.

Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator India



The path to an economically viable and just net zero future demands collaborative and decisive action from each one of us. By embracing technological advancements, accelerating renewable energy adoption,

implementing circular economy principles, ensuring a just transition and securing financial support, we can fast-track our industries towards a net zero future.

TV Narendran, Co-Chair, B20 India Task Force on Energy, Climate Change & Resource Efficiency and CEO & MD, Tata Steel Ltd



The only way forward is to listen to one another and discover the shared solutions that lead to positive impacts. These meetings serve as a platform to convene people from diverse locations, ensuring that all perspectives

are heard and concrete actions are derived from the outcomes of the conference.

Linda Kromjong, Co-Chair, B20 India Action Council on ESG in Business and President, amfori



We all inhabit the same planet and it is fundamental to have North and South solutions combined. Congresses like this are very important landmarks, where you can dialogue between the North perspective of changes and Global South perspective of changes. The Global South corresponds to around 80% of the world's population.

Marcelo Behar, Co-Chair, B20 India Action Council on ESG in Business and Vice President, Sustainability & Group Affairs, Natura & Co



The key takeaways from the B20 India Summit 2023 Task Force on Energy, Climate & Resource Efficiency (ECRE) are that education, research & development and scientific progress are crucial. Focused efforts on key technologies and globalizing standards are also important aspects to highlight.

Christian Cahn von Seelen, Co-Chair, B20 India Taskforce for Energy, Climate Change & Resource Efficiency and Executive Director – Group Sales & Marketing, ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Pvt Ltd



The evolution of mobility, particularly green mobility, is a dynamic process. In India, the transition towards electric mobility is in alignment with the national focus.

Ashwath Ram, Chairman, CII Cleaner Air Better Life Initiative & Co-Chair, CII National Committee on Future Mobility & Battery Storage and MD, Cummins India



It is fantastic that CII is organizing this summit, which is linked to B20. Having business people focused on sustainable development is critical and the private sector plays a crucial role in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, bringing together business leaders, Government leaders and Civil Society Organization (CSO) leaders in this kind of forum is exactly what is needed to accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

Susan Ferguson, Country Representative, UN Women India



DRIVE THE CHANGE. STEER AHEAD.



FUTURE MOBILITY SHOW 2024

— 11-13 JANUARY, 2024 —
BIEC, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA, INDIA

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE

A Three-Day Exhibition

Start-up Pavilion

Futuristic Technologies
on Display

International Conference

B2B & B2C Meetings

Panel Discussions on
Specific Subjects

PLEASE BLOCK YOUR DATES

11-13 JANUARY, 2024 | BIEC, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA, INDIA



For bookings, please contact at Neelam.bhagat@cii.in / 9891722264
www.futuremobilityshow.in

PM: India is the solution to global supply-chain issues

Urges nations with critical minerals to see custodianship as 'global responsibility'

ASIT RAMAN MISHRA
New Delhi, 27 August

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday pitched India as a trusted partner for an efficient supply chain to the G20 business community, urging them not to look at the country just as a market to sell products. He was addressing the B20 Summit India 2023, which is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community. In New Delhi, while addressing the meet, Modi said the world had irreversibly changed between the pre-pandemic and post-pandemic times, and India had become the face of digital revolution in the era of Industry 4.0. "Earlier, it was not that long ago when the world was not as much a supply chain as it is today. When it breaks down, and that too when the world is grappling with this question, I assure you that the solution to this problem is India. India has an important place in building an efficient and trusted global supply chain," Modi added.

Modi said treating other countries only as a market would not work but harm even the pre-market would, sooner or later. "A profitable market can be sustained when there is a balance in the interests of producers and consumers. This also applies to nations. Treating

AMID THE EXCITEMENT AROUND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, THERE ARE A FEW ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS. CONCERNS ARE BEING RAISED ABOUT ALGORITHM BIAS AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY. SUCH ISSUES HAVE TO BE RESOLVED TOGETHER

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

In lifting 35 million people out of multi-dimensional poverty in just five years, the Prime Minister said these people constituted the new middle class and were the biggest consumers because they came with new aspirations. "The new middle class is also giving momentum to India's growth. As the purchasing power of the

While speaking about critical minerals, he said there was a risk of a 'new model of colonialism' if nations with critical minerals did not regard custodianship as a 'global responsibility' as firms race to secure resources central to energy transition goals.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for a

Business Standard
Copyright © 2022 Business Standard

Sat, 26 Aug-23; Business Standard - Mumbai; Size : 251 sq.cm.;
Circulation:30029; Page : 4

India is well positioned to lead transitions in digital, supply chains: Chandrasekaran

SUBHAN CHAKRABORTY
New Delhi, 25 August

The B20, a platform of businesses from G20 nations, has focused on bringing industry-wide transitions in the digital and artificial intelligence, energy, and global value and supply chain spaces to draw up its recommendations to the G20 nations. Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Friday, Chandrasekaran, who is the chair of B20 India, said the country was well positioned to lead in all the three transitions.



B20 Institute', with the objective of

Gopinathan, who is chairing the task

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS
Copyright © 2022 The Financial Express

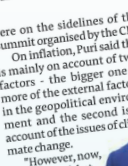
Mon, 28 Aug-23; Financial Express - Hyderabad; Size : 312 sq.cm.; Circulation:22000; Page : 2

'Seeing green shoots as inflation moderates'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, August 27

AS INFLATION is moderating, diversified group ITC is seeing green shoots of volume growth and expects the momentum to continue sequentially, its chairman and managing director Sanjiv Puri said on Sunday.

This will certainly lead to improvement in volume, but it will not happen overnight, said Puri



here on the sidelines of the B20 Summit organised by the CII.

On inflation, Puri said this is mainly on account of two factors - the bigger one is more of the external factors in the geopolitical environment and the second is on account of the issues of climate change.

"However, now, India is much better placed in the

rest of the world and I would like to compliment the government for stewarding management of inflation and being extremely proactive in taking the right steps to control that," he said.

On ITC's plan for the hotel business, Puri said it is going to benefit the existing shareholders by incorporating a wholly-owned new subsidiary ITC.

It is a "very robust" model, which will help the business to make the hotel business accelerate progress and improve the financial metrics of ITC, he said. In the recently concluded June quarter, ITC and several other FMCG makers reported volume gains and improvement in margins.

Hindustan Times
© 2022 Hindustan Times

Sat, 26 Aug-23; HT Edge - Hindustan Times - Delhi; Size : 210 sq.cm.;
Circulation:101867; Page : 6

Charting a prosperous future for humanity

AS THE G20 Leaders Summit approaches, the summit is setting the agenda for the world's largest group of nations. The summit is a unique opportunity for the world's leaders to come together and discuss the challenges facing humanity. The summit is a platform for the world's leaders to discuss the challenges facing humanity and to chart a path forward for the future of humanity.



Chandragiri Banerjee

India is well positioned to lead transitions in digital, supply chains: Chandrasekaran

India is well positioned to lead transitions in digital, supply chains: Chandrasekaran

India is well positioned to lead transitions in digital, supply chains: Chandrasekaran

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
Copyright © 2022 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved

Mon, 28 Aug-23; Economic Times - Delhi; Size : 188 sq.cm.;
Circulation:84027; Page : 13

Need to Keep in Mind ESG Cost Math: ITC's Sanjiv Puri

Ishaan.Gera@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The cost considerations of implementing environmental, social and governance (ESG) framework for India's small enterprises need to be kept in mind so that they do not become inflationary and impact growth, Sanjiv Puri, chairman and managing director, ITC, told ET.

"We have to think of the solutions so that we are not creating a structurally inflationary environment, which will not be good for growth," Puri said on the sidelines of the CII B20 Summit in New Delhi, pointing to the need for the development of models that are economically viable.

Puri, the head of the ESG in Business Action Council, noted



that the finance minister, in her B20 address, also made the point of containing inflation.

Puri also highlighted that larger players also had a responsibility, and the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development was working on making a simplified ESG framework and

ket-based incentives and disincentives. India is also moving in that direction," Puri said, giving examples of the development of the carbon market.

The ITC chairman stressed the need for standardisation to address confusion around ESG norms and pointed out that the ESG framework needed to fit the needs of the Global South and not be attuned to western thinking.

"The Global South adaptation is very important because two thirds of livelihoods in the Global South are connected with nature," Puri pointed out, saying that the world needed a model that was integrative, inclusive, and good depending on the size of the land and type of geography".

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
Copyright © 2022 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved

Sun, 27 Aug-23; Economic Times - Delhi; Size : 106 sq.cm.;
Circulation:84027; Page : 3

Public Digital Infra Will Improve Capital Access: Mastercard CEO

Michael Miebach lauds India's tremendous step in data exchange; UN's Songwe highlights Aadhaar mo

Team ET

New Delhi: India's public digital infrastructure will help provide a broad section of once-unbanked, lower income groups access to capital, according to Mastercard CEO Michael Miebach. The data these systems generate is key to help women entrepreneurs to borrow as well, he said at a session on Financial Inclusion for Economic Empowerment at the B20 Summit in Delhi organised by the CII.



India has one of the best digital transformation teams and we brought that team over (to) tell us what was happening

Some of India's digital systems, built on India's Aadhaar framework, said Vira Songwe, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

"India has one of the best digital transformation teams and we brought that team over (to) tell us what was happening. Today, countries like Ethiopia, Bolivia, Togo are using Aadhaar systems," Songwe said.

Songwe and Miebach stressed the relevance of public digital infrastructure to small businesses and entrepreneurs who can come in handy

borrowing. According to Songwe, investments in sectors such as energy are impacted due to transition risks that drive up capital costs.

Aadhaar, a biometric-based digital identity system, has helped women in India, highlighted by the internet to earn a living. Another aspect of digitalisation is the digital identity that Aadhaar has provided to millions of Indians, according to Songwe.

"With Aadhaar, you have taken a critical step forward in the digital economic step forward in that someone with a digital identity is that someone who has a digital identity," he said.

The Statesman
Copyright © 2022 The Statesman

Sun, 27 Aug-23; The Statesman - Delhi; Size : 607 sq.cm.; Circulation:7284; Page : 8

India will become 3rd largest economy in few yrs: VEF pre

At present, Indian economy is ranked fifth and is behind the US, China, Japan, and Germany

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 26 AUGUST

World Economic Forum (WEF) president Klaus Schwab said on Friday, India will become the third largest economy in the world in a few years and it is important for the country to continue reforms, build better infrastructure and invest in education.

Speaking at the B20 Summit in the national capital on Friday, Schwab also highlighted that countries should be allowed to be more relevant and buy what is most relevant for their business.



and investment" at the B20 Summit India 2023 organised by CII.

India is well positioned to lead transitions in digital, supply chains: Chandrasekaran



Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment (FLCTD)

Innovation Challenge 2023

Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment (FLCTD) project is financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and is implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in collaboration with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).



Apply Now

Applications open till
29th September 2023

Innovation challenge is open for **CLEANTECH** innovations that demonstrates

Reduction in space cooling/heating requirement

Shift to cleaner fuels/ more efficient fuel combustion

Electrical energy storage systems, newer battery chemistry

Industrial IoT system design

Specific storage solutions for hydrogen

Rare-earth materials / metallurgy for applications in equipment

Reducing use of harmful chemicals, consumables

Increasing the use of safer, green, climate friendly chemicals

Join the webinar

22nd September 2023 || 11:00-12:30 hrs.



Who can participate

- ◆ Entrepreneurs, Startups
- ◆ Indian Technical Institutes
- ◆ Research Institutes
- ◆ MSME
- ◆ Government Laboratories



Benefits of FLCTD for technology providers

- ◆ Financial support - \$25,000
- ◆ Technical monitoring by CII-Godrej GBC & subject experts
- ◆ De-risking of innovations before commercial launch
- ◆ Industrial linkages
- ◆ Financial mentoring & fund raising support



Parameters for Selection

- ◆ Nature of innovation - product design/process innovation
- ◆ Energy savings & GHG reduction potential
- ◆ Replication potential
- ◆ Technology readiness level

FLCTD accomplishments till date

78
Winners

INR 23 Cr
Funds committed for technology validation

25
Technologies commercialized

35
Technologies validated

Implementing Partner



Confederation of Indian Industry

For further information and to express your interest for the innovation challenge, please visit:

www.low-carbon-innovation.org

For further information related to project activities, please contact

Mr Sandeep Tandon,
UNIDO
Email: s.tandon@unido.org

Mr P V Kiran Ananth,
CII
Email: kiran.ananth@cii.in

Mr Bibek Ranjan Patnaik
BEE
Email: branjana@beenet.in

Engaging with the World

US

Strengthening India – US Bilateral Trade

CII, in collaboration with the US-India Business Council (USIBC), organizing a session on 'US-India Trade Partnership: Delivering Economic Prosperity' with Ambassador Katherine Tai, United States Trade Representative (USTR) on 26 August in New Delhi. Engaging with business leaders and experts from large as well as small and medium companies, Ambassador Tai said that the US – India trade relationship continues to grow in breadth, depth and importance. Resolving the challenges that small businesses face will be key to allowing the partnership to reach new heights.

R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd suggested pathways to further enhance India-US trade by making trade seamless and sustainable, investing in supply chains and harmonizing standards, and providing regulatory stability, which are critical factors for companies, whether they are large or small.

Supporting SME engagement encompassing all facets, be it in standards cooperation, sustainable trade, funding and scaling, or integration in global supply chains, is the next logical step in further fortifying the dynamic trade ties between the US and India. The next wave of inclusive economic growth and employment generation is sure to come from the SME sector and we must enable our small companies in both countries to connect and explore further opportunities, said Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII.

Ambassador Mr Atul Keshap, President, USIBC, said that trade ties between the US and India are robust, with SMEs playing a pivotal role. These enterprises can help the two countries reach the goal of USD 500 billion in annual trade, and serve as vital engines for employment, value augmentation and innovation within the bilateral dynamic.

The discussion provided a unique platform for high-level discussions on pressing trade matters and delved into a range of issues, including current trade challenges, addressing tariff and non-tariff barriers, enhancing trade facilitation, fostering developments in cleantech and sustainable finance, unlocking opportunities in the realm of digital trade and promoting deeper integration within global supply chains.

UK

AI is the Way Forward: Interaction with UK Secretary of State

Fostering ties between India and the UK, a bilateral meeting was held with Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch, the UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade, President of the Board of Trade and Minister for Women and Equalities on 26 August at New Delhi. The interaction highlighted UK's interest in furthering bilateral trade by way of augmenting business opportunities, with a focus on removing inessential regulations and initiating change to adapt to the new world.

The vital opportunities provided by the G20 and B20 platforms to strengthen bilateral economic ties and



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee; Amb Katherine Tai, US Trade Representative; R Dinesh; Amb Atul Keshap, President, US-India Business Council (USIBC); and Brendan Lynch, Assistant USTR for South and Central Asia



(L-R): Harjinder Kang; His Majesty's Trade Commissioner-South Asia, Department of Business and Trade, UK Government; R Dinesh; The Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP, Secretary of State for Business and Trade, President of the Board of Trade, and Minister for Women and Equalities, United Kingdom; Chandrajit Banerjee; Alex Ellis, British High Commissioner to India; Lord Karan Bilimoria of Chelsea CBE DL, Vice President of CBI and Founder and Chairman, Cobra Beer

giving significant thrust to the India-UK FTA were highlighted.

Higher education and R&D cooperation, which present a significant opportunity to academia in both countries, was outlined as a special drive for bilateral engagement. Deliberations revolved around developing skills and training, especially in emerging sectors like AI, ML and Big Data, owing to their relevance in attracting investment opportunities for mitigating challenges around sustainability and climate control.

UAE

Leveraging B20 to Deepen the Benefits of India-UAE CEPA

Given the relevance of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and its potential to enhance the bilateral relationship, an exclusive interaction was held with H.E. Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi,

the Chair of the 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Minister for Foreign Trade, on UAE 26 August at New Delhi. The discussion emphasized the importance of UAE as a trade partner for Indian Industry in addition to the opportunities presented by the CEPA for Indian businesses to expand their investment presence in Africa and the Middle East.

The need for rebranding Indian products in the UAE market, underscoring focus on creating a distinct identity for "Brand India", was also taken up, owing to its significance to influence consumer perceptions and enhance market penetration. The deliberations explored a host

of possible opportunities for collaboration in science, technology and R&D, in diverse areas including food security, infrastructure, tourism, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, and financial & digital trade services.

AUSTRALIA

India-Australia can Leverage FTA for Growth

Senator Hon Tim Ayres, Assistant Minister of Trade and Manufacturing of Australia interacted with select Indian and Australian business leaders on the sidelines of the B20 summit on 26 August at New Delhi. The focal point of the interaction was building on the bilateral ECTA for greater economic engagement between the two countries. The ongoing negotiations for a comprehensive free trade agreement were highlighted as a significant opportunity to foster purposeful collaborations and investments.

During the conversation, the key areas of focus for the working groups established under the India-

Australia CEOs Forum, which is led by CII on the India side, were discussed. These include energy resources, the establishment of net-zero centres, recognition of education qualifications, financing for infrastructure projects, and the digital economy. The emphasis is on translating discussions into concrete actions, aiming to promote cooperation across diverse sectors.

Stakeholders from both nations expressed a shared aspiration to collaborate across a wide spectrum of domains, ranging from education and skill development to strengthening



(L-R): Mohammed Saeed Al Nuaimi, Acting Undersecretary, Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, UAE; R Dinesh; Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi, the Chair of the 13th Ministerial Conference of the WTO, Minister for Foreign Trade, UAE; Chandrajit Banerjee and Juma Mohamed Al Kait, Assistant Undersecretary for International Trade Affairs Sector, Ministry of Economy, UAE



(L-R): Jennifer Westacott AO, CEO, Business Council of Australia; Senator Tim Ayres, Assistant Minister of Trade and Manufacturing of Australia and R Dinesh

the supply chain for critical minerals and advancing green hydrogen initiatives.

ASEAN

Session with New Zealand Trade Minister

CII, jointly with India New Zealand Business Council and support from High Commission of New Zealand, organized a business session Mr Hon Damien O' Connor, Minister for Trade & Export Growth, Minister for Agriculture, New Zealand on 28 August in New Delhi. He also holds the portfolios of Bio Security, Land Information and Rural Communities.

The Minister said that having a broad economic relationship with India is an important goal for New Zealand and the Government has been working steadily on this. He was accompanied by a strong 50-member business delegation led by India New Zealand Business Council (INZBC), CII's MoU partner in New Zealand.

The business session was followed by an India – New Zealand Trade and Economic Roundtable. Four sessions on global economic outlook, multilateral vs regional

trade, bilateral trade negotiations and trade & climate change were held during the roundtable. The event was attended by senior Industry leaders from India and New Zealand.

ASIA

CII VIF Business Delegation to Sri Lanka

CII, jointly with VIF, organized the Business Delegation to Sri Lanka from 30 July - 4 August. The delegation visited Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee and Colombo. The delegation was a follow up to recent meeting between H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe, President of Sri Lanka and Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India on 21 July in New Delhi, where many major economic areas of collaboration were discussed, including connecting electricity grids and possibility of Economic and Technological Cooperation Agreement (ETCA).

The strong multi sectoral delegation included sectors like energy, shipping and port development, infrastructure, tanks & storage, tourism, IT, agriculture and energy, would give impetus to India – Sri Lanka business collaborations and would also result in more investments in Sri Lanka.

During visit, the delegation held meetings with Mr Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation of Sri Lanka; Mr DV Chanaka, State Minister of Power and Energy of Sri Lanka; Mr Dilum Amunugama, Minister of Investment Promotion of Sri Lanka; Ms PSM Charles, Governor, Northern Province of Sri Lanka and Mr Senthil Thondaman, Governor, Eastern Province of Sri Lanka.

The delegation held meetings with other key stakeholders in Sri Lanka including business leaders and other Government officials. The delegation aimed to highlight the various trade and investment opportunities Sri Lanka has to offer to Indian businesses, especially the untapped potential of the northern and eastern province of Sri Lanka.



Delegates with Damien O' Connor, Minister for Trade & Export Growth, Minister for Agriculture, New Zealand

India – Sri Lanka – Japan Trilateral Cooperation

CII co-organized a special event on India – Sri Lanka – Japan Trilateral Cooperation on 10 August in New Delhi to deliberate on the trilateral cooperation between the three countries. H.E. Mr Suzuki Hiroshi, Ambassador of Japan and H.E. Mr Milinda Moragoda, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka graced the occasion with their presence.

H.E. Suzuki Hiroshi appreciating India's efforts during the economic crises of Sri Lanka and said that India's issuance of financing assurances to Sri Lanka at the time of its economic crisis was instrumental in accelerating the process of Sri Lanka's debt restructuring. He highlighted the role of India, Japan and Sri Lanka in the Indo – Pacific region. He further added that Japan places highest priority on transparent and equitable debt restructuring, where all creditor entities, creditors countries and organizations participate.

H.E. Mr Milinda Moragoda, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka highlighted the three key areas of the joint economic vision statement given by Prime Minister of India and President of Sri Lanka, which are - connectivity, economic integration and investment.

The event brought together the Industry and the Government to discuss the role of the renewable energy sector in transforming the Sri Lankan economy. They also deliberated on the development of Trincomalee as an energy hub and role of logistics and transportation in supply chain efficiency for regional and global trade. The need to strengthen people-to-people connect between India and Sri Lanka through the sub-sectors of education, training and skill development and tourism was also discussed.

Invest Sri Lanka: Investor Forum

To promote greater linkages between the capital markets of India and Sri Lanka and to enhance Indian investments



(L-R): Rajeeva Bandaranaike, Chief Executive Officer, CSE; Dilshan Wirasekara, Chairman, Colombo Stock Exchange; Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance, Sri Lanka, Dr P.K.G Harischandra, Director, Central Bank of Sri Lanka and Chinthaka Mendis, Director General, Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka

into Sri Lanka, CII in partnership with Colombo Stock Exchange organized Invest Sri Lanka Investors Forum on 9 and 11 August in Chennai and Mumbai respectively.

Key sessions on the present economic outlook, market analysis and investment opportunities in the Sri Lankan Stock Market were held. Mr Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance, Sri Lanka highlighted Sri Lanka's potential to attract foreign portfolio investments. He said that Sri Lanka provides a strategic location for investors in the Indian sub-continent. Excellent shipping links to both the west and the east coasts of India, combined with the robust logistic operations, create a high value proposition for many sectors, he said.

The Minister said that Sri Lanka is looking at deepening relations with India in sectors including energy, transportation and connectivity. While being optimistic of Sri Lanka's growth in coming years, he highlighted that inflation now has fallen back to single digit, with the help of strong institutional and legislation reforms, expected decrease in interest rate would also create opportunity in fixed income and equity markets.

The forum provided an avenue for Sri Lankan officials including Mr Dilshan Wirasekara, Chairman, Colombo Stock Exchange; Mr Chinthaka Mendis, Director General, Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka; Dr PKG Harischandra, Director, Central Bank of Sri Lanka; and Mr Rajeeva Bandaranaike, Chief Executive Officer,



(L-R): Rajesh Agarwal, Director of Market Development, ITC; Milinda Moragoda, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka; Puneet Aggarwal, Joint Secretary (IOR), Ministry of External Affairs; Ambassador Pankaj Saran Convenor, NatStrat; Ambassador Bernard Goonetilleke, Chairman, Pathfinder Foundation; Hiroshi Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan and Pankaj Tandon, Joint MD and CEO, Jakson Ltd

CSE to sensitize Indian businesses on how to harness the untapped potential that exist in Sri Lanka in the current economic state. Senior businesses leaders, fund managers, stockbrokers, bankers and asset managers attended the forum.

India-Indonesia Collaboration Towards a Net Zero Transition

An exclusive business interaction was held with Dr (HC) Zulkifli Hasan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia

on 25 August in New Delhi. Indonesia has emerged as India's largest trading partner in the ASEAN region and the two countries have set a target of USD 50 bn for bilateral trade by 2025. The noteworthy participation of the Indonesian private sector at the B20 Summit India showcased the strength of the partnership.

The discussions at the interaction highlighted Indonesia's interest in investing in the net-zero transition for carbon free power generation which offers immense collaborative opportunities. The significance of furthering infrastructure development in both countries was also stressed by both sides.

Many Indian companies have leveraged the opportunities that Indonesia has to offer, including ease of doing business and competitive advantages, for expanding trade and investment cooperation. Emphasis was also laid on enhancing the presence of Indian Industry by further exploring the sectoral investment opportunities in Indonesia. ■



(L-R): R Dinesh; Dr (HC) Zulkifli Hasan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia and Ina Hagniningtyas Krishnamurthi, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia

Adi Godrej Conferred CII President's Award



Adi Godrej, Past President, CII and Chairman Emeritus, Godrej Group was conferred the CII President's Award for 2022-23 during the CII National Council Meeting held in Mumbai



Confederation of Indian Industry

India's top thought leaders, business icons, decision makers and industry leaders are here. Help your business be at the right place.

Come, make your brand captivate the prestigious industry and business leadership who matter. Advertise your brand with CII Artha [Analysis, Research, Thought Leadership & Advocacy], the much appreciated economics magazine replete with industry trends and insights.

A wide circulation among the prominent thought leaders, including 9000+ strong CII members, Cabinet Ministers, Secretaries, Members of Parliament, Key policy makers, Foreign Embassies etc.

Insights by top notch industry players with focus on progressive sectors like Railways, Textiles, Chemicals, Electronics & many more.

A comprehensive bird's-eye view of the global economic perspective and outlook across the sectors encompassing scenarios of states, investment trends & corporate profitability.



Log on to <https://www.ciiartha.in/> to access the past issues of Artha

To advertise your brand, kindly contact:
Ms Mamta Sharma
mamta.sharma@cii.in | +91 9818458800



Sectorscape



Gaming

Aiming to Develop Games Based on Indian Culture

The Indian Digital Gaming Society (IDGS), in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and with support of Invest India, presented the 2nd edition of the IDGS Gaming Conclave on 24 August in New Delhi, bringing together Industry leaders, experts and enthusiasts to explore the burgeoning landscape of digital gaming in India.

Shri Vikram Sahay, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India highlighted the pivotal role that digital gaming plays in the present days entertainment and technology realms. "India is a prominent global player in this sector and we are trying to bring in education, skilling and innovation together on a mission mode. We want dedicated funds for the gaming sector, which can help to develop infrastructure", he said.

He also talked about developing games on Indian culture. "Let us realize the value of our culture and develop games that can go international. If we can

develop games based on the themes of Ramayana and Mahabharata, it will be great", he said.

Mr Sean Hyunil Sohn, CEO of KRAFTON, India, offered a comprehensive overview of the gaming Industry, delving into its rapid evolution and the immense potential it holds for India. Mr Prosenjit Ghosh, National Head PlayStation of SONY India, shared his views on Hardware Technologies and its growth.

Mr Rajan Navani, President of IDGS and Founder & CEO, JetSynthesys emphasized IDGS's commitment to nurturing a conducive environment for the growth of the gaming Industry in India.

The conclave featured four engaging panel discussions that explored various facets of the digital gaming ecosystem. Industry experts discussed the investment landscape in the gaming sector, shedding light on the opportunities and challenges for both domestic and international investors during the session on 'Industry Opportunity & Investment in the Video Game Industry'.

The panel discussion on 'Transformation of the Indian Gaming Industry' examined the evolution of the Indian gaming Industry and its alignment with global trends, showcasing the nation's potential to become a major player on the international gaming stage.

At the discussion on 'India's Esports Potential to Reach Olympics', panelists explored the growing popularity of esports and its potential inclusion in prestigious events like the Olympics. The final panel delved into

the transformative role of cutting-edge technologies like AI, Web 3 Metaverse and Blockchain in reshaping the future of gaming.

The conclave not only provided a platform for discussions but also facilitated networking opportunities for professionals, developers, investors and enthusiasts alike. The success of the IDGS Gaming Conclave reinforced the determination of both IDGS and CII to continue nurturing the Indian gaming Industry, further solidifying its position as a global hub of digital innovation and creativity. ■



(L-R): Rajan Navani, President, IDGS and Founder & CEO, JetSynthesys; Vikram Sahay, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India; Sean Hyunil Sohn, CEO, KRAFTON, India; and Prosenjit Ghosh, Prosenjit Ghosh, National Head PlayStation of SONY India



CII NAOROJI GODREJ
Centre of Manufacturing Excellence



Confederation of Indian Industry

ANNOUNCING 3RD EDITION OF



Registration Timeline
17 July 2023 - 25 September 2023

CII Pinnacle Awards for Excellence in Manufacturing is one of the most prestigious Awards for Excellence in Manufacturing that any Indian company can aspire for. The Awards is based on a comprehensive Evaluation Framework, developed by CII Naoroji Godrej Centre of Manufacturing Excellence.

Who Can Apply?

- Companies/ Firms registered in India as a legal entity
- For MNCs, the Indian Subsidiary to apply
- Large organisations can apply at Plant/ SBU/Unit Level
- Companies/ Firms from the MSME Category

Manufacturing*	Revenue	Investment
Large Enterprise	>INR 250 crores	>INR 20 crores
MSME	<INR 250 crores	<INR 20 crores

*T&C apply (Please refer to the Webpage link for details)

For application and other details, pls contact the following:

Sangita Das, Email - sangita.das@cii.in, M : 9967537711

Sonali Mirkar, Email - sonali.mirkar@cii.in, M : 9820060931

Why Participate?

- To get recognised for Manufacturing Excellence
- To get introduced to a 360-degree view of Manufacturing
- To learn through immersive Manufacturing Best Practices
- To get benchmarked among other manufacturing organisations
- To trigger transformation from a small “m” to big “M” mindset
- Site visit for shortlisted Applications in the Final Round
- To receive feedback on improvement opportunities

Domains of Excellence



Technology



Collaboration



Production



Market Dynamics



Behavioural Aspects



Sustainability



Policy

Log on to

<https://cme.cii.in/3rd-edition-of-cii-pinnacle-awards-for-excellence-in-manufacturing-2023.html>

Portfolio for Excellence



Food and Agriculture

Learning Mission to Norway

CII-FACE organized a Learning Mission to Norway from 21 - 25 August, coincided with Aqua Nor - the world's largest technology exhibition in fisheries and aquaculture. The learning mission focused on technical aspects of fishing practices, aquaculture production and cold chain technology for supply chain. Aqua Nor is an important international meeting place for the aquaculture Industry.



CII Learning Mission to Norway

Members with Parshottam Rupala, Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India and Dr L Murugan, Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India in Trondheim

The delegation visited three cities – Oslo, Trondheim and Bergen – during the five days mission. The members had meetings and visited various facilities and farms of the Norwegian Fisheries and Aquaculture sector like fish processing, salmon farms, sea food innovations, amongst others. The delegation held meetings with Shri Parshottam Rupala, Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India; Dr L Murugan, Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India; and Ms Neetu Kumari Prasad, Joint Secretary, Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the visit. The members also met with Dr Acquino Vimal, Indian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway.

Unleashing the Potential of AgriTech Startups

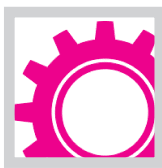
The CII-FACE partnered with Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to organize the National Conclave on "Unleashing the Potential of AgriTech Startups for the Benefit of Farmers" on 31 August in New Delhi.

As a part of this, a breakout session was organised around the theme "Empowering the Startup Incubation Ecosystem to Translate Innovative Concepts into Practical Solutions for Farmers" along with a technical session which was held around the theme "Policy Support for Enhancing the Startup Ecosystem."

The breakout session primarily delved into the incubation

ecosystem in the country and its role in assisting startups for testing their solutions with farmers. The session extensively deliberated on a synchronized and synergistic approach between startups and incubators. It focused on emphasizing its potential to significantly enhance positive outcomes in agricultural economics and the feasibility of establishing a direct connection with farmers during the final stages of technology implementation.

The technical session focussed on the array of enabling policies that have been put in place by both the Central and State Governments to support agri startups. This session comprised of a panel from startup India, IPTM & PME, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Rasi Seeds. Mr Jatin Singh, the Founder & MD, Skymet Weather Services Pvt Ltd chaired the session and Ms Neeru Bhooshan, Additional Director General, IPTM & PME, ICAR, presented a special address. The discussion saw participation from a diverse range of stakeholders, including startups, corporations and venture capitalists. The key actions emerging from the session will be taken forward in due course by CII.



CME

ChatGPT, AI in Excel

CII Naorji Godrej Centre of Manufacturing Excellence (CII-CME) organized an online capacity building programme on 'ChatGPT with Excel' from 24-25 August.

Through this programme, the participants were introduced to ChatGPT and AI for Excel automation. They learned the fundamentals of AI, ChatGPT and how to interact with it. Practical exercises were organized during the session covering generation of customized formulas, automating repetitive tasks and creating reports and dashboards using ChatGPT in Excel. Troubleshooting and error handling were also explored.

Integrating Chat-GPT with Excel add-ins and its advantages, limitations and alternative AI solutions were also discussed. The programme equipped the participants with the knowledge and skills to streamline tasks, save time and enhance productivity using ChatGPT and AI in Excel.

CII Learning Mission on Manufacturing Excellence

A two-day learning mission on manufacturing excellence was organized from 30-31 August to Aurangabad, Maharashtra. As part of the learning mission, 30 participants from six companies visited manufacturing facilities of Bajaj Auto Limited, Endress+Hauser Flowtec (India) Pvt. Ltd, Siemens Limited and Greaves Cotton Ltd.

The objective of the mission was to make the participants understand and learn through immersive manufacturing best practices followed by the top manufacturing companies. They were also introduced to a 360-degree view of manufacturing. The participants

learnt about the technological strengths and understood how to cultivate, shape and rejuvenate their company's manufacturing capabilities.



CFC

International Competitiveness & Cluster Summit

CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs (CII-CFC) organized the annual CII International Competitiveness & Cluster Summit from 9-10 August in New Delhi. The summit serves as a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration. Over the years, it has garnered significant recognition and participation from both domestic and international stakeholders.

During the summit, key sessions on OEMs, supplier development, quality and cost, enhancing competitiveness, digital transformation and global partnerships and a panel discussion on 'Capability Development & New Age Skilling' was held.

Key speakers who shared their insights were Mr Deepak Shetty, Chairman, Summit and Managing Director & CEO, JCB India Ltd; Mr Ajay Bhakre, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Government of India; Mr Shreekanth Somany, Chairman, CII – Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs and CMD, Somany Ceramics Ltd; Mr Yogesh Munjal, Chairman, CII Clusters for Competitiveness and Managing Director, Munjal Showa Ltd; Mr Sunil Kant Munjal, Past President, CII and Chairman, Hero Enterprise and Mr Kishore Jayaraman, President, Rolls-Royce, India & South Asia.

The International level Competitiveness Championship Awards and Kaizen Competition during the summit drew



Learning Mission to Greaves Cotton Ltd



Winners of the Competitiveness Championship Awards and Kaizen Competition

a good response from pan-India companies. The Industry presented their best practices in different categories. As many as 190 improvement projects were presented and over 800 kaizens participated at the summit. More than 150 improvement projects were awarded.

Interactive Workshop on Energy Efficiency, Decarbonization

The SME players in the ceramic sector today face challenges resulting from rising energy costs, environmental concerns and competitiveness. Adopting energy efficient equipment, systems, measures and best practices could offer substantial cost savings and improvement in profit margins. In view of this, CII – CFC organized an interactive workshop on energy efficiency and decarbonization of ceramic sector in Khurja on 22 August. The center is also implementing a BEE – UNIDO – GEF Project on analysis and assessment on resource efficiency (focusing on energy efficiency) in MSMEs in ceramic sector.

The workshop covered technical discussions on various technologies for enhancing energy efficiency, presented outcome of activities conducted in Morbi, Khurja and Thangadh Ceramic Clusters. Over 70 participants attended the sessions.

Key speakers who shared their perspectives at the workshop were Mr Shreekanth Somany, Chairman, CII – Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs and CMD, Somany Ceramics Ltd; Mr P Shyam Sunder, Joint Director, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power; Dr LK Sharma, CEO, Mahamana Ceramic Development Organization and Chairperson, India Chapter of The

American Ceramic Society; Mr Evangelos Schoinas, Cami Depurazioni S.R. L, Italy, Mr Than Singh, Project Officer, Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA).

During the event, BEE-UNIDO-CII Technology Compendium on Resource efficiency in Ceramic Sector was launched. The objective of this compendium is to act as a catalyst to facilitate continuous improvement in energy performance.

CII – CMD to Work with NHAI for CP Solutions on Bridges

Corrosion of the steel in concrete bridges is a primary cause of the deterioration of the structures. It becomes severe, especially due to the presence of cracks.

An exclusive session on 'Corrosion Control and Service Life Extension of Concrete Bridges' especially for establishing the secure infrastructure was organized online on 10 August. This session focused on the key issues of corrosion in highways or bridges, which represents a major part of the infrastructure.

During the session, Shri R K Pandey, Former Member, NHAI; Dr Radhakrishna G Pillai, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras and Mr Dhruvesh Shah, India Representative, Vector Corrosion Technologies briefed about the current scenario of the concrete bridges in India and state of our inventory. Shri R K Pandey provided an overview regarding the second largest road network of India – the National Highways. These highways are the responsibility of the Government of India and they have ambitious programs and projects for their development, he said.



Dr Radhakrishna G Pillai talked about the cathodic protection of corroding concrete bridges. The reinforced concrete bridges are approaching their design life and experiencing corrosion, which must be addressed. This issue can be cured using cathodic protection, which is a proven technology in India as well abroad, he mentioned. Cathodic protection is an augmentor for repair systems. With the help of CP systems for galvanic anode, we can reduce the life cycle cost, he said.

Mr Dhruvesh Shah spoke on 'Galvanic Anode Cathodic Protection of Concrete Bridges – International Scenario and the Way Forward for India'. He also explained the

repair systems that strengthen bridges and enhance their longevity.

In-house Program on SMED

As a part of Competitiveness building through manufacturing excellence, CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs conducted SMED Workshop in The Indian Card Clothing Company Limited in Nalagarh.

Mr Narendra Asati, DGM - Manufacturing, The Indian Card Clothing Company Limited was coordinator for the workshop. The workshop aimed to improve competitiveness in business by improving setup changeover of their critical machines.

The objective of the workshop is to improve competitiveness in business by improving Setup changeover of their critical machines. The minimum time was 90 minutes practiced by the organisation for setup changeover. But after the training, the changeover planned as a part of workshop was done by the team in just 40 minutes.

Moreover, during the concluding session, team of ICC observed 33.5 minutes of NVA (waste). It found that after removal of this NVA only 6.5 minutes will be taken to setup changeover, which is the objective of the single minute die of exchange program. ■

A Journal of Confederation of Indian Industry

CII COMMUNIQUÉ



The Facts

- Monthly Newsletter of top management of 9,000+ companies
- Shared with Union Ministers, Chief Ministers, Government Secretaries, Thought Leaders, Diplomats and other decision makers

Digital Magazine

The Coverage

- Business News
- Economic Policy Update
- Sectoral Synergies
- International Reportage
- IPR & Technology
- Development Initiatives, and more...

Placement of ad	Page size	Rate per release (Rs)
Front jacket cover (full page)	17 cm (width) x 23 cm (height)	1,25,000
Front inside jacket cover (full page)	17 cm (width) x 23 cm (height)	1,00,000
Premium pages (full page) before and after cover story	17 cm (width) x 23 cm (height)	90,000
Banner band at bottom of each text page	8.5 cm (width) x 3 cm (height)	2,00,000

Placement of ad	Page size	Rate per release (Rs)
Full page	17 cm (width) x 23 cm (height)	75,000
Half page	Horizontal - 17 cm (width) x 11.5 cm (height)	40,000
	Vertical - 7.5 cm (width) x 24 cm (height)	
Double spread	36.7 cm (width) x 23 cm (height)	1,50,000

For more details, please contact: Ms Sharmila Kantha, **Confederation of Indian Industry**
249-F, Sector 18, Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Gurgaon-122 015 (Haryana), India, Tel: 91-124-4014060-67 • Email: sharmila.kantha@cii.in



WOMAN EXEMPLAR PROGRAM *2024*

Inviting Civil Society Organizations, Social Change Networks, Governments and Corporates to nominate Exemplary grassroots women leaders from across India, excelling in the fields of
Education, Health & Micro Enterprise

APPLICATIONS
OPEN
APPLY NOW

NOMINATE WOMEN LEADERS WHO

Are impacting the lives of hundreds of marginalized women and children and have been working for a minimum of 3 years.

Have overcome poverty, exploitation and social injustice to become leaders within their communities.

Have received no award and recognition for their work and represent marginalized and vulnerable communities.

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM



Recognition & Award



Capacity-Building



Access to a network of grassroots women leaders



Meet **Zohmangaihi**

Winner of The Woman Exemplar Award 2023

- Battling HIV, severe depression, and anxiety, Zoh found a new life with counselling and ART therapy. Widowed with an infant and a malignant disease, Zoh was ostracized from the society on revealing her HIV status.
- A counsellor, community mobilizer and an influencer, Zoh has transformed the lives of over 19,000 HIV+ patients and helped them find a new sense of dignity.

For any queries and to send in your entries,
please contact: womanexemplarprogram@cii.in



Regional Review



EASTERN REGION

Interaction with Industry Ahead of Bengal Global Business Summit



Dr Amit Mitra, Principal Chief Advisor to the Chief Minister and Finance Department, Government of West Bengal at the BGBS roadshow in New Delhi

The Government of West Bengal is organizing the 7th edition of Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS), which is scheduled from 21-22 November in Kolkata. As a prelude to the summit, roadshows were organized in New Delhi and Mumbai to deliberate on the trade and investment opportunities in West Bengal and further strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation.

The roadshow in New Delhi on 23 August saw the participation of major business stakeholders from West Bengal and over 200 Industry participants from Delhi, along with a strong delegation from the State Government.

Dr Amit Mitra, Principal Chief Advisor to the Chief Minister and Finance Department, Government of West Bengal interacted with the Industry leaders. Business leaders of West Bengal spoke about their experiences of working in the State across manufacturing, healthcare, food processing, education, startup, hospitality and logistics sectors and highlighted the huge potential of the state. Ms Nandini Chakravorty, Principal Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of West Bengal emphasized upon the untapped potential of the tourism sector and outlined the Government initiatives to boost the tourism sector in the State.

The summit envisions bringing together corporate leaders, business delegations, entrepreneurs, academia and think

tanks from around the globe with the purpose of making strategic and business alliances as well as to deliberate on the industrial ecosystem and business-friendly initiatives of the State. The two-day summit will be an excellent opportunity to promote closer engagement and explore possibilities of mutual collaboration.

Government of West Bengal, in association with CII, organized another interactive session and roadshow with business stakeholders on 29 August in Mumbai, as a precursor to BGBS. Dr Amit Mitra interacted with the Industry leaders and noted that West Bengal is the 4th largest economy (based on Net Value Added as per RBI) in India with close to ₹17.50 lakh crore GDP. He highlighted that credit of over ₹4.50 lakh crore was deployed by the banks in West Bengal in fiscal 2022-23, of which over ₹1.28 lakh crore was for the MSME sector and ₹19,150 crore for self-help groups.

Shri Rajesh Pandey, Principal Secretary, Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles, Government of West Bengal informed the audience about the ease of doing business initiatives taken up by the State Government, especially the single window system of Silpa Saathi. He also mentioned the separate module for hospitality sector, where with a single sign, an investor can obtain all the 30 odd licenses. Shri Rajeev Kumar, Principal Secretary, Department of Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal underlined the critical role of the IT sector in the global value chain. Ms Smaraki Mahapatra, Secretary, Department of Land & Land Reforms, Government of West Bengal outlined the recent initiatives which shall enable conversion of leasehold land to freehold land and the scope of investments it opens up for industrialists.

Safety Symposium & Exposition

CII Eastern Region organized the 17th Safety Symposium & Exposition from 22-23 August in Kolkata around the theme 'Synergising OHS with ESG Goals'. The Safety Symposium & Exposition was part of the B20 activity this year. Senior safety professionals shared their views on leadership role in defining ESG goals, building resilient strategies for implementation of ESG goals, fire hazards



The inaugural session of the Safety Symposium in progress

and adoption of ESG in the construction Industry, amongst other issues. Shri Ashis Shit, Chief Inspector of Factories, Directorate of Factories, Government of West Bengal said that every accident is avoidable and safety vision and thoughts of the leadership need to be percolated to the workspace/shopfloor and remote working areas. He reiterated that the State Government is concerned about the new safety hazards and health risks that may appear along with the transfer and adoption of new technologies.

Mr Abhijit Banerjee, Managing Director, Linde India Ltd said that ESG reporting landscape is rapidly changing at the global level with ever-increasing challenges pertaining to environmental, social and governance dimensions. He said that the business leaders in India also see a merit to reorient their corporate purpose and extend beyond wealth creation into broader themes that the key stakeholders are concerned with. The 'CII – Consultivo Report on OHS Preparedness in the Eastern Region, Trends and Analysis' was unveiled during the forum and the CII SHE awards, recognizing excellence in Safety, Health and Environment practices, were awarded to companies in manufacturing, mining, construction and service spaces.

Recognising SHE Initiatives

CII Eastern Region organized the Excellence Award on Safety, Health & Environment (SHE Awards) for the



Ashis Shit, Chief Inspector of Factories, Directorate of Factories, Government of West Bengal and Rajiv Mangal, Chairman, CII Eastern Region Safety Taskforce & Vice President, Safety, Health & Sustainability, Tata Steel Ltd handing over the trophy to the winning team of TRL Krosaki Refractories Ltd

year 2022-23 on 22 August in Kolkata. SHE Awards was instituted to recognize extraordinary contribution in the areas of best environment and safety management practices, contribution towards sustainable development and efficient handling of occupational health and safety issues. The awards recognized State as well as regional EHS excellence for manufacturing, service sectors, mining and construction sectors, cutting across large, medium & small-scale industries. As many as 71 companies participated in the awards and were assessed onsite.

Making the Roadmap for a Green Hydrogen Hub in Odisha

CII held the Green Hydrogen Convention on 5 August in Bhubaneswar. The theme of the conclave was 'Making the Roadmap for a Green Hydrogen Hub in Odisha'. This was a first-of-its-kind convention in the region based on the National Hydrogen Mission 2023 by the Government of India. NITI Aayog, Government of Odisha and the UK Government partnered with CII for the conclave.

Shri Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Odisha said that technology deployment needs to happen at a massive scale for hydrogen to become viable and mature. If the right investments are made, hydrogen technology can mature sooner than expected, he opined.

Shri Manoj K Upadhyay, Deputy Energy Adviser, NITI Aayog said that NITI Aayog has established Climate & Modelling Unit for long-term projects for energy mix and sectoral road map for a net-zero target by 2070. He said that the Government of India has established India Climate and Energy Modelling Forum, has launched IEES, 2047 version 3.0 & India Climate, Energy Dashboard and is working on CCUS Policy. Mr Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director, IREDA said when a sector is emerging, it needs to be commercially tried, tested and trusted. With renewable energy in India maturing, IREDA is now in a position to support green hydrogen.



L-R: Dr Pradipta Mohanty, Vice Chairman, CII, Odisha State Council, Chairman Surendra Mining; Manoj Kumar Upadhyay, Deputy Adviser - Energy, NITI Aayog; Sashi Sekhar Mohanty, Chairman, CII Odisha State Council and Chief Executive Officer & Manager Director, Essar Minmet Ltd; PL Haranadh, IRTS, Chairman, Paradip Port Authority; Hemant Sharma, Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Odisha, Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata, British Deputy High Commission; Shiv Siddhant Narayan Kaul, Chairman, CII Eastern Region and Managing Director, Nicco Engineering Services Ltd; Pradipt Kumar Das, Chairman and Managing Director, IREDA at the Green Hydrogen Convention in Bhubaneswar

The Business Leaders' Dialogue on Green Hydrogen – Odisha 2023 was also held on the sidelines of the convention. It brought together leaders in the green hydrogen Industry in a closed-door deliberation with the Government of Odisha, IREDA, and NITI Aayog.

Family Business Dynamics - Nurturing Tradition Driving Growth

CII Chhattisgarh organized a session on "Family Business Dynamics - Nurturing Tradition Driving Growth" on 8 August in Raipur. Mr Siddharth Agrawal, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council and Director, Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd said that family businesses are the cornerstone of our economy, embodying a rich blend of tradition, values and entrepreneurship that extends across generations. Their significance lies not only in generating economic wealth but also in creating lasting legacies within communities. Succession planning, a vital component, ensures the seamless transition of leadership from one generation to the next, preserving the family's core values and vision. Mr Umesh Agrawal, Past Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council

and Managing Director, Real Ispat & Power Ltd said that family businesses are more than just commercial entities; they are living legacies, repositories of values, and embodiments of resilience.

The event aimed to explore the vital role of right succession planning in nurturing family traditions, while driving sustainable growth in family-owned businesses. During the session, speakers focused on the need for succession planning, modes for succession planning, legal provisions impacting succession planning, Indian law on succession planning, restructuring of family business, family constitution and family arrangement and the scion program. In addition, the session also focused on the strategy that a business house should adopt to sustain multi-generational success of families in business and the benefit of involving professionals in key positions in the management team.

Unlocking the Potential of AI for Industry

India has emerged as a leader in the domain of future technologies, with a growing number of companies investing in technological innovations and R&D. Artificial



Rajesh Narain Gupta, Managing Partner, SNG & Partners along with speakers at the Session on Family Business Dynamics in Raipur



Speakers at the ICT Conclave in Jharkhand

Intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the way we work, live and its impact on the future of humanity is a topic of significant interest and concern. In view of this, CII Jharkhand organized the fourth edition of ICT Conclave on 21 August in Jamshedpur. Focused deliberations on unlocking the potential of AI for Industry were held during the conclave. It discussed ways to leverage Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to foster adoptable, easily implementable digital transformation and drive socio economic development in Jharkhand. By unlocking the potential of AI, businesses can enhance productivity, drive innovation and deliver personalized experiences to customers.

Shri Siddharth Kumar Rai, Additional Director, Software Technology Parks of India – Ranchi Center, Ministry of Electronics & IT, Government of India said that data is valuable and we all should know about the strength of data, the prime component for AI. Industrial institutions should come forward to promote the startup ecosystem and research in terms of AI with their data sharing as well as funding, he said. Dr Sanjay Patro, Dean (Academics) & Professor of Marketing, XLRI Jamshedpur spoke about the challenges of AI and the work it can do. Over 120 delegates participated in the forum.



Interactive Session of CII Members with Minister, Sonam Lama, Minister for Cooperation Department, Ecclesiastical Department & Rural Development Department, Government of Sikkim

29 August in Gangtok. The minister highlighted various initiatives his department would like to initiate along with CII, especially in the rural development sector, with special focus on capacity building and entrepreneurship in the remote areas of the state.

Interaction with Sikkim Commerce & Industries Secretary

An interactive session with Shri Karma N Bonpo, Secretary Commerce & Industries, Government of Sikkim was organized by CII Sikkim on 10 August in Tadong. Various policies of the Industries department and issues and bottlenecks faced by the Industry were deliberated upon during the interaction.

The issues discussed in detail included state labour laws and logistics policy, education in the state, ease of doing business, tourism, air and rail connectivity. The Secretary informed the members that the Industrial Policy of the state is in draft stage and will be presented by the State Government in the coming two to three months' time.

The interactive session saw good participation from the members, which represented tourism, education, financial services, automobile and renewable energy sectors.



NORTH EASTERN REGION

Capacity Building and Entrepreneurship in Sikkim

An interactive session of CII Members with Shri Sonam Lama, Minister of Cooperation Department, Ecclesiastical Department and Rural Development Department, Government of Sikkim was organized on

CII Sikkim Members Meet

The CII Sikkim Members Meet was organized on 9 August in Gangtok. The meet was hosted by Mr Soni Virdhi, Member, CII Sikkim State and Founder, Mount Zion Group of Schools. Various issues were discussed during the meet focusing on the industrial scenario of the state. Mr Soni Virdhi and Ms Shardha Sarma Ranjan were unanimously chosen to be the Chair and Co-Chair of CII Sikkim State respectively.

Interaction with Nagaland Advisor of Industries & Commerce

CII Nagaland organized an interaction with Ms Hekani Jakhalu, Advisor of Industries & Commerce, Government of Nagaland on 28 August. CII Nagaland members advocated for close cooperation of the Government of Nagaland with the Industry in the State. Ms Jakhalu acknowledged the work and potential CII Members have for the Industrial landscape of Nagaland. CII members also held discussion around the joint consultative forum between the Government of Nagaland and the Nagaland CII Members and the revision of the Nagaland Industrial Policy.

State-Specific Roadmaps for MSMEs



North East MSME Conclave in progress

CII organised the North East MSME Conclave on 31 August at Guwahati. At the conclave, Shri Subhas Chandra Lal Das, Secretary, MSME, Government of India emphasised on three critical components of nurturing an enabling ecosystem for MSME to grow. These include a strong robust central and state policy support system, streamlining regulatory procedures and extending credit guarantee support. He requested the states to come out with state-specific 10-year strategic roadmap for MSMEs in the region.

The theme of the event was 'Creating Enabling Business Environment for MSMEs'. The conclave focused on providing a platform to discuss and deliberate on ease of doing business for MSMEs in terms of policy

support, access to credit and marketing support. Dr S Lakshmanan, Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Government of Assam highlighted the significant improvements in credit availability within Assam. He acknowledged the support of the RBI and bankers and cited a remarkable 94 per cent increase in sanctioned loans in the State.

Ms Sushmita Phukan, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India (NER) identified delayed payments as a major challenge faced by MSMEs in the region. She advocated for greater technology adoption and improved financial literacy to benefit the MSME sector. Mr Pankaj Goswami, Chairman, CII Assam State Council and Director (Operations), Oil India Ltd and Mr Abhijit Barooah, Past Chairman, CII North East Council and MD, Premier Cryogenics Ltd were among other key speakers.

The conclave was attended by senior government officials, banking professionals, representatives from PSUs, and Industry leaders, along with entrepreneurs from North East Region.

Fire Related Licencing Issues in Agartala



Tripura Industry Interaction with Department of Fire Services in Agartala

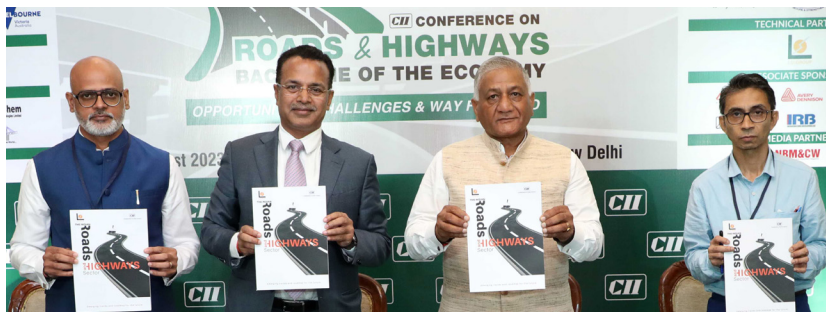
As a part of the initiative to improve the ease of doing business in Tripura, CII organized a Tripura Industry interaction on fire-related licencing issues in Agartala on 14 August. Shri Sanjib Karkamar from the Department of Fire Services, Tripura briefed the Industry about the necessary documentation needed for obtaining fire licence.

Industry also discussed issues relating to building plans, factory shed designs and other construction issues for averting fire mishaps on shopfloors. There were issues regarding uploading documents on the SWAGATH portal for fire licence, which were taken up separately. The meeting reviewed the pending fire applications submitted by the Industry and few issues relating to granting of licences were resolved at the interactive meeting.



NORTHERN REGION

Roads and Highways Sector – a Catalyst of Socio-economic Growth



Gen (Dr) Vijay Kumar Singh, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd), Minister of State, Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Civil Aviation, Government of India unveiling the report at the Conference on Roads and Highways in New Delhi

CII Northern Region organized a Conference on Roads and Highways on 22 August in New Delhi. Gen (Dr) Vijay Kumar Singh, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd), Minister of State for Road Transport & Highways and Civil Aviation, Government of India emphasized the critical role that roads and highways sector play towards socio-economic development of the nation. He highlighted that the infrastructure sector has a multiplier effect ranging between 1.5-3 on the GDP of a nation. He highlighted how America in the 1930s focused on infrastructure development, particularly constructing roads and highways, which ultimately gave a boost to the overall economy and played a pivotal role in improving the lives of the natives.

Mr Santosh Kumar Yadav, Chairman, National Highway Authority of India, through a video message, highlighted

how the Gati Shakti Scheme launched by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has emerged as a key driver for the progress of various sectors, including roads and highways. Mr Manoj Gupta, Conference Chairman and Managing Director, AR Thermosets Pvt Ltd said that India has one of the most modern and widespread networks

of roads as compared to other developing nations. For constructing quality roads with low maintenance costs, Mr Sudip Chaudhury, Member (Projects), National Highways Authority of India opined that there is a need to efficiently assimilate and plug in the available resources for maximum output.

The conference witnessed deliberations around issues pertaining to the roads and highways sector. A

report on the Indian road and highways sector was also launched during the conference. The report delves into key aspects of infrastructure spending, market dynamics, state-wise performance, policy initiatives, financing strategies, emerging technologies and global comparisons, thus providing valuable insights into the road ahead.

Construction Sector – a Growth Multiplier

In a gathering of Industry leaders and experts at the 5th edition of the CII Construction Summit in New Delhi, the construction sector was hailed as a potentially employment-intensive sector, poised for transformative growth. The summit, organized by CII Northern Region on 4 August in New Delhi, shed light on the sector's pivotal role in shaping a sustainable future and combating climate change. The Chief Guest,



(L-R): Suneel Vora, Partner, Major Projects Advisory, KPMG in India; Argenio Antao, Conference Co-Chairman and COO, Colliers; Madhavkrishna Singhania, Deputy Chairman, CII-NR & DMD & CEO, J K Cement Ltd; Rajesh Gupta, Director – Sustainable Development Goals, NITI Aayog; Vinayak Pai, Conference Chairman & MD, Tata Projects; Dr Anjan Ray, Adjunct Faculty, IIT Delhi & Former Director, CSIR, Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee; V Suresh, Chairman, IGBC Policy and Advocacy Committee & Chairman National Building Code of India Government Relations and Former CMD, HUDCO at the 5th Construction Summit in New Delhi

Shri Rajesh Gupta, Director - Sustainable Development Goals, NITI Aayog, Government of India stressed on the exceptional potential of the construction sector in generating employment opportunities for millions of individuals. He declared that the sector stands at the cusp of change and highlighted the NITI Aayog's commitment to transitioning towards a Net Zero future. Mr Anjan Ray, Adjunct Faculty, IIT Delhi and Former Director, CSIR, Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee urged stakeholders to think collectively for a sustainable future, promoting the usage of innovative technologies and energy-efficient techniques in construction and building operations. Mr Madhavkrishna Singhania, Deputy Chairman, CII Northern Region and Deputy Managing Director & CEO, JK Cement Limited highlighted the overarching theme of sustainability for future-building. Addressing the pressing challenge of climate change, Mr V Suresh, Chairman, IGBC Policy Advocacy Committee and Chairman, National Building Code of India urged everyone to dedicate themselves to the cause of climate change. The summit culminated in a unified vision to embrace sustainability and innovation as the driving force behind the construction sector's future growth.

Fostering Innovation and Entrepreneurial Mindset

CII Northern Region organized the 'Chandigarh Startups Session' as part of its flagship initiative, ICONN 2023 on 22 August in Chandigarh. Under the theme 'Be innovative, Be entrepreneurial, Be here', speakers shared Government strategies and policies being undertaken to support entrepreneurs in the region, which enable startups to ensure more purposeful, productive, agile and flexible ways of conducting business. The Chief Guest, Mr Dharam Pal, Advisor to the Administrator, UT Chandigarh said that the Chandigarh region is currently witnessing an extraordinary surge in the startup culture, positioning it as a startup hub for innovation and entrepreneurship. Chandigarh's strategic location, coupled with access to a skilled workforce from renowned educational institutions, makes this region increasingly attractive to inspiring entrepreneurs. Ms Hargunjit Kaur, Secretary – Industries, Chandigarh Administration said that Chandigarh's startup policy would be announced soon.

CII had shared several recommendations for the policy at its draft stage in 2022. Highlighting the importance of this event, Ms Kripi Singh, Member, CII National Startups Council and Founder & Chief Storyteller, AVW Storytellers said that ICONN will not only increase the chance of success of startups and generate more employment opportunities, but will also create a robust culture of corporate-sponsored startups, leading to the creation of new ideas and innovations at each other's disposal.



Dharam Pal, Advisor to the Administrator, UT Chandigarh, addressing at the ICONN Chandigarh Startup Conclave 2023

The session included three-panel discussions on 'Tapping Multiple Funding Sources for Your Startup: The Art & Science of Fundraising for Startups', 'Government Initiatives, International Outreach and Role of Incubators & Accelerators' and 'Empowering Startups for Long Term Success & Reshaping Approach'.

Reimagining Education with Technology and Internationalization

CII Northern Region organized the 4th edition of EduSummit 2023, with the theme 'Reimagining Education with Technology and Internationalization' on 29 August in New Delhi. The objective of the summit was to initiate dialogue in the Indian education Industry regarding identifying the vulnerabilities of the education systems in combating the challenges faced by it and adapting measures and solutions to overcome the vulnerabilities. Dr Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, National Assessment



(L-R): Sahil Gupta, Partner – Tax & Regulatory Services, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP; Siddharth Banerjee, Chairman, CII-NR Committee on Education & Industry Connect & CEO, UNIVO Education; Dr Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, NAAC, NETF & NBA, Gol; Joyce Poan, Programme Specialist and Chief of Sector – Education, UNESCO; and Dr Vinnie Jauhari, Co-Chairperson, CII-NR Committee on Education & Industry Connect and Senior Education Advisor - Microsoft WW Public Sector, Microsoft Corporation at the 4th EduSummit in New Delhi

and Accreditation Council (NAAC), National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) and National Board of Board of Accreditation (NBA), Government of India highlighted that the APAAR ID an Academic Bank of Credit would be like UPI in the education system. It will facilitate students' progress and could be revolutionary in facilitating scholarships/student transfers.

As the physical and digital worlds merge to create new and immersive experiences, Dr Buddha Chandrasekhar, Chief Coordinating Officer (CCO), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Government of India noted that technology has been critical in empowering students in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, as the role of technology has been seen as transformative, revolutionizing and potent in changing the education landscape. Ms Joyce Poan, Programme Specialist and Chief of Sector – Education, UNESCO highlighted that the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) report has endorsed banning smartphones in schools, to avoid any adverse impact of technology on the well being of students.

Mr Siddharth Banerjee, Chairman, CII Northern Region Committee on Education and Industry Connect and CEO, UNIVO Education and Dr Vinnie Jauhari, Co-Chairperson, CII Regional Committee on Education & Industry Connect and Senior Education Advisor - Microsoft WW Public Sector, Microsoft Corporation were among the other key speakers. The conference brought together a wide array of speakers and saw participation from vice-chancellors of education institutes, policymakers, Industry leaders, educators and students.



SOUTHERN REGION

Launch of First Mobile Creche for Children of Migrant Workers

CII Foundation and CII Kerala, in collaboration with the Ernakulam district administration, established the first mobile creche for migrant workers in Vengola, Ernakulam District, Kerala on 7 August for children between the age of 6 months – 6 years. The mobile creche was inaugurated by Shri NSK Umesh, the District Collector of Ernakulam, in the presence of Mr Aju Jacob, Chairman, CII Kerala State Council and Joint MD, Synthite Industries Ltd.

The District Collector expressed the commitment of the State Government and district administration to ensure



Aju Jacob, Chairman, CII Kerala & Joint Managing Director, Synthite Industries Ltd handing over the key of the mobile creche facility to Shihab Pallikkal, Vengola Panchayath President at Ernakulam.

the welfare of migrant workers and their families. Mr Jacob emphasized that CII was pleased to contribute to this migrant-focused initiative, aligned with the organization's focus on inclusive growth. CII Foundation has improved the facility with child-friendly amenities creating a safer environment for children.

CII Innoverge 2023

Karnataka is a State of opportunities and over the years the state has become a knowledge and innovation hub, said Mr D K Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, while speaking at the 19th edition of India Innovation Summit – CII Innoverge 2023 in Bengaluru. The summit was organized by CII from 17-19 August with a theme, 'Impacting Global Agenda through Local Innovation'. He said that accessibility to skilled human resources has been a key reason fueling the growth of the state, with the Government championing the role of facilitating industrial growth. The summit deliberated on nine sectoral tracks including manufacturing; automotive & transportation; aerospace & space; tourism & hospitality; healthcare & MedTech; energy & sustainability; fintech; retail & commerce; and foods & agri.

Shri Priyank Kharge, Minister for Electronics, Information Technology & Biotechnology Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Government of Karnataka said that Bengaluru has a strong ecosystem where diverse technologies merge, giving rise to limitless potential. Mr



Key dignitaries at CII Innoverge 2023 in Bengaluru

Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman, Innoverge 2023 Summit & Past President, CII and Chairman Axilor Ventures & Co-Founder, Infosys Ltd, said that there is a symbiotic alliance that thrives between the Government and the burgeoning sectors of IT, biotech, and healthcare. As we harness AI like ChatGPT 3 and 4, our focus must shift to include improving the quality of life of every citizen, he added. Mr Kamal Bali, Chairman, CII Southern Region and President & MD, Volvo Group India and Mr Vijaykrishnan Venkatesan, Chairman, CII Karnataka and MD, Kennametal India Ltd also addressed the summit.

Shaping the Future of Steel: Sustainable, Efficient & Innovative

CII Andhra Pradesh organized a Conference on Steel & Alloys around the theme 'Shaping the Future of Steel: Sustainable, Efficient & Innovative' on 2 August in Tirupati. Shri Neerabh Kumar Prasad, Special Chief Secretary of Environment, Forest, Science & Technology, Government of Andhra Pradesh highlighted the vital role of steelmakers in achieving India's aspiration to become a USD 5 trillion economy through 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives.

Mr Vijay Naidu Galla, Past Chairman, CII Andhra Pradesh and Vice President, Amara Raja Batteries Ltd said that the goal is to enhance efficiency, reduce energy consumption and improve the quality of steel production. We must secure a competitive global position by ensuring affordable pricing, maintaining quality standards and ensuring on-time deliveries, he added.

"In the steel Industry, our vision revolves around three crucial pillars: sustainability, efficiency, and innovation. This vision is our way of tackling the various challenges and opportunities that the steel Industry encounters due to the ever-changing global economic, environmental, and technological landscape," said Ms Priya Manjari Todi, Chairperson, CII Tirupati and Whole Time Director, Electrosteel Castings Ltd.



Dignitaries at the Conference on Steel & Alloys in Visakhapatnam

Strengthening the Startup Ecosystem in Kerala

The CII Thrissur Zone, in collaboration with the Kerala Startup Mission, organized a session on CII Startup Initiatives on 3 August in Thrissur. The session focused on the benefits and platforms that CII provides for growth of startups. Mr Geemon Korah, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Kerala and Executive Director & CEO, Mane Kancor Ingredients Pvt Ltd shared his experience on transforming his company into an established organizations and how CII has supported in the journey.

Mr Seejo Ponnore, Chairman, CII Thrissur Zonal Council and MD, Aqua Star briefed on the bridge between the corporate connect and startups. Mr Vinod Manjila, Vice Chairman, CII Kerala and Chairman, Manjilas Food Tech Pvt Ltd delved into the potential for national and international collaborations and business opportunities facilitated by CII. Ms Nimisha Vadakan, Convenor, CII Kerala Startup Panel & Managing Director Aceware Fintech Services Pvt Ltd shared her personal experiences and highlighting how the platform assisted her in conquering initial hurdles on her entrepreneurial journey.

Interaction on Opportunities in Nigeria

CII, in partnership with Lagos Free Zone (A Tolaram venture), organized an interaction on opportunities in Nigeria on 30 August in Hyderabad. Mr C Shekar Reddy, Chairman, CII Telangana and CMD, CSR Estates Ltd said that the presence of a large Indian expatriate community of about 50,000, the largest in West Africa, adds value to the importance of the long-standing relationship between the two countries. He also said that India is the largest trading partner of Nigeria and Nigeria is India's largest trading partner in Africa. Bilateral trade volume stood at about USD 11.85 billion in the year 2022-2023.

Mr Tejaswi A V, General Manager, Tolaram Group made a detailed presentation on Nigeria and said that Nigeria, being the biggest economy and most populated country in the African continent, offers numerous business opportunities across various sectors, making it an attractive country for businesses. The session discussed various business opportunities between the two countries.

Promoting Green and Sustainable Practices in Buildings and Industries

CII Thiruvananthapuram organized a session on 'Green and Sustainable Practices in Buildings and Industries' on

9 August in Thiruvananthapuram. The event focused on the theme 'Promoting Green and Sustainable Practices in Buildings and Industries'. Topics including sustainable site development, enhancing water and energy efficiency, waste and emissions reduction, utilization of environment-friendly building materials, and improving indoor environmental quality, were deliberated upon.

Speakers were of the opinion the cost-saving measures by adopting green practices could lead to 30-50 per cent cost savings using raw materials, effective recycling, energy-efficient solutions, and optimized heating and water usage in buildings. The panel discussion at the session deliberated on the significance of green building standards and certification systems, along with the advantages they offer to various buildings.

Digital Public Infrastructure & ONDC



Soundar Kannan, Vice Chairman, CII Madurai Zone and Director, Naga Limited and Karthikeyan Arumugham, Founder & Managing Director of Digit Business Services Pvt Ltd (DIGIIT) at the Session

CII Madurai Zone organized an orientation program on 'Digital Public Infrastructure & ONDC' on 10 August in Madurai. ONDC recognizes the unique opportunity to increase e-retail penetration from the existing 4.3% to its maximum potential in India, said Mr Karthikeyan Arumugham, Founder & MD, Digit Business Services Pvt Ltd (DIGIIT). He said that their mission is to dramatically increase e-commerce penetration in the country by enabling population-scale inclusion of all types and sizes of sellers.

ONDC, which stands for Open Network for Digital Commerce, is an initiative of the Government of India aiming to establish an open and interoperable e-commerce platform, offering advantages such as expanded access to buyers and sellers, improved product visibility, trade autonomy, reduced business costs and increased choices for value chain services. Mr Soundar Kannan, Vice Chairman, CII Madurai Zone and Director, Naga Limited also addressed the program.

Members' Meet



Dr R Nandini, Deputy Chairperson, CII Southern Region and MD, Chandra Textiles Pvt Ltd with other CII office bearers at the Members' Meet in Madurai

Members' Meets with Dr R Nandini, Deputy Chairperson, CII Southern Region and MD, Chandra Textiles Pvt Ltd were organized in Mysore and Madurai on 8 August and 24 August respectively. At Madurai, Dr Nandini said that the vision of CII is to catalyze India's development, extend maximum support to the Indian Industry, and enhance its performance domestically and globally. To enhance competitiveness of member companies, CII has established 10 Centres of Excellence, she stressed.

In Southern Region, CII proposes to focus on key enablers of growth that would propel economic growth of southern states and also set the tone for transitioning South India@75 to South India@100, she added. She said that to achieve this objective, CII would focus on key tracks towards the transformational journey, such as people & culture rejuvenation, holistic sustainability & ESG, tech adoption & digital transformation, embracing energy transition, innovation & startup ecosystems, manufacturing excellence, Industry 4.0, international linkages, MSMEs, membership engagement and brand building & sectoral promotion.

Agri NXT - Unleashing Agricultural Value

CII Coimbatore organized the Agri NXT Conference themed 'Unleashing Agricultural Value' in Coimbatore on 26 August in Coimbatore. Dr K Senthil Ganesh, Chairman, CII Coimbatore Zone and CEO, Transform Tech Pvt Ltd said that the aim of the conference was to promote technology adoption and private sector involvement in areas like mechanization and post-harvest value addition to transform the agriculture sector. The conference encompassed sessions focusing on technological and mechanization interventions across farm, post-harvest, and processing stages for diverse crops. It attracted progressive farmers, agri startups, educators, and Industry professionals from the vicinity of Coimbatore.

Managing Change & Expectations in Family Businesses



Speakers at the CII Karnataka Family Business Conclave

CII Karnataka organized the Family Business Conclave on 8 and 9 August in Mysore focusing on the theme, 'Managing Change & Expectations - The Way Forward'. Dr R Nandini, Deputy Chairperson, CII Southern Region and MD, Chandra Textiles Pvt Ltd called to embrace innovation, while upholding core values. She emphasized how the cultural and traditional aspects of Indian family business have substantial impact on molding the country's sustainable economic growth and influencing the dynamics between employees and customers.

Mr Farhad Forbes, Chairman, FBN International and Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall described the significance of managing the paradox between business and family during the session on international perspectives. The conclave also had an exclusive interaction with Ms Meher Pudumjee, Chairperson, Thermax Limited. She shared her thoughts on leadership development and choosing the right person for the role. Mr Arjun Ranga, Immediate Past Chairman, CII Karnataka State Council and MD, N Ranga Rao & Sons Pvt Ltd; Mr Vijaykrishnan Venkatesan, Chairman, CII Karnataka and MD, Kennametal India Ltd also addressed the conclave.

Workshop on Problem-Solving Tools for Managers

CII Erode Zone organized a one-day workshop on problem-solving tools for managers on 17 August in Erode, Tamil Nadu. Mr D Kanagaraj, Director, Pathmaker360 was the lead faculty at the workshop. "The significance of critical thinking skills in the workplace cannot be overstated. Supervisors require a specific skill set to execute their roles with both efficiency and effectiveness," Mr Kanagaraj said. He said that despite their position on the lower rungs of the management hierarchy, their leadership and management abilities play a pivotal role in driving the organization's success. The ability to solve problems stands as a vital requirement for supervisors, underscoring the

undeniable necessity for them to possess robust critical thinking skills, he added.

GST Departmental Audit & Enforcement



Speakers at the Seminar on GST Departmental Audit & Enforcement

CII Visakhapatnam conducted a seminar on GST Departmental Audit & Enforcement on 11 August in Visakhapatnam. The seminar aimed at addressing obstacles and equip businesses with the essential information and resources to successfully navigate the intricate landscape of GST enforcement. "Taxpayers who encounter any genuine issues with the department are encouraged to bring them to my attention for prompt resolution," said Mr MRR Reddy, Principal Additional Directorate General and Director General of GST Intelligence for the Visakhapatnam Zone. Mr Anil Kumar Bezawada, the Convenor of the Finance & Taxation Panel at CII Visakhapatnam made a detailed presentation on effectively managing audits and inspections by the GST Department.

Enhancing India - Sri Lanka Bilateral Trade Ties

Sri Lanka presents numerous prospects for Indian investors, with an emphasis on early entrants benefiting from unique advantages, said Mr Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance, Government of Sri Lanka. He was addressing the Invest Sri Lanka - Investor Forum India on 9 August in Chennai. He said that plans include enacting the Public Finance Management Act and fiscal rules by December, enhancing transparency and governance. Anticipating benefits from India's designated currency status, the nation envisions economic zones, increased FDI, competition, and a private sector-driven economy.

Mr Srivats Ram, Vice Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu and MD, Wheels India Ltd said that the potential economic growth of Sri Lanka is emphasized and aided by India's substantial consumer market, technological progress and entrepreneurial energy. Mr Dilshan Wirasekara, Chairman, Colombo Stock Exchange highlighted that India's progressing economy, expanding middle class and rising disposable income, can stand to

Sri Lanka's benefit. "Sri Lanka displays robust economic recovery as inflation approaches targeted levels. This year's contraction is notably minor in contrast to previous years, and a noteworthy growth is anticipated in the second half of 2023," said Dr PKG Harischandra, Director of Research, Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

Wellness 360



Speakers at the IWN Workshop on Wellness 360

IWN Kerala, in collaboration with Infopark, organized a comprehensive wellness initiative targeting women employees held at Infopark, Kochi on 9 August. Mr Susanth Kurunthil, the CEO of Infopark said that he wants to underline his organization's firm commitment to empowering and advocating for women within the workforce. "We are fully devoted to supporting and championing women workers and we stand by them with unwavering support. Our goal is to uplift and encourage women to take a prominent role in society and every facet of their personal and professional growth," he added.

The discussion explored an array of subjects covering personal, social, professional and financial well-being, unraveling the intricate challenges faced in diverse contexts.



WESTERN REGION

CII Vidarbha IT Conclave



Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Government of India at the CII Vidarbha IT Conclave in Nagpur

Nagpur's world class infrastructure, air, rail and road connectivity, availability of skilled manpower and Industry-friendly approach are the key factors to attract IT companies, said Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Government of India. He was speaking at the CII Vidarbha IT Conclave organized on 5 August in Nagpur. He said that with the concerted efforts of all stakeholders and CII, Nagpur will become an IT hub. The event brought together industry leaders, experts, and visionaries to discuss and explore strategies for transforming Nagpur into a thriving hub for Information Technology.

Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, said that Nagpur is not just the orange or tiger capital, but it has become the education capital of India and an affordable global city. Shri Fadnavis also sought CII's support in transforming Nagpur into an Artificial Intelligence hub, given that Maharashtra has a conducive ecosystem for startups and is home to 16,000 startups registered with DPIIT including 25 unicorns. He assured complete support from the State Government towards this purpose.

Interaction with President, CII



R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd

An interactive session was held with Mr R Dinesh, President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd on 31 August in Mumbai for members of the Maharashtra State Council, where he deliberated on the theme of CII for the year 2023 - 24. He also highlighted the various initiatives of CII and policy advocacy work being done at national level and shed light on the role CII played as the B20 Secretariat.

The interaction was also followed by a Q&A session with the members, where the President responded to the questions of members on a variety of subjects related to the Industry and economy.

Madhya Pradesh and Australia Exploring Partnerships in Healthcare



Tom Sandeford, First Secretary (Economic), Australian High Commission in Bhopal

A session held on 9 August in Bhopal aimed to forge healthcare collaborations between Madhya Pradesh and New South Wales (NSW), Australia. Discussions were held on knowledge exchange, partnerships and technology enhancement. "We look forward for more such engagements and further meaningful collaborations between both the countries to enhance the healthcare ecosystem," said Mr Tom Sandeford, First Secretary (Economic), Australian High Commission.

The session emphasized international co-operation for improved healthcare outcomes, connecting professionals to build productive alliances, which would benefit both regions. By connecting healthcare professionals and stakeholders, the event sought to lay the foundation for productive partnerships that could contribute to improved healthcare services in both Madhya Pradesh and NSW.

Ease of Doing Business in Madhya Pradesh



Sanjay Kumar Shukla, Principal Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion and dignitaries with the booklet

In a joint initiative, CII Madhya Pradesh and Government of Madhya Pradesh, organized the Ease of Doing Business Conclave 2023 to foster a discussion between Industry and Government. The conclave, held on 4 August in Bhopal, provided an enriching experience for Industry leaders as they highlighted policy and procedural issues to Government officials. Mr Chandra Mohan Thakur, Member Secretary, Madhya

Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB) mentioned that offices are becoming faceless and that the entire consent mechanism is being refurbished to ease the processes for the Industry. Mr Sanjay Kumar Shukla, Principal Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion said that MP is becoming a strong industrial economy.

The various Government departments shared the initiatives undertaken by them to enhance ease of doing business, which was followed by an interactive session wherein the Industry representatives raised their concerns. The conclave also featured departmental kiosks and stalls to resolve the procedural and day-to-day issues faced by the Industry. A booklet on Madhya Pradesh ease of doing business initiatives was also released during the conclave.

Doing Business with Indonesia



Masni Eriza, Minister, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia at the interaction in Mumbai

To foster promotion of existing trade, tourism, and investment opportunities in Indonesia, an interaction was held with H.E. Mr Masni Eriza, Minister, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia on 7 August in Mumbai. The interaction also aimed to endorse the annual trade event 'Tradexpo Indonesia 2023', scheduled from 18-22 October in Jakarta, Indonesia. H.E. Eriza also spoke about the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and how both economies have transformed since it was set up.

Towards Real Estate 4.0

The Indian real estate market has undergone a significant transformation in the past few years. From brick-and-mortar broker offices to digital marketplaces, the Industry has witnessed a shift toward technology-driven solutions. To deliberate on the transformation in real estate and infrastructure business processes, the 'Real Estate & Infrastructure Conclave 2023' was organized under the theme 'The Innovative Drive Towards Real Estate 4.0' on 11 August in Pune.



Speakers at the Real Estate & Infrastructure Conclave 2023

During the conclave, speakers highlighted proptech, a term that describes the use of technology in real estate, is revolutionizing the way real estate is bought, sold, and managed and has made the sector more efficient, transparent and customer centric. With the emergence of proptech, buying, selling, leasing and investing in real estate has become completely digitalized. As a result of the increasing demand for both residential and commercial spaces in India and the growing use of technology, the Indian real estate market is expected to reach USD 1 trillion by 2030.

Exploring Export Opportunities

To promote exports from Madhya Pradesh, CII and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) organized the Exporters' Conclave on 17 August in Bhopal. Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director General, DGFT, Government of India said that electronics & IT (hardware and software), auto & auto components and garments & apparel sector will grow exponentially in the near future. Export processes have also been streamlined to foster growth in the region, he said.

Through strategic discussions, workshops and networking opportunities, the conclave facilitated knowledge exchange, enabled businesses to navigate complexities and tap into international markets effectively.

Power of Collaboration

To foster collaboration between startups and corporations, CII MP conducted a Masterclass for C-Suite Executives in association with the CII Centre of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups (CIES) on 22 August in Bhopal. The event ignited strategic collaborations between startups and established corporations for enhanced research and development within the Industry. An integral aspect of the masterclass was an exploration into regulatory considerations. A dedicated session involving Government officials was organized to explore avenues for gaining Government support in nurturing the growth of startups in Madhya Pradesh.

Shri P Narahari, Secretary & Commissioner, Department of MSME, Government of Madhya Pradesh said that

to secure a position among the leading states in the 2023 ranking of the states, the Government is dedicated to fortifying the startup ecosystem. A key aspect of this commitment involves offering extensive support to startups, access to international markets and global financial resources and ensuring their global success.

Mr Kris Gopalakrishnan, Past President, CII and Co-founder, Infosys delivered

a special address that shed light on the need to develop a robust research ecosystem and enhance the spirit of entrepreneurship. Mr Shreyaskar Chaudhary, Chairman, CII Madhya Pradesh & Managing Director, Pratibha Syntex Ltd outlined the profound possibilities of collaboration between startups and established enterprises, describing it as a fusion of experience and enthusiasm, tradition, and disruption. The CII MP Dream Startup Challenge 2023 was also launched on the occasion to identify aspiring entrepreneurs hailing from tier-2 and tier-3 cities in Central India.

Conference on Private Equity

The conference on private equity held in Nashik on 25 August provided business owners guidance on how to scale up. Aspects like infusion of private equity and roping in strategic investors were the key areas of discussion.

Mr Joy Aloor, Vice Chairman, CII North Maharashtra Zone and Director, Fox Solutions Pvt Ltd said that MSMEs should not only focus on productivity, quality, innovation, market research and product reach, but also on understanding the balance sheet and should strive towards maintaining a healthy balance sheet.

The topics covered during the day included private equity, business valuation, difference between a pure private equity investor and a strategic investor and important elements of businesses, which are ignored and have an impact on valuation of the organization and legal aspects of joint venture/acquisition.

Agri Digital Technology



Dignitaries at the roundtable discussion in Mumbai

CII Maharashtra Taskforce on Agriculture, in association with SP Jain Institute of Management and Research,

organized a roundtable discussion on 'Agri Digital Technology: The Segway to Agricultural Prosperity' on 26 August in Mumbai. Dr Sunil D Gorantiwar, Director of Research and Principal Investigator, Centre of Advanced Agricultural Science & Technology (CAAST), Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri said that digital farming plays a vital role in understanding crop science and improving agronomic practices to yield better outputs.

India's digital ecosystem is witnessing healthy tailwinds such as affordability and availability of high-speed internet and is a maturing digital content ecosystem. The confluence of these factors presents an exciting opportunity for innovation in the agricultural ecosystem, where market players can leverage next-generation technology like data digitization, data platforms, data analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Internet of Things and Software as a Service (SaaS) to disrupt the status quo.

The roundtable featured panel discussions on role and progress of agri-digital technologies, future of digi-tech and challenges and opportunities in agriculture sector and policy reforms.

Members' Meet

CII Gujarat organized a zonal Members' Meet with Mr Kulin Lalbhai, Vice Chairman, CII Gujarat on 17 August in Vadodara. The primary purpose of his visit to the zone was to meet members and gain insights into their concerns to address them effectively. Mr Lalbhai highlighted CII's robust representation in policy advocacy and urged members to foster closer ties for networking and potential business collaboration.

Mr Varang Trivedi, Vice Chairman of Central Gujarat; Mr Bhavik Khera, Convener of the Gujarat MSME & Vendor Development Panel and Past Chairman, CII Central Gujarat and Mr Prashant Kane, Head R&D, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd were also present at the meet.

Investment Strategies for Uncertain Times

CII Goa organized a session on 'Investment Strategies for Uncertain Times' in Panjim on 10 August to provide participants with insights into angel investing and corporate investment approaches amidst economic challenges. By fostering dialogue between experts and stakeholders, the session contributed to a more resilient and prosperous investment landscape in the region. Insights were shared on how to navigate through uncertainties, capitalize on emerging opportunities and make informed investment decisions in an ever-evolving financial ecosystem.

Mr Chintan Haria, Head Investment Strategy, ICICI Prudential Asset Management said that the Indian market has been constantly growing and expressed confidence that it will continue on the upward trajectory.

Sharing Best Practices in World Class Manufacturing



Members at the Study Mission in Goa

To promote competitiveness across various sectors of the Industry and enable sharing best practices, a two-day study mission to Goa was organized on 24-25 August. As part of the mission, delegates got to learn the best practices in world-class manufacturing adopted and followed by Pentair Water India Pvt Ltd, Siemens Ltd, CommScope India Pvt Ltd, and Danlaw Technologies India Ltd, Goa.

The delegates got an opportunity to interact with the senior management and visit the shopfloor of these companies to witness the innovations, techniques, automation, technologies, processes, supply chain management and IoT & digitisation implemented. The visit also facilitated learning of best practices that could be adopted.

Study Mission

A study mission was organized in Ahmedabad on 4 August to showcase the state-of-art practices at Uflex Ltd and KMM Foods Pvt Ltd to enable participating company representatives to grasp fundamentals of world-class manufacturing as a process and culture for long term organizational building. The mission encompassed plant visits with specific focus on best practices followed by the organizations including best practices in shopfloor management.

An interaction was also organized with the senior management personnel of these two companies as part of the mission. The event also helped members to understand and identify good practices, which can be customized and adopted for increasing efficiency. ■



GREEN BUILDING CONGRESS®

INDIA'S FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE & EXPO ON GREEN BUILT ENVIRONMENT

23 - 25 NOVEMBER 2023

CHENNAI TRADE CENTRE | CHENNAI | INDIA

Theme:

'Advancing Net Zero through Decarbonisation'

ASIA'S LARGEST CONFERENCE & EXPO ON GREEN BUILT ENVIRONMENT



3-day International Conference



3-day Expo on Green Building Products, Materials, Technologies & Projects

Exclusive Conferences on • Green & Low Carbon Materials • Green Homes • Net Zero Cities • Decarbonising Technologies

Renowned National and International Speakers



Awards for IGBC Certified Projects

IGBC Leadership Awards 2023

SUPPORTERS* - 2023

Premier Supporters



Supporter
IGBC Performance Challenge for Green Built Environment 2023



Supporter -
IGBC Green Design Competition 2023



Principal Supporter



Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd.

Supporter
IGBC Green your School Programme 2023



Co-Principal Supporters



Platinum Supporter



Gold Supporter



www.igbc.in

www.greenbuildingcongress.com

Organised by



Confederation of Indian Industry

Supported by



INDIAN DIGITAL GAMING SOCIETY

India. gaming show 2024

International Gaming, Animation, Esports & Infotainment Event

14 - 16 March 2024

Messe Global Pune Laxmi Lawns (MGLL), Magarpatta, Pune, Maharashtra

GAME ON.
FUEL YOUR PASSION.

- A B2B & B2C event
- Three-Day Exhibition
- E sports
- Focused pavilions – Developers Zone, Start-up zone
- International Conference
- Cosplay

For bookings, please contact at Neelam.bhagat@cii.in / 9891722264

Edited, printed and published by:

Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, on behalf of Confederation of Indian Industry from The Mantosh Sondhi Centre, 23, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003 Tel: 91-11-24629994-7 Fax: 91-11-24626149 Email: info@cii.in Website: www.cii.in Registration No. 34541/79

Postal date on 20th and 21st

Total pages 64 + Covers