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Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

Pg-12

Green hydrogen, Solar Energy & Nuclear energy: the new opportunities for India and Hungary



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**INDIAN
DELEGATION
LIGHTS UP
RED CARPET
AT CANNES**

Assam state government working to transform the state into industrial hub for

Pg-14 Northeast and the neighbouring countries



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#AgnipathScheme



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FICCI is the voice of India's business and industry, reaching out to over 2,50,000 companies. Established in 1927, it is India's oldest and largest apex business organisation. FICCI serves its members from large (domestic and global companies) and MSME sectors as well as the public sector, drawing its strength from diverse regional chambers of commerce and industry.

EDITORIAL

From The Director General



Filmed Entertainment industry is one among the few sectors that have recovered substantially from the deceleration due to Covid. In 2021, the sector recorded a growth of over 28 per cent year-on-year and is estimated to grow over 60 per cent this year to reach INR 150 billion. Against this backdrop, India participated at the prestigious Cannes Film festival and Cannes Film Market or Marche du Film (the business counterpart of the festival). While the nation is celebrating its 75th year of independence, the Cannes film festival was also running its 75th edition. India was conferred with the title of *Country of Honour at Marché Du Film*.

Given the significance of the country's participation at the event, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur, led the largest-ever delegation of filmmakers and artists to the marquee event. FICCI was instrumental in organising the business engagements and showcasing the vast canvas of Indian cinema, art and the technical talent.

While the grandeur of the Indian film industry was exhibited abroad, the government came up with a pathbreaking scheme to boost employment within the country in the form of Agnipath. FICCI supports this scheme since it will not only introduce young blood in the armed forces but will also produce a disciplined and technically capable workforce ready for induction in the Indian industry. In fact, a lot of the corporates have already shown their eagerness to induct the Agniveers in their workforce post the completion of their 4-year tenure in the armed forces.

Meanwhile, FICCI continued with its other key engagements including *India – Hungary Business Forum*. Minister of State Meenakshi Lekhi and Hungary's Minister Péter Sziijártá graced the event and identified green hydrogen, solar and nuclear energy as potential areas of collaboration between the two nations. FICCI also organised a conference on Artificial Intelligence & digital applications in agriculture that laid bare the potential of digitisation and artificial intelligence technologies in developing an efficient and transparent data-driven supply chain. FICCI is of the firm view that Indian agriculture needs scale, skills, and service for widespread technology adoption.

Last not the least while the global inflationary pressures and Ukraine conflict continue to be causes of concern for the industry, it is obvious that the Indian growth story is on course due to the robust economic fundamentals. India is expected to emerge as the fastest growing economy by the end of this financial year.

Arun Chawla
Arun Chawla

DID YOU KNOW



Indian delegation lights up Red Carpet at Cannes

- Largest ever official Indian film & entertainment Industry delegation led by I&B Minister Anurag Thakur walks at Cannes Opening Night Red Carpet
- India is Country of Honour at Marche du Film

In a star-studded presence on the Red Carpet, Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Anurag Thakur led the largest-ever Indian official delegation on the inaugural event at the Cannes Film Festival.

A powerful Indian delegation comprising celebrity artists, filmmakers and actors led by Union Minister Anurag Thakur descended on Cannes to propagate India, the land of storytellers, as the 'content hub of the world' and the preferred

'post-production hub' for global filmmakers. It was also a historic moment for Indian folk arts as Mame Khan became the first folk artist to open a Red Carpet for the Indian contingent at Cannes.

The ten celebrities accompanying the Minister featured three musical maestros, renowned filmmakers and actors from Indian cinema who represent the kaleidoscopic diversity from various regions, languages, and mainstream and OTT-led cinema. These included:



1. Mame Khan, folk singer, Rajasthan
2. Shekhar Kapur, Globally acclaimed Director
3. Pooja Hegde, Actress
4. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Actor
5. Tamannah Bhatia, Actress
6. R Madhavan, Actor, Director, and Producer
7. AR Rahman, leading singer & Music Composer
8. Prasoon Joshi, Chairman, CBFC & renowned lyricist

9. Vani Tripathi, Producer, Member, CBFC, Indian film personality
10. Ricky Kej, the two times Grammy award winner and musician

Prasoon Joshi, a lyricist who penned innumerable evergreen film songs and is now the Chairman of the Central Board for Film Certification (CBFC), was also present. In addition, Shekhar Kapur, director of legendary films such as Mr India, and now chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), and Vani Tripathi Tikoo, actress and member of CBFC, took part in the Indian delegation.

Cannes Film Festival was unique this year for the country. India was the first-ever official Country of Honour at Marché du Film. India was also a “Country of Honour” at the Cannes Next, under which five startups pitched to the audio-visual Industry. In addition, ten professionals participated in the Animation Day networking. Another major highlight of India's participation in the latest edition of the Cannes Film Festival was the World Premiere of the Movie “Rocketry” produced by R Madhavan at the Palais des Festivals.



India Forum

Union Minister Thakur addressed the India Forum organised during the festival and addressed an audience comprising foreign and Indian filmmakers, journalists and delegates. He noted historic highs of Indian cinema and said that Indian content has been ruling the hearts and minds of the global audience and a steppingstone was laid by bestowing the Palme d'Or to the prolific Indian filmmaker Chetan Anand's film Neecha Nagar in 1946 and a decade later in 1956, Satyajit Ray's Pather Panchali that won the Palme d'Or.

"Today the recognition of our cinematic excellence the world over is set to manifest the country into the 'content hub of the world', the Minister added.



Speaking on India's current presence in Cannes the Minister said, "India intends to give you - the global audience, a flavour of the country's cinematic excellence, technological prowess, rich culture and illustrious heritage of storytelling".

"India's red-carpet presence captured the diversity of our cinematic excellence not only in terms of representation of actors and film makers from various languages and regions, but also OTT platforms, with a strong presence of music composers and a folk artist who have enthralled audiences both young and old", the Minister further added.

The Minister informed the audience about the presence of Indian startups in Cannes and said the startups from media and entertainment sector will showcase their technological prowess and pitch to the best from the world of AVGC along with a strong delegation of animation professionals from the sector.

The Minister informed the audience of the various measures by both Union and State governments and said while Center has envisioned major initiatives over the last 8 years to boost co-productions, film shoots and film facilitations in India, States like Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have formulated their own film facilitation

policies and provided co-production opportunities. He stated that these efforts aimed at boosting India's media and entertainment ecosystem, which is expected to generate USD 53 billion annually by 2025.

In one such measure, "Government of India officially designated audiovisual services as one of 12 'champion service sectors' and recently set up an AVGC task force comprising of industry leaders to prepare a policy roadmap for India to take a quantum leap in this sector and position us as the preferred postproduction hub of the world".

The Minister promised that the Government will take all necessary measures to transform India into a Global Content Subcontinent and use the skills of our youth to make India the preferred Postproduction Hub for the AVGC sector and to that end Government will speed up co-production collaborations from around the world and also offer

the best locations in India for Film Shoots. These steps, Thakur envisioned, will in the next 5 years, catapult Bharat into the league of leading quality content producing nations across the globe.



Incentives Galore!

- Union Minister Anurag Thakur announces major sops for audio-visual co-production and foreign film shootings.
- Incentives up to ₹ 2 crore for co-production & up to ₹ 2.5 crore for shooting foreign films in India.

Union Minister Anurag Thakur unveiled two schemes, viz - Incentive Scheme for Audio-Visual Co-production and Incentive Scheme Shooting of foreign films in India at Cannes to unleash the potential of Indian media and entertainment industry.

While sharing the details on the incentives, Minister Thakur informed that international film production companies could claim a reimbursement of up to 30% on qualifying expenditure in India subject to a maximum of INR 2 crore for official co-productions. Further, foreign films shooting in India can claim an additional 5% bonus up to a maximum of INR 50 lakhs (USD 65,000) as additional reimbursement would be granted for employing 15% or more manpower in India.

Speaking on the solid intent of the government to make India a favourite filming destination, Thakur said, “we have a strong intellectual property regime, and the digital medium now

complements the other more established modes of consumption and dissemination such as theatres and movies. It has brought about a democratisation of consumer choice like never before, and our government is intent on preserving this via support to the creative industries.”

Salient features of the Incentive Schemes

Incentive Scheme for Audio Visual Co-production

Under the scheme for all qualifying projects, the Indian Co-producer can claim a payable cash reimbursement of up to 30% on qualifying expenditure in India, subject to a maximum of INR 2 crore (USD 260,000). However, reimbursement shall be divided among the Producers as per their respective share of the financial contribution for the project.

- The project must have been granted a “Co-Production” status

by the Ministry of I&B and the participating country(ies), under one of India's official bi-lateral co-production treaties on Audio-Visual Co-production.

- Projects that have been granted official Co-production status after 01.04.2022 are eligible for the incentive.

Incentive Scheme for Shooting of Foreign Films in India

Under the scheme, the same incentive mentioned above shall be provided. Apart from that, an additional 5% bonus up to a maximum of INR 50 lakhs (USD 65,000) can be claimed as additional

reimbursement and would be granted for employing 15% or more manpower in India.

- To avail of this scheme, international productions that have been granted shooting permission by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Ministry of External Affairs (for documentaries only) after 01.04.2022 shall be eligible.

- The Incentives will be disbursed in two stages i.e., Interim and Final. The final disbursement claim can be made once the project is complete in India.
- Incentives will be provided on the recommendation of a Special Incentive Evaluation Committee. (The detailed guidelines are available on the FFO website).
- Moreover, incentives can be claimed under either of the Schemes and not for both.

Film Facilitation Office shall execute the Incentive Scheme under the aegis of the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)



Agnipath scheme to provide a trained talent pool for industry

■ FICCI welcomes the pathbreaking decision by the Union Cabinet

“FICCI welcomes the pathbreaking decision by the Union Cabinet to infuse 46000 Agniveers in the current year into the Armed Forces. Tapping a youthful talent pool will give us boots on the ground to serve the nation and present a trained, fit and disciplined workforce to industry, contributing to nation building,” said **Sanjiv Mehta, President, FICCI**

The new transformative scheme will provide merit-based, transparent recruitment opportunities for youth to fulfil the dream of joining the armed forces. Further avenues for skill up-gradation through bridge courses are also positive features that the industry welcomes. Moreover, it will ensure a smooth integration of individuals into society, given the unique ecosystem that the armed forces offer.

The Agnipath Scheme will also focus on national integration based on unity in diversity with equal opportunity for youth, including women from all regions. It will also help nation-building through empowered, disciplined, and skilled youth with military ethos in civil society.

“

Delighted with 'Agnipath' - the government scheme announced today which will provide an opportunity for the youth of the country to serve the nation as Agniveers in armed forces. This scheme provides a wider talent pool for our armed forces and will ensure right blend between youth and experience. After serving the nation, the highly disciplined youth would become a talent pool for the industry.

SANJIV MEHTA
President, FICCI



”

Agnipath scheme is a unique initiative which gives youth an opportunity to serve the country and then join the general workforce having imbibed certain skills. Industry will be more than willing to take on board Agniveers after completion of tour of duty given their unique training and skill set; accordingly, IMFA Ltd will give preference to them in recruitment.

SUBHRAKANT PANDA
Sr. Vice President, FICCI



“

I firmly believe the discipline and skills that Agniveers will gain, will provide market-ready professionals for our industry. I sincerely hope our industry supports recruiting such capable young people.



DR SANGITA REDDY
Past President, FICCI

”

Agnipath scheme is an innovative scheme which will strengthen the armed forces. Under the scheme, over 46000 youth will be recruited this year.



ARUN CHAWLA
DG, FICCI

“

Agniveers, with training on discipline, physical fitness, leadership, courage & patriotism, will be a ready skilled workforce for industry to be leveraged across sectors.



RITURAJ SINHA
Chair, FICCI Private Security Committee

”

I support the #AgnipathScheme by the government of #India. We need trained, disciplined youth as recruits; we'd like to train them further and deploy them across our businesses.



DR HARJINDER TALWAR
VP, FICCI CMSME

Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, Meenakshi Lekhi, says India needs to focus more on green hydrogen, and Hungary could collaborate with India in this vital sector.

While addressing the 'India-Hungary Business Forum' that we organised jointly with the Embassy of Hungary, the Minister said, "green hydrogen is an area where cooperation can come." The Minister invited the Hungarian businesses to collaborate with counterparts in India and said, "when India benefits, everybody else also benefits; we hope for greater business success in the coming days for everyone."

The Minister also highlighted that India had invested more in Hungary as compared to Hungary's investment in India. "I seek more investments from Hungary to India as the large consumer base, the cost and availability of materials will likely bring the production costs down," she added.

Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, said that the vision of the new Hungarian government is to protect and defend our achievements which we have achieved so far when it comes to a

safe supply of energy and economic security as well. The Minister highlighted four critical areas for a stronger India-Hungary relationship.

These include political, people-to-people

Green hydrogen, Solar Energy & Nuclear energy: the new opportunities for India and Hungary

- Cooperation between India-Hungary hitting records; Need to accelerate investments in solar energy.

contact, contractual conditions and extending the line of credit of 550 million euros exclusively to finance India-Hungary business-to-business cooperation.

Minister Szijjártó further stated that Hungary is building a new nuclear power plant, which will be operational by 2030. He further pointed out that Hungary is also making significant investments in solar. "By 2030, energy generation will be free of carbon emission to 90 per cent. But we want stronger cooperation in solar energy investment, and we have joined the International Solar Alliance.

With that, we hope to accelerate our investments into solar energy," he added.

Subhrakant Panda, Senior Vice President, FICCI and Managing Director, IMFA, signed an agreement, on behalf of FICCI, with Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA) to promote trade & investment between the two countries. He said, "Hungary is an important partner for India, and an active engagement with Hungary will positively impact India-EU relations."

Panda alluded to four key areas to further take Indo-Hungary trade relations to new heights. These included electronics, ICT, digitisation, and 5G technologies.

Second, focus on renewable energy. Three, enhancing

India's connectivity with Hungary extending to EU, Baltic and Nordic regions; and four, jointly cooperating in diverse sectors, including Ayurveda, oil exploration, and educational and cultural exchanges.



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Assam state government working to transform the state into industrial hub for Northeast and the neighbouring countries

The government of Assam, with the support from the Ministry of External Affairs and in association with FICCI as an Industry Partner, organised the 1st edition of "Conclave on Act East Through Northeast" in Guwahati during May this year. The event marks the 1st anniversary of the new government under the leadership of Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma & also commemorates 30 years of the Indo-ASEAN friendship.

The Northeastern region of India, with 5300kms of the international boundary, is bestowed with unique natural resources. Its proximity to the ASEAN countries offers immense opportunities for enhancing trade & commerce relationships. As part of the "Act East policy", the Government of India has been working with ASEAN partners to improve connectivity, boost the quantum of trade & commerce, and enhance economic cooperation. As a

result, India-ASEAN trade and investment relations have been growing steadily. Hence, Assam is well placed to play a vital role in building strong and mutually beneficial economic ties between the ASEAN Countries and India.

Speaking at the Conclave, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma said the connectivity with mainland India had improved significantly in the last five to six years due to substantial





Chandra Mohan Patowary, Minister of Industries & Commerce & Act East Policy Affairs, Govt of Assam

infrastructure investment and robust connectivity linkages with the neighbouring and ASEAN countries being developed.

"Railway network has been expanded to all the capitals of the northeast region, state-of-the-art highways have come up, and digital infrastructure has improved a lot," the Chief Minister said. He added that the state government is working diligently to transform Assam into an industrial hub for the Northeast and the neighbouring countries. Sarma

invited the Southeast Asian nation to play an active role in the state's development initiatives.

Minister of Industries and Commerce and Act East Policy Affairs of Assam, Chandra Mohan Patowary, said that the restoration of the rail connectivity with Bangladesh and completion of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway would put the Northeast at the centre of the vast South and Southeast Asian markets.

Several dignitaries, including Ambassadors/ High Commissioners & other representatives from ASEAN countries, senior bureaucrats from the Government of Assam & Union government, eminent industrialists, academicians & other entrepreneurs, attended the conclave.

Speaking on behalf of the ASEAN, the High Commissioner of Singapore, HE Simon Wong, spoke on Singapore's interest in the Master Plan for Guwahati, Smart Logistics Park in Assam, and the development of Northeast's first Skill University in the state.

Sanjeev Sanyal, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, said that the Centre is committed to facilitating trade and investment in the Northeast. "Financial reasons will not be a constraint to whatever needs to be done," he said.

Ranjit Barthakur, Chairman of FICCI Northeast Advisory Council, said that access to large markets in India and Southeast Asia should improve the investment climate in the Northeast in the coming days.



Ambassadors and representatives from ASEAN Countries join hands to mark successful completion of the conclave

In the current paradigm of copper production, we cannot wish away the copper recycling strategy as recycling requires 85 per cent less energy, said Dr V K Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog.

Addressing the FICCI seminar on 'Copper Industry Convention: Vision 2030 & 2047', Dr Saraswat said India is not self-sufficient in producing copper ore, and imports copper concentrates for its smelters. "The rate of copper recycling is meagre. So we need to do backward integration in copper recycling," he added.

He further shared that there should be standards from the raw material stage up to finished products to maintain the quality and safety of refined copper. Dr Saraswat further added that primary copper production is critical for India to be an export hub.

Dr Saraswat said that the recycling industry must have a scrap standard. "Now, we are working towards setting up scrap standards. But, we have to solve this problem collectively," he said, adding that India has all the capabilities to lay down the best standards. "It is only a question of working together and setting the right standards. We need to have synchronised efforts to make the copper industry the number one in the world," Sarawat stated.

PLI scheme needed

Elaborating on the ESG measures, Dr Saraswat stated that there is a need for the copper sector to get some incentives, including PLI, to mitigate the extra cost borne by the industry. "We need to focus on value-added products, and these products can be made if we have a PLI scheme for the sector," he noted.

Foreign mine acquisition needs accelerated timelines.

Highlighting the challenges of the copper sector, Dr Saraswat said that the fundamental challenge is the availability of the primary raw material. "Securitizing the copper

Government to launch scrap standard for the copper sector soon

- FTA with Australia likely to commence from Oct benefiting copper industry also; UAE & Australia FTAs to generate 2 million new jobs in India



concentrate along with other raw materials is very important. In this regard, the pace of acquisition of foreign mines needs to be accelerated," he added.

Dr Srikar K Reddy, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, said India has emerged as a trusted partner in the global supply chain. "We are concluding FTA with countries exhibiting complementarities, especially developed countries. For example, India concluded FTA with UAE in a record three months, and businesses on both sides are benefiting from it," he added.

Highlighting the recent FTA with Australia, Dr Reddy stated that it is the first FTA of India with any developed country in over a decade. Australia has agreed to provide 100 per cent market access to all Indian products. "We hope the agreement with Australia will be important also for the copper industry," he noted.

Dr Reddy further stated that India's

export would double with UAE to reach US\$ 50 billion in the next five years from the current US\$ 27 billion mark and create one million new jobs for Indians. Also, with Australia's FTA, India will create one million new jobs. "These two FTAs will add value to Indian GDP and create two million jobs in India," he added.

Sameer Patil, Deputy Commissioner – Tax Research Unit, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, said margins and scale are two essential components for any industry. For companies engaged in the commodities business, we can look at working on a large scale with reduced margins, which can be passed on to the domestic downstream industries.

Sanjeev Verma, Director, Ministry of Mines, said the copper industry has a lot of significance in the Indian economy and has diversified applications across many sectors. "Copper industry forms an integral



part of our economic growth supporting the mission of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and US\$ 5 trillion economy," he added. Verma also stated that under the circular economy, the ministry works on zero waste management of non-ferrous metals with NITI Aayog.

Industry views

Rohit Pathak, Chief Executive Officer, Hindalco Industries, Birla Copper, said copper is crucial for transitioning to a green and clean India. Pathak further shared vital areas that need attention for the holistic growth of the Indian Copper Industry:

1. India needs to secure a supply of copper concentrate for scaling Indian production to meet India's future demand.

2. India needs solid standards for copper scrap as 80% of copper use is in electrical applications.
3. India should focus on innovation & new product development in the copper industry to cater to demand from emerging sectors.

Puneet Khurana, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Sterlite Copper, said copper concentrate security is critical and needs a strategic approach. He added that there should be some incentive for the exports in the wire and cables industry.

Downstream Manufacturer Milan Mehta highlighted the growing use of winding wires across various sectors like automobiles, construction, transmission, etc. However, he stated that though the production stands at 4,20,000 tonnes per annum, the capacity utilization has only been 60 per cent countrywide.

He noted that with growth in demand for winding wires due to investment trends in generation and transmission, decarbonization goals, EVs, demand for white goods consumer durables, and greater power consumption, the winding wires industry can grow by 7.5-8% per annum in the next decade and grow up to 1.8-2 MT by 2047. It

would, however, Mehta adds, "require the work of strong, supportive primary copper producers, reliant custom duty structure, circular economy pursuits, rationalization of GST from 18% to 12%, and improvement in quality standards and investment avenues."

Downstream Manufacturer Gopal Kabra emphasized the growing demand for copper and the expansion of the global copper wire business. He stated that the worldwide copper wire business stands at US\$ 500 million, but India's share remains meagre at 5 per cent.

Kabra added that the quality of copper used in Winding Wire is critical for the quality and performance of end products in India and exports. Therefore, direct melting of scrap for the production of wires is concerning and should not be encouraged.

He highlighted the need to expand and incentivize the export of wire and cable industries. Further, he argued for a need to improve the industry-wide quality standards to ensure demand for Indian wires beyond our boundaries. Moreover, quality assurance is also required to ensure sustainability and safety- to escape prospects of duplication of products. Kabara encouraged the BIS to strengthen its standards.



FICCI, jointly with the Ministry of Textiles and BIS, recently organised the '5th National Conclave on Standards for Technical Textiles'. Addressing the gathering on the theme Building Standards for India@2047, Upendra Prasad Singh, the Secretary of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, said that the government would focus on research and development of technical textiles under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).

He said: "Technical textiles is a sunrise sector, and we collectively have to work to increase its penetration in the domestic market." The secretary added that to boost technical textiles further, the government has taken a series of initiatives in the last two years, including introducing the PLI scheme (for man-made and technical textiles) and setting up the National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM).

The secretary emphasised the need to enhance the R&D in technical textiles. "Whatever we need to do to promote technical textiles, including formulation of standards, we all need to work together, including government, BIS and the industry." Further, noting the need for standardisation in technical textiles for better quality, he added that the government plans to hold deliberation on Quality Control order (QCO) for certain technical textiles items shortly. "The quality control orders will be mandatory and will take these steps in consultation with the industry so that the industry, especially indigenous industry, is not affected," he said.

Rajinder Gupta, Chair, FICCI Textiles Committee & Chairman, Trident, noted geo-textiles, sports tech, meditech, and protech, among other areas where faster standard development is the key. Highlighting that technical textiles with wide applications can play a crucial role in the country's transformation in the next twenty-five years, Gupta added, "Today is the time to build a new India which is safe, clean and self-dependent." However, Rajnikant Sabnavis, Co-Chair, FICCI Textiles Committee & Chief Marketing

Government to focus on research & development under National Technical Textiles Mission

- Over 500 BIS Standards for Technical Textiles have been developed, and 40 more are in the pipeline
- Government working on Increasing Penetration of Technical Textiles in Domestic Market



Officer, Grasim Industries, averred that the nation mainly depends on imports for technology in technical textiles. "We want to see this journey towards improving technologically and gaining strength," he said.

Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry, Director General, Border Roads Organisation, said that technical textiles are essential in building roads in the border region. He also urged the industry to come forward and support building new infrastructure. "We construct various roads, tunnels, and airports in extreme weather conditions and at times without adequate technical support. We need the industry to support us by finding a solution to these problems at borders. We have been collaborating with various technical institutions, the industry and academia." he said.

Speaking on occasion, Rajeev Sharma, Deputy Director General (Standardization), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), noted that India is poised to become a key market for technical textiles owing to its cost effectiveness, durability and versatility. He added that BIS had developed over 500 standards for technical textiles, and around 40 more are in the pipeline. Emphasising that standardisation plays a crucial role in the development of trade, he said, "BIS is in the process of developing Standards National Action Plan (SNAP) for the years 2022 to 2027."

Sharma added: "I urge the industry to identify important subjects under technical textiles which BIS can include in SNAP."



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Indian startups need access to data and market to tackle technology adoption in agriculture



- Global market size for AI in agriculture likely to reach USD 8,379.5 million by 2030: FICCI-PwC report

FICCI, jointly with the German Agribusiness Alliance, organised the second International Conference: Artificial Intelligence & Digital applications in Agriculture this past month. The event was attended by the stakeholders in the agriculture industry, including Anna Roy, the Senior Adviser of the NITI Aayog. Roy said, "by providing the Indian startup ecosystem with an enabling framework including access to data,

we will be able to tackle the issue of technology adoption in the agriculture sector."

Roy acknowledged that the Indian startup ecosystem has actively disrupted the agriculture sector and said, "opportunity in agritech exists across the value chain from improving farmers' access to markets, inputs, data, advisory, credit and insurance."

She also alluded to the National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence released by NITI Aayog in 2018, which identified agriculture as one of the focus areas. She said: "AI in the areas of weather, soil nutrients, pest and disease management, fertigation, market prices, finance



and traceability have shown significant potential."

AI is expected to play a vital role in the growth of Indian agriculture, relieving the sector from stressful conditions and catalysing a shift towards data-driven farming. TR Kesavan, Chairman, FICCI National Agriculture Committee & Group President, TAFE, believes that "Digital solutions including AI has potential to shift the country toward deploying best technology interventions in meeting its dual goals of raising income for smallholder farmers as well as continuing to strengthen the competitiveness of Indian agriculture through data-driven decision making."

However, "there is a need to capitalise on the potential of digitisation and AI technologies to develop an efficient and transparent data-driven supply chain," said Hemendra Mathur, Chairman, FICCI Task Force on Agri Start-ups & Venture Partner, Bharat Innovation Fund. Ashok Varma, Partner and Leader – Social Sector, PwC India, adds, "a 3s strategy - Scale, Skill & Service – is needed to transform AI to Agriculture intelligence leading to widespread adoption of technology."

The use of AI and other digital technologies in a transparent way can also significantly help in achieving the overall goal of sustainable agriculture worldwide. In this regard, Prof Dr Engel Friederike Arkenau, Commissioner for Digitisation, Head of Directorate Digital Innovation, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany, avers that "sustainability is a result of a balanced interplay between economy, environment and social spheres. Therefore, it needs collaboration, cooperation and co-creation as an essential element."

Despite the challenging times we live in, the agriculture sector in India and worldwide has proven to be strong, thanks to technology. Julia Harnal, Chairperson, German Agribusiness Alliance & VP, Public Affairs Agricultural Solutions, BASF SE, said, "Digital solutions surely are a 'game changer' in many aspects. Not only can they support enhancing the

resilience of production, but they can also support farmers to produce efficiently and sustainably." Pankaj K Dwivedi, Head of BD & Agronomy, Nurture.farm adds in, "technologies are abundant in agriculture. Therefore, the incentive to adopt and ability to deploy in the field at scale is key."

Sensor-based use of drone applications in agriculture is the need of the hour.

Currently, India does not have the sensor-based targeted approach of pesticides and nutrients application through drones. However, with technological advances, the country will soon have sensor-based use of drones. Shomita Biswas, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, said, "The ecosystem is now in place, and it is up to the industry and startups to leverage this ecosystem."

Biswas emphasised anchoring a robust collaborative ecosystem between all players in the domain and urged universities and institutes working on judicious use of pesticides through drones to share the data and research findings with all stakeholders. Further, she suggested that startups work on low-cost solutions for the farmers and provide good after-sales services.

"I urge the Startups to come forward and provide these services. In addition, the government agencies should also involve Startups to find solutions for certain services," Biswas remarked.

5C's - Context, Culture, Construct, Commitment, and Calibrate, essential for managing innovation



Large corporates need to get over the fear of failure, said **Suresh Narayanan**, Chairman & Managing Director, Nestle India, during a fireside chat on **Leadership- The force Multiplier for Innovation in Organisations** at the **Innovation Summit- Creative Disruption & Creative Resurrection** that we organised recently.

“This starts with the leadership”, he said, speaking on innovation in the context of big organisations.

Narayanan said leadership, irrespective of geography and economic reality, must look at 5C's – Context, Culture, Construct, Commitment, and Calibrate – concerning innovation.

He said innovation must have a context, which must be interwoven with the purpose and values of the

organisation. Further, companies must have an innovation culture embedded in a construct where people, processes, and the reward mechanism are in place. He added that innovation requires a long-term commitment and the ability to calibrate based on evolving realities.

He said Nestle is innovating at three times the pace it was about six years ago. “We launched 90 to 100 new products in the last couple of years. It would have taken us a couple of decades to launch”, he said and added, “nothing has been updated, same processes, brands, propositions and testing mechanisms, but teams have been recalibrated. What we have tried to do is to walk the talk, and I do it personally.”

Narayanan said that leadership needs to be authentic. “Authentic behaviour means to say what you

mean and mean what you say,” he said, adding, “leadership is not leading others; it is being increasingly confident in yourself.”

Speaking on occasion, **Ranjan Kumar Mohapatra**, Chair of FICCI HR Committee & Director HR, Indian Oil Corp Limited, said disruptions provide us with an opportunity to respond differently. He alluded to the COVID crisis where the three A's – agility, adoption of new technology, and alignment of purpose led to Indian Oil Corporation delivering despite the challenges.

“None of us knew how to supply LPG cylinders to your residences during COVID; can you believe Indian Oil delivered 33 lakh cylinders to homes on a day?” he said, adding, “it was made possible because the workforce was agile.”

Talking about the role of the HR fraternity during the pandemic, **Manoj Sharma**, Member, FICCI HR Committee & Joint President and CHRO, Aarti Industries, said human resource professionals have innovated quite a lot of practices during this time. **However**, **Anuradha Razdan**, Co-Chair, FICCI HR Committee & Executive Director, HR, HUL & CHRO, Unilever South Asia, said, “You can invent alone, but you cannot innovate alone.”

Specialised training programmes needed to sensitize officers on the intricacies of smuggling and counterfeiting

- Indian economy saw a loss of ₹1,17,253 crore and 16.36 lakh livelihood opportunities due to smuggling in five key sectors in FY18-19.

Dr A Amalraj, Additional Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu & Director, Tamil Nadu Police Academy, believes that training programmes for sensitising police officers on smuggling and counterfeiting are critical. "These programmes will sensitise the officers on the magnitude of the problem and help them understand the intricacies of smuggling and counterfeiting," he said.

He was speaking at the "Capacity Building Programme for Police Officers on Prevention of

Counterfeiting and Smuggling' organised by FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE).

While highlighting the menace of illicit goods, Dr Amalraj said that such products are harmful to consumers and incur huge losses to the government exchequer.

While overviewing the socio-economic impact of counterfeiting and smuggling, Deep Chand, Advisor, FICCI CASCADE and Former Special Commissioner of Police, New Delhi, noted that the Indian economy saw a loss of 1,17,253 crore and 16.36 lakh livelihood opportunities due to smuggling in five key sectors in FY18-19. He said: "capacity building in terms of skill, infrastructure and technology is essential for the law

enforcement agencies in improving the detection and investigation mechanism of crimes relating to counterfeiting and smuggling."

Pradeep Dixit, Vice President, Industry Affairs, ITC, alluded to the need for close coordination between the industry and the enforcement officers to address the mounting challenges from counterfeiting and smuggling. He underlined that the proceeds from selling counterfeit, smuggled, and contraband products contribute to the funding of criminal activities all across the globe.

Nitin Saluja, Senior Policy Manager, Customer Trust, Amazon India, discussed Amazon's efforts in mitigating fraud and abuse on marketplaces that hamper customers' trust and how Amazon. "Amazon is committed to promoting and participating in the efforts for ensuring that the consumers are empowered to enjoy the benefits of online shopping while being protected from the risks the digital era may present," he added.



India-UAE Startup Corridor to enhance the startup ecosystem between the two countries

This past month, FICCI LEAD, our technology and business incubator and the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), recently inked a landmark MoU to launch the 'India-UAE Start-Up Corridor'.

The MoU between FICCI LEAD and DIFC is a follow-on to the MoU signed between FICCI LEAD, Indian Angel Network (IAN), Turbostart, India and MCA Management Consultants, UAE, on January 26 this year at Expo 2020, Dubai.

The initiative aims to enhance and expand the startup ecosystem between India and the UAE. Besides, it will further the vision of the leadership of both countries under the recently signed Comprehensive

Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). This initiative would create an ecosystem to encourage the engagement between startups, investors, incubators, corporations, and entrepreneurs to scale their business and strengthen their position in the global market. It will target a minimum of 50 validated startups based in India and the UAE over five years with the vision to grow 10 of them into unicorns (startups valued at more than USD 1 billion) by 2025.

Around ten technology-led innovative startups from various sectors, including financial services, education and logistics, were shortlisted for the inauguration of the India-UAE Start-Up Corridor in

Dubai.

Arif Amiri, CEO of DIFC Authority, said, "Since DIFC's establishment in 2004, we have demonstrated our commitment to building and maintaining sustained, long-lasting partnerships with the Indian market. Indian banks, insurers, law firms and wealth managers have already chosen DIFC as their preferred global financial centre in the region. We are delighted to be working with FICCI LEAD to build a corridor that will attract more Indian startups."

Ajai Chowdhry, Chairman of FICCI Start-Up Corridor & FICCI Lead, said, "This landmark MOU is the beginning of an important partnership on enhancing opportunities in the innovation and

entrepreneurship ecosystems between India and the UAE. FICCI remains committed to progressively scaling this India-UAE Start-Up Corridor in collaboration with our partner, DIFC, and help convert at least ten startups into unicorns."

Ganesh Raju, Co-Chairman of FICCI Start-Up Committee & FICCI Lead, said, "The India-UAE Start-up Corridor has the potential to be a game-changer. It will bring large pools of funding and provide access to markets for startups from both countries. It is a perfect opportunity for investors to engage through this corridor and help breed the next generation of valuable companies."

Dr Aman Puri, Consul General of

India, Dubai, said, "I am certain that this MOU between FICCI LEAD and DIFC will foster deeper collaboration between the startup ecosystems of India and the UAE and bring in opportunities to further the momentum set during Expo 2020, Dubai. We are excited for the coming years that will witness the emergence of new soonicorns and unicorns in both countries and contribute to finding innovative solutions to global challenges."

S Venkatesh, Managing Partner, MCA, said, "This MOU is a significant step in enabling the Indian startups to have a launch

pad in the UAE and widen their market reach to GCC and beyond. He added that MCA is proud to participate in this great initiative to further economic growth."

Manoj Nayak, Founder of 6th Sense, said, "The India-UAE Start-Up Corridor has been initiated at the right time to bring more prosperity to both the countries and the global economy. Nayak added that 6th Sense is proud to be part of this programme."

1st Cohort 2022 – India-UAE Start-up Corridor

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CEPA will give more investment and business opportunities to Kerala

- Kerala's textile, leather, footwear, plastics, agricultural products, and engineering sector to benefit from CEPA.

“Kerala will benefit from the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CEPA) implemented by India and the UAE from 01 May 2022,” said Minister for Industries, Law & Coir, Government of Kerala, P Rajeeve, at the Interactive Session on CEPA organised by FICCI Kerala State Council in association with the Directorate General of

Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Industries, Government of Kerala.

Experts believe the agreement will help attract more investments and business opportunities to Kerala, benefiting the textile, leather, footwear, plastics, agricultural products and engineering sectors, and startups in the state. In addition, the Minister avers that Kerala also gets the

opportunity to launch more competitive products.

“More small, medium and micro enterprises should come forward to take full advantage of the agreement,” the Minister said.

UAE Ambassador to India, H.E. Dr Ahmed Albanna, believes the agreement will “further warm relations between the two countries.” India is the UAE's third largest trading partner. Moreover, the Indian diaspora, the largest in UAE, makes a compelling case for ensuring cooperation in more areas. Deepak L Aswani, Chairman, FICCI Kerala State Council, noted, “CEPA would immensely benefit the strong bond of relationship with a significant percentage of Kerala diaspora.”

Dr Albanna added: “CEPA will open up many job and market opportunities in the UAE for products from India. It will also pave the way for more investments.” KM Harilal, Joint Director General Foreign Trade, Kochi, voices a similar opinion. He said, “CEPA will open up a lot of opportunities for the export sector in Kerala and the export of jewellery, spices, agricultural products, coconut oil and cashew nuts.”

S. Harikishore, Director, Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of Kerala, suggests enhancing the “coordination between various departments to make exports smoother and more transparent.





"Government of Kerala is coming up with extensive consultations with trade bodies and stakeholders and formulating an action plan to take advantage of CEPA to benefit the exporters and business community from the state," he adds.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic response from the industry and policymakers, with entrepreneurs from Kozhikode, Malappuram, Kannur, Kasaragod and Wayanad districts participating in the interactive session. In addition, Bibin Menon, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade and Noida SEZ Development Commissioner, Union Ministry of Commerce, DV Swamy,

Development Commissioner, Kochi Special Economic Zone, and Mohammad Yusuf, Commissioner, Kochi Customs, among other luminaries, participated in the discussions to speak on pertinent issues and opportunities.

Gujarat Police seized counterfeit goods worth Rs 12.5 crore in the last two years

The Gujarat Police official was speaking at the 'Capacity Building Programme for Police Officers on Prevention of Counterfeiting and Smuggling' organised by FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE).

Tolumbia said, "There have been 46 copyright cases over the last two years, and Gujarat Police have managed to seize counterfeit goods worth INR 12.5 Crore." He further that the police have seized duplicate watches of high-end brands, amounting to more than INR 3.3 Crore and duplicate mobile accessories worth INR 83 Lakhs.

Speaking on occasion, PC Jha, Advisor, FICCI CASCADE and Former Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, said the illegal activities of counterfeiting and smuggling are flooding the market with substandard, fake goods are sold without issuing bills, thus contributing towards the increase in unaccounted money. He added that trade in counterfeit and smuggled goods has substantially threatened our country's economy and poses serious safety and security hazards to society at large.

While overviewing the Socio-Economic Impact of Counterfeiting and Smuggling, Deep Chand, Advisor, FICCI CASCADE and Former Special Commissioner of

Police, New Delhi, highlighted the global estimates of illicit trade. He said that the broader social, investment, and criminal enforcement costs due to smuggling and counterfeiting could touch \$4.2 trillion by 2022, putting at risk 5.4 million legitimate jobs.

Pradeep Dixit, Vice President, Industry Affairs, ITC Ltd, said, "Smuggling and Counterfeiting expand black markets and encourages a convergence between organised crime, terrorist groups and other threat networks." Generating mass awareness amongst the consumers is an essential means to curtail the hazards of growing illicit trade, added Dixit.

Nitin Saluja, Senior Policy Manager, Customer Trust, Amazon India, discussed Amazon's efforts in mitigating fraud and abuse on marketplaces that hamper customer trust and how Amazon, via its various initiatives, puts in enormous resources to deliver on its established tenets and to make its marketplace a reliable and safe platform for customers, brands, and sellers to conduct transactions. "Amazon is committed to promoting and participating in the efforts for ensuring that the consumers are empowered to enjoy the benefits of online shopping while being protected from the risks the digital era may present."

One of the recent most significant seizures in Gujarat included duplicate versions of sunglasses, worth INR six crores, of a high-end brand, said Saurabh Tolumbia, Deputy Inspector General of Police, CID (Crime and Railways), Gujarat.

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Export Promotion through Special Economic Zones in Tamil Nadu

FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council organised a Special Road Show on 'Export Promotion through Special Economic Zones in Tamil Nadu' this month in Chennai.

S Krishnan, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, said, "Migrant workers are vital to Tamil Nadu's economic development. In several ways, the State government has been open to them." He further said, "industries in the state have benefited significantly from the social dividend through the welfare approach of successive governments."

He urged exporters that "there is a clear intent by the Tamil Nadu government to encourage exports and facilitate exports." He added: "The government intends to do it fundamentally by giving you a state with quality human resources, infrastructure, ease of doing business, and a way to bring down the transaction cost and ensure that you are able to manufacture competitively for the world."

Pooja Kulkarni, MD & CEO, Guidance TamilNadu made a detailed presentation on Ease of



Doing Business Reforms and Tamil Nadu Single Window Portal. Dr MK Shanmuga Sundaram, Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone, delivered the Keynote Address on the importance of exports and economic development through SEZs. TK Ramachandran, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, Tuticorin, gave the Special Address on Trade Facilitation through Export through Seaport. Alex Paul Menon, Joint Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone, made a detailed presentation on India's Free Trade Agreements with UAE and Australia.

Other Eminent Speakers include Dr GSK Velu, Chairman, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council & CMD, Trivitron / Neuberg Group of Companies, Anand Sethuprakasam, Regional Chairman - EPCES, MEPZ Special Economic Zone, Sunil Rallan, CMD, CHENNAI FREE TRADE ZONE, Developer - J.Matadee Free Trade Zone Pvt Ltd, M Irshad Mecca, Convenor, FICCI TNSC EXIM Panel & MD, Farida Group also spoke on occasion.

More than 150 delegates from various sectors across Tamil Nadu participated and benefited. The roadshow was sponsored by MEPZ-SEZ, SIPCOT, EPCES and Chennai Free Trade Zone.

Caption (L to R): Dr MK Shanmuga Sundaram, Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone, Dr GSK Velu, Chairman, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council & CMD, Trivitron / Neuberg Group of Companies, S Krishnan, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Pooja Kulkarni, MD & CEO, Guidance Tamil Nadu, TK Ramachandran, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, Tuticorin, M Irshad Mecca, Convenor, FICCI TNSC EXIM Panel & MD, Farida Group



J&K to remove all shortcomings to boost tourism

“Almost 1 lakh crore has been invested for developing road infrastructure in J&K, and airports will be equipped with night parking facilities to ease travelling by air,” said Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, UT of Jammu & Kashmir at 'FICCI Golf Tourism Summit and Golf Tournament'. The event was organised by FICCI J&K State Council, jointly with the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Jammu & Kashmir Tourism, Chhattisgarh Tourism and IGTA this past month.

He added: “I assure you that we will be able to meet most of the shortcomings in terms of infrastructure, accommodation, and transport very soon.”

Speaking on occasion, Rupinder Brar, Additional Director General of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, noted the “increase in tourist flow” in the valley, as also pointed out by Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary, Tourism & Culture, Jammu & Kashmir. He said, “J&K has seen the best tourist footfalls in the last five months.” Brar stressed the need to do “things responsibly for sustainable experiences.”

- Almost ₹1 lakh crore has been invested to develop road infrastructure in the state.

Brar also alluded that Chhattisgarh, along with J&K, affords numerous experiences to the tourist. Amitabh Jain, Chief Secretary of Chhattisgarh, echoed a similar opinion. He said, “Chhattisgarh is covered by natural Sal forests, wildlife and home to various cultures and traditions,” adding, “more tourism products should be showcased so that tourists have more experiences to choose from.”

Rajan Sehgal, Member, FICCI Tourism Committee; President, India Golf Tourism Association (IGTA), said, “Golf is a sport for passionate people, and golf tourism gives the opportunity to not only play golf but also experience the destination.”

The event, which was organised in Srinagar and Pahalgam, saw participation from leading corporates, diplomats from Germany and Austria, and other stakeholders to discuss the diversity of tourism products: golf tourism, MICE, medical & wellness tourism, agri-herbal tourism, eco & ethno-tourism, sports tourism to adventure and wildlife, as these can be intricately linked together to provide unique and memorable experiences for domestic and foreign tourists. Two rounds of Golf Tournament at the Royal Springs Golf Course and Pahalgam Golf Course were also organised as part of the summit.

FICCI Gujarat state council recently organised a meeting with the Indonesian Embassy in India officials in Ahmedabad.

H.E. Bona Kusuma, Trade Attaché, H.E. Charles Miduk Somara, First Secretary (Economic) and H.E. Erry Herjuno, Counsellor, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia in New Delhi, met the members of FICCI Gujarat State Council: Sunil Parekh, Co-Chairman, FICCI Gujarat State Council, Kaushal Soparkar, CEO, Meghmani Finechem, Shanay Shah, President, Shalby and Ravin Vyas, Director, Amron Fillers Pvt. Ltd.

The two sides discussed areas of collaboration and investment opportunities between the state of Gujarat and Indonesia. The two sides also explored the possibilities of investments from Gujarat – based companies in Indonesia in Electric Vehicles, Bulk Drugs, Medical Value Travel, Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare, and Aerospace & Defence, among others.

Indonesia and Gujarat explore business opportunities

- Indonesian embassy open to setting up a trade representation office in the state.

Gujarat is a significant trade destination for Indonesia currently. Moreover, given Gujarat's potential to contribute to bilateral trade between India and Indonesia increasingly, the Embassy of Indonesia is also willing to consider setting up a trade

representative office in Gujarat.

FICCI has assured of all support to promote bilateral trade and investment between India and Indonesia and will continue to work closely in this regard.



World's first Smart Manufacturing Competency Centre inaugurated in Ahmedabad

Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship & Electronics and Information Technology, recently launched the Smart Manufacturing Competency Centre in Ahmedabad.

The centre - the first in the world - aims to accelerate the adoption of smart manufacturing solutions in the country. Centre of Excellence -IoT & AI, MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and IT) & DST (Department of Science and Technology), Government of Gujarat joined hands with NASSCOM and FICCI Gujarat office for the inauguration. It will also help create a collaborative ecosystem that will unite solution seekers and providers under one virtual roof with an opportunity to understand the manufacturing challenges and co-create solutions.

Speaking on occasion, Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said, “technological breakthroughs such as Industry 4.0 are going to shape the future of the Indian manufacturing sector deeply. To strengthen the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, MeitY is committed to propelling technology innovation through startup programs and CoEs and making India a globally competitive manufacturing ecosystem.”



SMCC will help accelerate the adoption of Industry 4.0 solutions by bringing together enterprises, government, researchers, and innovators to create awareness and opportunities to network for technology adoption. Manufacturers can experience demos and success stories of large tech enterprises and startups, network and meet top solution providers to co-create solutions using emerging technologies such as IoT, data

analytics, AI, and AR/VR. In addition, the centre will engage startups and technology solution providers to showcase their solution capabilities to senior manufacturing leaders. It will enable SMEs and manufacturing enterprises to experience end-to-end diverse digital solutions that can improve productivity, efficiency, and safety in plants.

Business success depends on the value created in the society, said **Dr Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad**, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India, at the workshop on "Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) with Special focus on Aspirational Districts", organised during the AKAM Mega Show in Gandhinagar this month. The event was organised by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) in association with FICCI, along with others.

Dr Karad said: "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has suggested to work, particularly in health, nutrition, tourism, skill development and environment."

The workshop on "Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) with Special focus on Aspirational Districts" was organised in partnership with FICCI. Dignitaries from NITI Aayog, civil society organizations, representatives of Aspirational Districts and other CPSEs Nodal Officers for CSR implementation attended the gathering.

Delivering the Keynote address, **Rajesh K Chaudhry**, Special Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance, said from 2018 onwards, CPSEs have been undertaking CSR activities on the common theme decided by the Government and preferentially spending at least 60 per cent in the aspirational districts. "Every year, public sector enterprises spend around 4500 crores on CSR; if we take 60 per cent of that, it comes to around

Business Success depends on the value created in the society

■ Every year, public sector enterprises spend around ₹4500 crores on CSR

2700 crores spending on Aspirational Districts."

Geeta Goradia, Chairperson of FICCI Gujarat State Council, said, "we believe that collaboration and convergence with various stakeholders are the key factors to address some of our pressing developmental challenges. She added, "Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme is amongst one of the flagship initiatives of the government that have made a significant impact in a short period of time as it is based on convergence, collaboration, and competition amongst various stakeholders involved."

Rama Kamaraju, Senior Advisor, Head of Voluntary Action Cell/Aspirational Districts Programme, NITI Aayog, said NGOs play a key role in filling the gaps in various socio-economic development schemes executed by the government.

Kamaraju also spoke on the key benefits of the NGO Darpan portal developed by NITI Aayog. He said, "more than 140,000 NGOs have registered on the portal" and encouraged NGOs to register on the portal as it serves as a quality check, a single window for information on government schemes, a marketplace, and a repository of information on the best practices, along with helping the government in reaching out to NGOs to aid in proper execution.

The day-long workshop deliberated on various development interventions being implemented towards Aspirational Districts and their role in improving the Human Development Index; the role of NGOs in realising health, nutrition and education goals of the nation and CSR interventions of CPSEs in Health, Nutrition & Education towards socio-economic growth of the nation.



CEA's six pillars to enhance the competitiveness of MSMEs

- GeM is developing a forward auction platform for CPSE's idle asset monetisation
- Procurement from women-owned MSEs crossed the 1 per cent threshold for the first time since 2018

Promotion of integrated cluster infrastructure development, access to finance, skill development, product diversification, marketing and branding, access to technology, and digital tools are the six pillars to enhance the competitiveness of MSMEs, said **Dr V Anantha Nageswaran**, Chief Economic Adviser.

He spoke at the Workshop on “**Public Procurement with a special focus on vendor interface with the Micro & Small Enterprises**” organised by the Department of Public Enterprises in association with the industry chamber FICCI at the AKAM Mega Show. The interactive workshop aimed to encourage and promote public procurement from MSEs.

“As we look ahead to emerge out of the pandemic and grow the economy, the future of MSME has to be secured”, he said while noting the issue of delayed payment and working capital as a concern for micro and small enterprises. “Making

sure that we improve access to finance could be the biggest contribution we all can make”, he said and encouraged the audience to pledge to adopt the best practices concerning timely payments to MSE suppliers and make those a key performance metric.

Speaking on occasion, **Rajesh Kumar Chaudhry**, Special Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, also alluded to liquidity as a critical concern. He asked CPSEs to provide the consent of acceptance of goods services on the portal so that MSMEs could utilise the same for financing or discounting purposes. “CPSC should give the acceptance on the platform directly within the 15 days so that the MSEs are able to discount it”, he said.

Welcoming the audience and the dignitaries at the gathering, **Sunil Parekh**, Co-Chairperson of the FICCI Gujarat State Council, said, in the financial year 21-22, around INR 50,000 crore worth of goods and services were procured by CPSEs

from MSEs in the country. “It is more than 35% of the total annual procurement by 126 CPSEs and has benefited almost 2.08 lakhs MSEs today”, he said.

Dr Ishita Ganguli Tripathy, Additional Development Commissioner (Policy & PPP), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, also noted the robust increase in procurement from CPSEs. However, she pointed to procurement from women-owned and SC-ST-owned MSEs, which has been lacking and is far from the mandated targets of 3 per cent and 4 per cent, respectively. She added that procurement from women-owned MSEs crossed the 1 per cent threshold for the first time since 2018, when the government introduced the amendment to the PPP order for procurement from women-owned MSEs.

She also spoke on the Champions portal – an internet-based centralised public grievance redressal and monitoring portal. “Since its launch, the portal has received more than 47,000 grievances, of which 99.39 per cent were replied to”, she said. Dr Tripathy noted several grievances related to the public procurement policy at the portal and alluded to conducting vendor development programs, onboarding on the GeM portal, onboarding and transacting on TReDS, quick resolution by MSE facilitation

councils and strengthening marketing to ensure the success of procurement from MSEs.

The workshop saw participation by entrepreneurs across the country, including several attending the live streaming sessions at Mumbai, Kolkata, Kochi, Chennai and Guwahati. The event anchored open discussions between senior government officials and MSEs to discuss viable business opportunities and resolve any issues and concerns. In addition, NIC officials made a demonstration of SAMBANDH and SAMADHAN Portals for the

gathering. More than 300 MSE entrepreneurs and CPSE officials participated in the physical event and around 300 entrepreneurs attended streaming sessions. The deliberations were also beamed live on YouTube and Facebook.

During the day, a second workshop on "Procurement by CPSEs with Special focus on Vendor Interface with GeM" was also organised. The workshop saw several government officials providing an overview of the GeM portal and its new initiatives. In addition, several entrepreneurs who had already onboarded the platform

shared their success stories through immersive presentations.

Rajesh Kumar Chaudhry, Special Secretary, noted the new initiatives of the GeM portal and alluded to several success stories of MSEs using the portal. "In 2017-18, when we started the procurement by CPSEs from GeM, the trade was just 216 crores. Now, the trade is 45,000 crores", he said. Chaudhry added that idle assets with the CPSEs are also proposed to be monetised. "The GeM is developing a forward auction platform for this kind of monetisation process", he said.



सूक्ष्म और लघु उद्यमों (एमएसईज) के साथ विक्रेता इंटरफेस संकेंद्रित सीपीएसईज द्वारा खरीदारी पर कार्यशाला

महात्मा मंदिर सम्मेलन केंद्र

Workshop on Procurement by CPSEs with special focus on Vendor interface with Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs)

Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre



Release of the Knowledge Paper: Revisiting the Future of MSMEs in Rajasthan

Rajasthan today is on the verge of unprecedented growth

- RIICO is now earmarking plots specifically for MSMEs in its industrial areas

Rajasthan is on the verge of unprecedented growth, and the MSME sector will predominantly define its growth story, said Rajiv Arora, Chairman, Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation, at the 5th edition of Rajasthan MSME Summit.

FICCI Rajasthan State Council organised the event on the theme: 'Reimagining the MSME Growth Story in Rajasthan'.

Ninety per cent of industries in Rajasthan are MSME and substantially contribute to the state GDP. In this light, Additional Chief Secretary Venu Gupta pointed to numerous steps the state government took to boost MSME. "Rajasthan is

the first state to allow MSME to start projects without requiring any approvals or clearances for the first three years," she said, adding, "The duration is now being increased to a period of 5 years."

As is evident nationally, MSMEs in Rajasthan, too, face many challenges. Dr KL Jain, Member, FICCI Rajasthan State Council and Secretary General, RCCI, noted delay in payments from PSUs, bank financing formalities, and higher interest rates as crucial issues concerning the sector. Further, KK Gupta, Director, Resurgent India Limited, added that industry stakeholders and the government need to focus on other aspects like technical, marketing, and sourcing of raw materials.

To these, Gupta responded by alluding to the 'Mukhyamantri Laghu Udhog Protsahan Yojana, introduced lately. She added, "a comprehensive MSME Policy is also being framed and will be released in a month." She averred that RIICO is now earmarking plots specifically for MSMEs in its industrial areas, and several MSME Facilitation Councils have been set up to facilitate payments.

Mayank Shah, Chairman, FICCI Rajasthan Sub-Committee, Ajay Singha, Advisor, FICCI Rajasthan State Council, and Manish Gupta, Chairman, FICCI, Rajasthan Sub-Committee on Infrastructure & Chairman, Insolation Energy also spoke on occasion.

A knowledge paper on 'Revisiting the Future of MSMEs in Rajasthan' prepared by Resurgent India Ltd was also released during the programme.

Copper: The Metal of Future

Minerals and Mines desk

Copper as a metal is vital to meet India's infrastructural requirements and is a critical input material in several sectors. Over 80 per cent of copper is used in sensitive electrical and thermal applications, unlike other metals used for general engineering purposes. As a metal, copper has also acquired strategic significance since the metal in its refined form is being used extensively in defence and emerging technologies like EVs, renewables and electronics. As a result, the demand for refined copper is growing exponentially, globally and domestically.

The Indian refined copper industry has played a vital role in making India self-reliant in refined copper products despite limited domestic availability (less than 5% of the demand) of the basic raw mineral (copper concentrate). Refined copper like copper cathodes and copper wire rods are produced in India from the smelting & refining route. The same serves as crucial input for downstream copper products like wire & cables, winding wire & strips to meet the domestic demand. It was a significant change from 1996, when India depended on imports for its refined copper requirements due to

insufficient capacity. The domestic refined copper industry serves more than 800 MSMEs that form the backbone of power, electrical and infrastructure industries and contributes to exports worth INR 35,097 crore over three years (FY 18 to FY 20).

Copper will witness extensive usage in sectors like EV (4X times more demand than traditional vehicles), renewables (2X times more demand than coal & hydel power route) and in long-duration energy storage technology platforms such as fast charging battery infrastructure. Therefore, support from the Government of India is vital to ensure that India remains self-reliant to meet its copper needs in the future as well.

Recently, FICCI, in collaboration with the domestic copper industry & NITI Aayog, organised first of its kind Indian Copper Convention, witnessing the participation of prominent Government dignitaries & industry stakeholders. One key recommendation of the industry at the convention was the need to secure a stable supply of raw materials urgently. Rohit Pathak, Chief Executive Officer, Hindalco

Industries, Birla Copper, stated that duty-free import of copper concentrate & blister copper would be the key to creating a level playing field for the domestic refined copper industry.

Dr VK Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog, shared that securitising the copper concentrate and other raw materials is very important. The speed at which our country must acquire the foreign mine has to be accelerated.

Dr Srikar K Reddy, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, shared that the government is concluding FTA with countries exhibiting complementarities, especially developed countries. He added that an agreement with Australia would be necessary for the copper industry. Secondly, India needs to review Free Trade Agreements due to their adverse impact on India's downstream sector and overall copper security. Imports from FTA countries have increased at a CAGR of 46.8% from FY 13 to FY 22. Therefore, there is a need for an

urgent review of the FTAs to maintain India's self-reliance in refined copper production.

Puneet Khurana, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Sterlite Copper, asserted that the industry is committed to expanding primary production capacity to ensure that India does not rely on imports for its future needs. He also suggested that support from the Government is needed to tackle the challenge of rising imports under various FTAs and to utilise India's installed smelting capacity. Dr VK Saraswat raised caution about the impact of rising FTA imports on the industry. He stated, "FTA's *must be signed with utmost care in any segment, and in the case of copper, it is essential.*"

Also, India needs a responsible recycling policy and needs to implement standards/specifications for copper scrap. It is essential to encourage domestic recycling, which is 20 per cent at present compared to the global average of 80 per cent. At present, a very low percentage of

copper scrap is used for production through electrolytic refining compared to other developed countries. Countries like the EU, China, and Malaysia have their copper scrap standards, allowing the import of only good quality copper scrap to their country. Due to this, low-grade copper scraps are being diverted and dumped into India. Thus, India needs advanced process technology for copper scrap recycling to ensure quality & safety, especially for electrical applications.

Downstream Industry leaders Gopal Kabra, MD & Group President, RR Global, and Milan Mehta, MD, Precision Wires India & Vice Chairman of Winding Wire Manufacturers Association, raised concerns about the adverse impact of low-grade copper products as it hampers safety and Brand India.

Panellists shared that Copper Industry, as a strategic sector, would need incentives such as the production-linked incentive to support India's downstream copper manufacturing of the value-added products used in emerging applications. R Saravanabhavan, Deputy Adviser (Minerals), NITI Aayog, reiterated copper's strategic importance by stating, "*The Copper Industry should be declared as a strategic industry.*" The industry also echoed a National Copper Policy like National Steel Policy.

A conducive policy ecosystem is imperative for the Indian Copper industry to cater to the accelerating domestic demand for copper. Investment in the capacity expansion will also support the Indian economy. Also, all stakeholders must work toward resolving significant policy-level challenges faced by the Indian Copper industry.

Redefining Agriculture through Artificial Intelligence: Predicting The Unpredictable

Smart agricultural systems and technologies, including AI and machine learning (ML), are showing remarkable growth with the investment and expenditure trends expected to triple by 2025 to USD 15.3 billion, out of which AI technologies alone are projected to grow at a CAGR of 25.5%.

The report identifies following intervention areas to enhance the AI based transition of the country's agriculture sector:

- Regulatory interventions, Policy Interventions and Awareness and Capacity building interventions
- Revise agriculture educational curriculum to include a program on AI
- Establish AgriTech innovation center through PPPs
- Enhance outreach through existing network of Agriculture Universities, KVKs (Krishi vigyan kendras)
- Building simple farmer-friendly systems and establishing sustained partnerships
- Increased investment in low-cost, open-source cloud-based platform solutions



Redefining agriculture through artificial intelligence: Predicting the unpredictable

May 2022

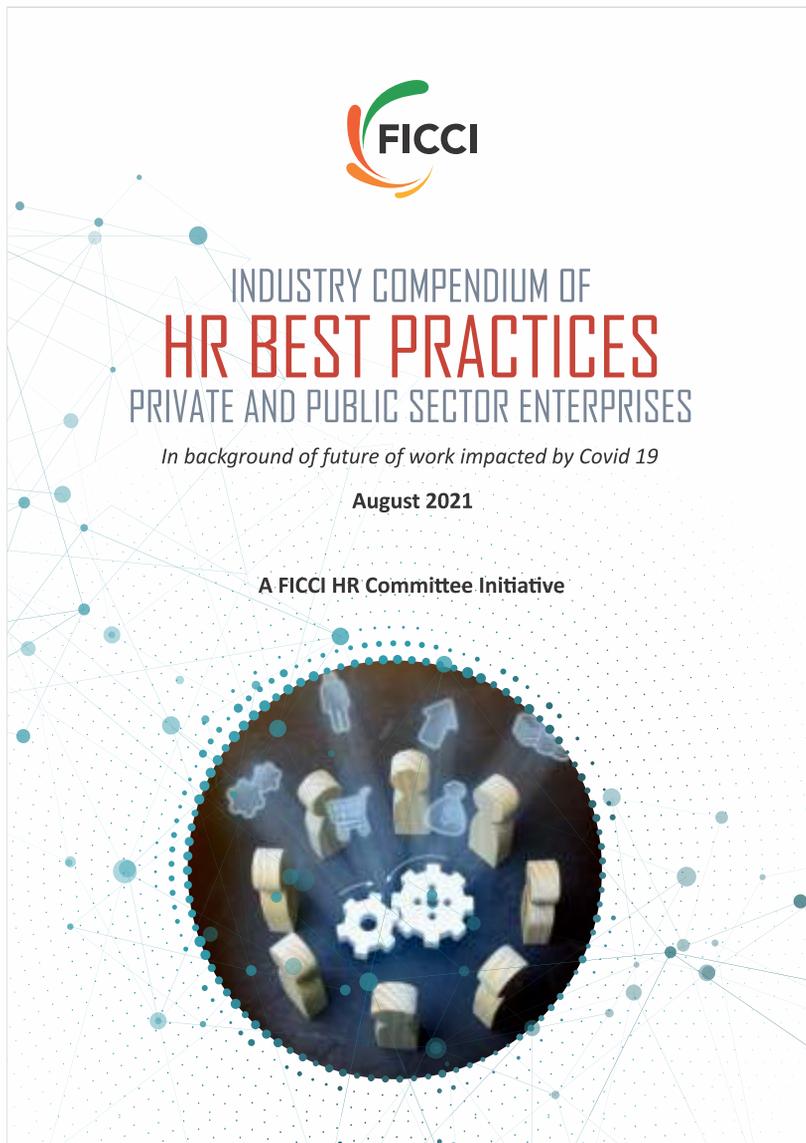


To access, visit www.ficci.in

Industry Compendium of HR Best Practises

The industry compendium will work as a point of reference that any organisation can refer to understand innovative practices, success factors adopted by their counterparts in Industry, and if organisations could replicate the same in their workplaces

To access, visit www.ficci.in



MEDIA COVERAGE

millenniumpost Sunday, 11 June 2022
Elephants to city ropeway gets push at cruise meet
Govt sets up panel to boost cruise tourism

The Indian Express New Delhi, Monday, 16 May 2022
Govt working on comprehensive national tourism policy; GK Reddy

the pioneer Govt working on comprehensive national tourism policy; GK Reddy

millenniumpost New Delhi, Monday, 16 May 2022
Govt working on comprehensive national tourism policy, says Tourism Minister

The Statesman New Delhi, Monday, 16 May 2022
'India is going to be a magnificent cruise destination'. Cruise tourism is one of the most vibrant and fast-growing components of the leisure industry, said Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal. He spoke at the 1st Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022 organised by the Mumbai Port Authority under the aegis of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India, along with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

The Statesman Gandhinagar, 11 June 2022
GAIL celebrates 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'
As part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, GAIL (India) Limited participated in a mega plantation drive organised by Central Public Sector Enterprises across the country. As a part of the programme, GAIL carried out plantation drives at its Patra and Vijapur townships as well as other locations. Apart of this, 2,500 were planted in Patra (HP) and 1,600 across Vijapur township areas (MP). Sanjiv Jain, CMD, GAIL, and Shri Deepak Gupta, Director (Production) were also present on the occasion at Vijapur. Plants were distributed to all employees across GAIL offices. The PSUs are planning 75,000 saplings across locations such as their townships, residential colonies, offices, production areas, etc. in part of the AKAM drive.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS Hyderabad, Saturday, 11 June 2022
NMDC achievements on display at DPE exhibition in Telangana
The NMDC year-end was inaugurated by the company's Director General, Hyderabad.

Western Times Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance inaugurates workshop
Business success depends on the skilled workforce, said Dr. Bhagant Kishan Rao Kurati, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India, at the workshop on 'Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) with Special Focus on Agricultural Districts' organised by NMDC. The workshop was held at the NMDC office in Hyderabad. The Minister also informed that the CSR activities of NMDC are in line with the CSR policy of the Government of India.

PSU CONNECT Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
NMDC Planning to invest Rs 100 crore in CSR with special focus on agricultural districts

rissadiary.com Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
NMDC Planning to invest Rs 100 crore in CSR with special focus on agricultural districts

Samay Sauno (Gujarati Daily) Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
નાણા રાજ્ય મંત્રી ભગવત કિશનરાવ કરાએ એ 'શિપોર્ટ સોશિયલ રિસ્પોન્સિબિલિટી અને એસિરેશનલ ડિવિઝન પર ધ્યાન કેન્દ્રિત કરીને વર્કશોપનું ઉદ્ઘાટન કર્યું

RATNAMANI Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
PSU WATCH
Spectacular NMDC Exhibition at DPE's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Mega Show

The Ultimate News Gandhinagar, Saturday, 11 June 2022
નાણા રાજ્ય મંત્રી ભગવત કિશનરાવ કરાએ એ 'શિપોર્ટ સોશિયલ રિસ્પોન્સિબિલિટી અને એસિરેશનલ ડિવિઝન પર ધ્યાન કેન્દ્રિત કરીને વર્કશોપનું ઉદ્ઘાટન કર્યું

MEDIA COVERAGE



MEDIA COVERAGE

#TWITTERWALL



Vice President of India @VPSecretary

The Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu addressing the members of the business community at India-Qatar Business Forum in Doha, Qatar today. @MEAIndia

Anang Thakur @anangthakur

A historic moment as India 🇮🇳 the 1st 'Country of Honour' at Marche Du Films @Festival_Cannes gets set to manifest into the 'content hub of the world and the preferred 'post production hub' for global film makers.

Subhrakant Panda @Subhrakantpanda

आज @ficcindia के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष श्री @Subhrakantpanda जी से मुलाकात की और नगर विमानन क्षेत्र में @ficcindia के महत्वपूर्ण विभाग-कक्षों से अमूल्य टूट-बात आया है कि उद्योग नगर और मंगलपुर इस तरह कॉम्प्लेक्स होकर भारत के नगर विमानन को नई सुरक्षित राह से चलेगा।

Dr L. Manojan @lmanojan345

Walked down the Red carpet of the #CannesFilmFestival along with Mr.@rparthiepan & Ms.@UrvashiRautela

#IndiaAtCannes 🇮🇳 #Cannes2022

Mamrakshi Lekhi @MLekhi

Great pleasure to inaugurate 🇮🇳🇭🇺 Business Forum with HE Mr. Péter Szijártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade of Hungary. Our bilateral trade has seen rapid growth in recent years. This event is a step in realising our full potential in trade & investment & expanding our ties.

Subhrakant Panda @Subhrakantpanda

Attended the #Ground@reakingCeremony 3.0 in Lucknow in presence of @naarendramodi ji, @myujadityanath ji & @rajnathsingh ji besides many other dignitaries & business leaders. UP has made tremendous progress in terms of facilitating investment.

UAE Embassy-New Delhi @UAEEmbassyIndia

HE @rahmedalabanna, Ambassador of #UAE to #India attended the "Interactive Session on India - UAE #CEPA Enhancing Trade & Business" organized by @ficcindia (Kerala) along with @edgfindia (Kochi) and Department of Industries, Govt. of Kerala.

Singapore in India @SINIndia

Privileged to deliver opening remarks at inaugural "Act East through North East" Conclave, alongside CM @HimantaBiswas, on behalf of ASEAN reps.

as Coord of ASEAN-India rlns reaffirmed the immense potential we see in Assam viz PM @Narendramodi Ji's 'Act East' policy. - HC Wong

India in Bangladesh @InBhDesh

Promoting 🇮🇳🇬🇦 Bilateral Trade #Pharma & Health Sector

60 member @eeipcindia & 30 member @ficcindia delegation took part in the 13 Asia Pharma Expo in Bangladesh held on 19-21 May 2022.

Korea Embassy India @KRAEmbIndia

Ambassador Chang Jae-bok (@ChangJaebok1) had a meeting with Mr. Subhrakant Panda (@subhrakantpanda), Sr. Vice President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (@ficci_india) on 7 June 2022 and discussed ways to expand exchange of businessmen between Korea & India.



Sanjiv Mehta • 2nd
CEO and Managing Director, Hindustan Unilever Limited; Pr...
1mo • Edited •

Today at **FICCI**, we hosted the first India Energy Transition Summit attended by Mr RK Singh, Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, Mr Alok Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Power and Dr A K Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Coal amongst others. In my opening remarks, I emphasised:

- Energy Transition will be one of the most critical pillars in achieving our Prime Minister's 'Panchamrit' five-point agenda. India has set an ambitious but achievable target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based capacity by 2030.
- Transition to clean energy will require a robust ecosystem through regulatory reforms, technology innovation, capacity upgradation and climate finance.

This summit would be a stepping stone for the government and private sector to ideate on opportunities our nation can reap in its quest to 'Just Transition.'



Sarah Storey @SarahStorey

"Thru the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), we can work closely together to help foster regional collaboration & capacity building that improves the health of our shared oceans," - my remarks at @ficci_india's "Preventing marine litter & plastic pollution" seminar. (1/2)



Siddesh Ahmed @SiddeshAhmed

Honored to meet @DrBharatipawar, MoS for Health & Family Welfare, GOI. We discussed ways to promote India as a preferred medical destination for GCC nationals as well as ways to expedite visa processes for medical emergencies for patients as well as their accompanying companions.



Thailand in India @ThailandInIndia

Gratitude to @ficci_india for hosting 'Diplomacy Unplugged' today chaired by Ambassador Pattarat. Truly a great opportunity to reconnect and engage in serious discussion with Indian business leaders interested in diversifying their presence into Thailand. #ThailandInIndia



BRICS Business Council @BRICSouncil

It is important that the larger development goals that we have set for ourselves in the form of achieving sustainable and inclusive growth and driving innovation in industry and infrastructure are not lost sight of, said Mr Onkar Kanwar at #BRICS #BusinessCouncil Annual Meeting -



Prakash Kumar @PrakashKumar

Sr Vice President, FICCI @subhrakantpanda had a meeting with Union Minister for I&S @AnuragThakur in New Delhi today & briefed him about various activities relating to the sector.

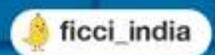
The Minister laid out his vision for the sector's growth.

@ficci_india



India in Kenya @IndiaInKenya

The @ficci_india pavilion at MedExpo Africa 2022 Nairobi was inaugurated by High Commissioner Dr Virander Paul: FICCI leading participation of around 50 Indian companies in the Expo, showcasing wide variety of pharma and medical devices/equipment/instrumentation offered by India

STATISTICAL

— SNAPSHOT —

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (AT CONSTANT PRICES): GROWTH IN %

	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	Q3 FY21	Q4 FY21	Q1 FY22	Q2 FY22	Q3 FY 22	Q4 FY 22	2021-22*
GDP	2.8	-23.8	-6.6	0.7	2.5	20.1	8.4	5.4	4.1	8.7
GFCF (% YoY)	-0.4	-45.3	-4.5	-0.6	10.1	62.5	14.6	2.1	5.2	15.8
GFCF (% of GDP)	31.0	24.2	31.6	31.1	33.3	32.8	33.4	30.1	33.6	32.5
GVA	3.4	-21.4	-5.9	2.1	5.7	18.2	8.3	4.7	3.9	8.1
Agriculture	8.0	3.0	3.2	4.1	2.8	2.2	3.2	2.5	4.1	3.0
Industry	-2.0	-33.7	0.6	6.3	13.4	46.6	7.0	0.4	1.3	10.3
Services	5.5	-20.8	-10.8	-1.0	2.1	10.5	10.2	8.1	5.5	8.4

*As per second advance estimate, GOI

INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION: GROWTH IN %

	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
IIP	27.6	13.8	11.5	13.0	4.4	4.2	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.2	2.2	6.7	19.6

NON-FOOD CREDIT: GROWTH IN %

	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Non-Food Credit	4.9	5.9	6.2	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.1	9.3	8.3	8.0	9.7	11.4	12.6
Industry	0.2	-0.3	1.0	2.3	2.5	4.1	3.8	7.6	6.4	6.5	7.5	8.1	8.7
Retail	12.8	11.9	11.2	12.2	12.1	11.7	11.6	14.3	11.6	12.3	12.6	14.7	16.4

CAPACITY UTILIZATION RATE (IN %)

	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	Q3 FY21	Q4 FY21	Q1 FY22	Q2 FY22	Q3 FY22
Capacity Utilization	73.6	69.1	68.6	69.9	47.3	63.3	66.6	69.4	60.0	68.3	72.4

INFLATION RATE: GROWTH IN %

	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
CPI	6.3	5.6	5.3	4.4	4.5	4.9	5.7	6.0	6.1	7.0	7.8	7.0	7.0
WPI	12.1	11.6	11.6	11.8	13.8	14.9	14.3	13.7	13.4	14.6	15.1	15.9	15.2

EXTERNAL SECTOR

	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Export Growth (in %)	47.5	49.4	46.2	22.7	43.3	34.6	44.3	27.9	34.4	26.2	29.4	20.9	16.8
Import Growth (in %)	97.4	58.5	45.3	84.3	57.3	56.7	40.4	24.9	37.0	28.8	30.8	62.9	51.0
Net FDI Inflows (USD million)	440.0	1,636.0	5,202.0	2,717.0	1,267.0	2,297.0	1,556.0	5,815.0	4,224.0	2,736.0	5,030.0	-	-
	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	Q3 FY21	Q4 FY21	Q1 FY22	Q2 FY22	Q3 FY22	Q4 FY22	
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	-2.1	-1.1	-0.4	0.1	3.7	2.4	-0.3	-1.0	1.0	-1.3	-2.6	-1.5	

Sources: CMIE, RBI

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Enabling a better quality of life for the **under-served**, through the use of proven **technology**, and **innovative** products and services

With our financial technology platform, we are digitally connecting every rural household with financial services at their doorstep

Recognized by the best as the fastest growing technology company



3rd Fastest Growing Technology Company by Deloitte India



3rd Fastest Growing Company in India by Economic Times



7th Fastest Growing Technology Company in Asia-Pac by Nikkei-Financial Times-Statista



Digital Banking



Mobile Payments



E-Governance Services



On-Demand Credit



Insurance, Savings



Agriculture E-Commerce



UNIVERSITY

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AICTE

PCI

BCI

NCTE

#EDUCATIONBEYONDORDINARY



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 - CSE with AI & Machine Learning
 - CSE with Cyber Security
 - CSE with Data Science
- ▶ **B.Tech CSE (Lateral)**

PHARMACY

- ▶ **B.Pharm**
- ▶ **B.Pharm (Lateral)**
- ▶ **BMLT** (Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Technology)
- ▶ **M.Pharm**
 - Pharmaceutics
 - Pharmacology
 - Pharmaceutical Chemistry
 - Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance
- ▶ **D.Pharm**

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- ▶ **LLM** [Specialisation: Corporate Law, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law]

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 - Biochemistry
 - Microbiology
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 - Biochemistry
 - Biotechnology
 - Microbiology
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