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Sustainable & Inclusive

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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



India is on the course of its journey to Amrit Kaal. At the helm we are fortunate to have a governance which is pro-active and well-tuned to the aspirations of New India, a governance which lays emphasis both on ease of doing business and lower cost of doing business in the process of sustainable and inclusive growth. It is only apt that FICCI's 95th Annual Convention and Annual General Body meeting was held on the theme of **India@100: Amrit Kaal- Sustainable & Inclusive**.

Like every year while the Annual Convention witnessed the change of guard, I cannot help but look back with pride at the journey which FICCI has witnessed over the years. On the back of its rich legacy, the Chamber has evolved as the think tank for the new age economy and has taken several steps for its members in this regard. We continue to strive to deliver and create value for all our members. In fact, the impact of all our efforts is not only felt by our members but also by other stakeholders in the economy.

The 95th Annual Convention saw the participation of Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Rajnath Singh, and Nitin Gadkari alongside key Secretaries to union ministries and industry leaders like Sanjiv Mehta, Subhrakant Panda, Anish Shah, Soma Mondal, Naina Lal Kidwai, Kalpana Morparia, and Sangita Reddy, to name a few.

Minister Nirmala Sitharaman laid out her vision for strengthening the economy and building a base for the Amrit Kaal so that "we look forward to our children living in India, which will be far more developed". She also spoke on strengthening the manufacturing sector amidst global uncertainties and the transition to clean energy.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari showcased numerous innovations and opportunities that lie ahead in the Indian infrastructure. These included improving the standard of country's road infrastructure standard at par with the USA, reducing logistics costs, researching battery chemistry, and using fly ash, oil slag, waste plastics, and demolition waste in construction. In addition, Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh highlighted the government's commitment to achieving defence production targets, indigenisation, and procurement from the Indian industry.

During the Annual Conclave, FICCI along with McKinsey launched 'India's Century – Achieving sustainable, inclusive growth' - a multi-stakeholder initiative aimed to catalyse actions to achieve the country's full economic potentials. It outlined a roadmap to unlock opportunities to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth along key metrics by 2047. These include potentially increasing per capita income, achieving 600 million jobs, doubling female participation in the labour force, cutting carbon emissions, and providing access to clean water for all.

Besides, the Chamber was the "Industry Partner" to the Government of Odisha for the recently concluded 'Make In Odisha Conclave'. The event attracted an overall investment worth Rs. 10.5 lakh crores over three days. These investment proposals from 741 companies would potentially generate 10,37,701 jobs across sectors in Odisha. At FICCI, we are proud to be part of the initiative.

At the macro level, the fundamentals of the Indian economy are resilient. Despite the global uncertainties, which persist and might act as a dampener in the fight against inflation, we are confident of continuing as the fastest-growing major economy.


Arun Chawla