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Meeting with Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs

MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF PHD CHAMBER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends,

“The need of the nation is to unite and work towards national progress.”

Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi's recent quote reverberates with India entering into its 75th year of its Independence and 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' being celebrated throughout the country to commemorate the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements. We at the Chamber are honored to contribute to this grand event through the ongoing efforts by our State Chapters. The Chamber has been at the forefront of promoting economic development of the country for the past 116 years and working with great enthusiasm along with all its stakeholders for leading the 'Bharat Jodo Andolan' (Unite India Movement), taking major strides for building a more inclusive and confident Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

The past month has been one of great accolades and celebration. It gives me great pride to congratulate our athletes who gave us a stellar performance at the Tokyo Olympics 2021 games. In bleak times of the pandemic, the medals won add to our glory and joy. This is the much needed encouragement to promote sports at grassroots and national level so that our talented youth get opportunities to represent India on international platforms in times to come.

I am gratified to state that the overall COVID-19 scenario in India is under control, with coronavirus infections slowly but steadily abating. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) initiatives and the government's structural reforms have proven to be very effective in containing the economic disruptions. The Indian economy is rapidly normalizing with several states/UTs relaxing the COVID-19 restrictions, including reopening of schools and colleges. Consumption, investment and external demand are also regaining gradual momentum.

The PHDCCI Economy GPS Index during April-July of FY 2021-22 was estimated at 110.8 versus 62.6 for the corresponding period of previous year. Lead economic and business indicators, GST collections, e-way bills, railway freight, exports, power, passenger vehicle sales, air passenger traffic, unemployment rate, forex reserves, sensex and manufacturing PMI registered positive sequential growth in July 2021 versus June 2021, though majorly because of low base effect. Farm growth is expected to remain strong with food grains estimated at over 305 million tons this year. Monsoon has been bountiful after a brief lull and kharif sowing is gaining pace. Industry welcomes the RBI's recent decision to keep key interest rates unchanged at a record low at 4 percent and maintain an accommodative monetary policy stance is sure to boost the confidence of businesses and consumers. Experts are forecasting GDP growth in the range of 8.3-10.5 percent for FY 2021-22.

I, along with Vice President, Mr. Saket Dalmia and PHDCCI members along with members of other Industry Chambers participated in a virtual meeting with Hon'ble Prime Minister,



Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal



Mr. Narendra Modi, wherein the PM urged exporters to take advantage of the opportunities created in the post-COVID scenario. Mr. Modi explained how multifold increase in manufacturing, reduction in logistics cost, developing partnerships and creating international markets for domestic goods can help boost the country's outbound shipments and expand the export basket. As a follow-up, Industry Minister, Mr. Piyush Goyal indicated that a target of US\$ 400 billion has been set for merchandise goods for FY 2021-22, in line with the PM's clarion call, "Local Goes Global: Make in India for the World." Merchandise exports from India hit a record high of US\$ 35.17 billion in July 2021, amid rise in external demand due to recovery in key global markets. The growth was led by higher demand for engineering goods, gems, jewellery, textiles and apparels, chemicals and electronic goods.

I must point out that high commodity prices are posing a serious challenge to small businesses to operate in pandemic times. It would help if the government did away with custom duties on imports of primary raw materials for industrial use for the current FY 2021-2022 and impose export duties on various primary commodities showing huge price increases. PHDCCI urges the Government to bring petroleum products under the ambit of GST.

A note-worthy initiative announced by the PM in his Independence Day speech was allocation of Rs 100 trillion for 'Gati Shakti' for building a foundation for integrated infrastructure growth, to speed up economic recovery. This increased spending on infrastructure will have a multiplier effect to rejuvenate the aggregate demand in the economy, particularly for sectors such as cement, metal, power and more importantly also generate jobs. Robust growth of infrastructure is the key ingredient to realize the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. I am glad to indicate that India has been working for a reset of its logistics sector including railways, highways, inland, waterways and airports to put in place an effective transportation grid. I opine that a robust & automated logistics sector is very necessary for 'Make in India', 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan', 'Vocal for Local', and 'Digital India' initiatives. The government also announced a National Hydrogen Mission, considering India spends Rs. 12 trillion on energy imports every year. In this context, PHDCCI is organizing an international summit on "Powering India's Hydrogen System." I urge all of you to attend the summit as the Prime Minister and internationally renowned experts including many Nobel Laureates would be addressing the summit on this very insightful and enriching topic.

PHDCCI's majority members are MSMEs, some who suffered immensely during the pandemic period. To alleviate their stress, we are pleased at the recent passing of the Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 in the Upper House of Parliament, as this will expand the avenues of working capital credit to MSMEs. Industry is also relieved that the government has put an end to the contentious retrospective tax law, indicating a move to attract foreign investments and also refund the amount paid in litigation by companies without any interest thereon.

As we come out of the pandemic, there will be significant need for businesses to transform the corporate landscape to relearn, rethink, re-innovate and re-invent in almost every field. The aim is to create a New India i.e. an Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Startups are the key to building this new age India. We are poised to become the Innovation & Invention hub of the world. '21st century is the 'Century of Startups' & with Indian Startups going places, it is the 'Century of India'. Today, Indian unicorns are gaining international acclaim. There are about 60 unicorns in India today, mostly in the areas of health, technology and e-commerce. It is expected that in 75 weeks of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, 75 startups would become unicorns. Going further, we appreciate the launch of e-RUPI, which will enhance the digitization process of the country and the percolation of various welfare schemes of the government at the ground level. It will negate pilferages and also help increase the private sector's efficiency in CSR activities.

I am glad to point out that the Indian government is taking all necessary steps to ensure that we are well prepared to face the challenges posed by the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Several states are building facilities with more pediatric beds, oxygen supplies, ventilators, etc. due to concern that children returning to school without being vaccinated will be among the most vulnerable in case the third wave of coronavirus infection occurs. Citizens need to take all the necessary precautions as per the advisories issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Vaccination drive and strict adherence to COVID-appropriate behavior will be a critical safeguard against the emergence of a possible third wave.

I must appreciate that the Government is accelerating the pace of the COVID-19 vaccination throughout the country. About 70 crore citizens have been vaccinated already and the government says it will cover 1 billion people by December 2021. Industry has taken a leading role in the vaccination drive. It is heartening to know that in the new phase of universalization of COVID-19,

the government will procure and supply (free of cost) 75% of the vaccines being produced by the vaccine manufacturers in the country to States and UTs.

In addition to donating Rs. 528 crores to the PM Cares Fund, industry members have also been in the forefront in providing relief materials to the frontline workers and installing Oxygen plants in various Hospitals. The Chamber through its Family Welfare Organization installed an oxygen plant at Tirath Ram Shah Charitable Hospital, which was inaugurated by Mr. Faggan Singh Kulaste, Minister of State for Steel and Rural Development. PHDCCI also collaborated with Rotary Club of Delhi Central and BAPIO Training Academy, UK for setting up a first ICU Telemedicine Center of India at Ujala Covid Care Center at Burari, New Delhi. The Center was inaugurated by Mr. Satyendar Kumar Jain, Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. I must express my gratitude to all the doctors and healthcare professionals for the strength displayed in serving humanity during the COVID times. I must express my gratitude to all the doctors and healthcare professionals for the strength displayed in serving humanity during the COVID times.

This month, I had an opportunity to interact with many Ministers to discuss the state of the economy and brainstorm ways of improving the situation of industry, particularly the MSMEs. These included Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Mr. Raosaheb Dadarao Dhanve, Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways, Coal and Mines and Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Rural Development and Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs.

While we at the PHDCCI continue our efforts to solve problems of our nation including our industry members and people in general, I conclude in the words of Chandrasekhar Azad, "A plane is always safe on the ground, but it is not made for that. Always take some meaningful risks in life to achieve great heights". We too at the Chamber are set to undertake transformative initiatives and look forward to your support and guidance so that we can together achieve greater heights and make the Prime Minister's vision of "Sabka Prayas" along with "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" a reality as New India propels forward as the global engine of economic growth in the years to come.


Sanjay Aggarwal
President, PHDCCI



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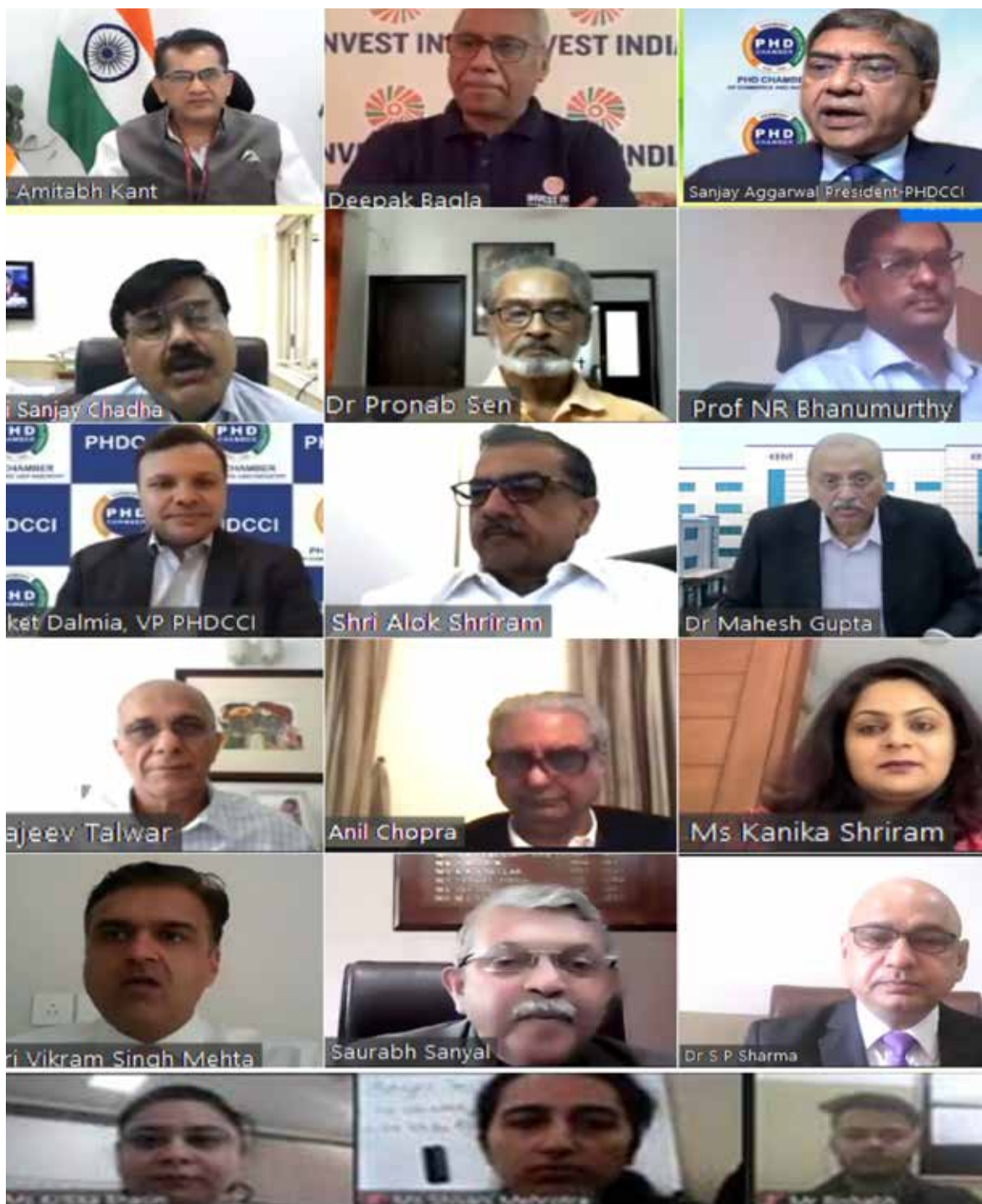
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3RD ECONOMIC CONCLAVE - EASE OF DOING BUSINESS AND UPLIFTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

L-R: First Row: Mr. Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, Niti Aayog; Mr. Deepak Bagla, Managing Director and CEO, Invest India and Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber.

Second Row: Mr. Sanjay Chadha, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Dr Pronab Sen, Renowned Economist, Programme Director, International Growth Centre & Former Chairman, National Statistical Commission and Prof. (Dr) NR Bhanumurthy, Renowned Economist and Vice Chancellor, BASE University, Bengaluru

Third Row: Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, Mr. Alok B. Shriram, Former President and Dr Mahesh Gupta, Former President, PHD Chamber.

Fourth Row: Mr. Rajeev Talwar, Former President; Mr. Anil Chopra, Chair, Economic Affairs Committee and Ms. Kanika Shriram, Co- Chair, Economic Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber

Fifth Row: Mr. Vikram Singh Mehta, Co-chair, Economic Affairs Committee, Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General and Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist | DSG, PHD Chamber

Sixth Row: Ms Kritika Bhasin, Research Officer, Ms. Shivani Mehrotra, Research Associate and Mr Rishabh, Research Associate, PHD Chamber.

The Economic Affairs Committee of PHD Chamber organized the 3rd Economic Conclave, “Ease of Doing Business and Uplifting Economic Growth” on July 16, 2021.

Mr. Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, Niti Aayog, mentioned that there were definite signs of revival and acceleration seen in the Indian economy at the outset of the 2nd wave of the pandemic. Manufacturing PMI remained in the expansionary zone, GST collections were robust and exports were growing at a healthy pace. He mentioned that the projections for GDP growth for the current fiscal year are implying a real growth rate between 9.5% – 12.5%, as per various agencies. This in turn implies that the shape of recovery taking place is indeed a ‘v-shaped’ one. He opined that despite the impact of the pandemic, India’s macroeconomic fundamentals remain strong. Going ahead, with active cases continuing to fall, and the pace of vaccinations gathering steam, manufacturing activity would bounce-back and inflationary pressures may continue to ease in the coming months. He asserted that raising investment levels will be crucial to India’s growth story going ahead, as they raise productivity and efficiency. Innovation, rising competitiveness and generating employment are the key instruments of growth that are unlocked through higher investments, especially through the private sector.

Mr. Deepak Bagla, Managing Director and CEO, Invest India, said that in pre-covid times, India was one of the fastest moving economies in the world. He said that the past 4-5 months have impacted the livelihood of people, however, the soundness and the stability of fundamentals of India is helping it to sail through the pandemic. India attracted FDI of US\$ 81.4 billion in FY 2020-2021 as compared to US\$ 74 billion in FY2019-2020, mainly because of trust, opportunity and such amicable environment provided by the country.

‘New India’ is going to emerge from small towns and cities compelled by MSMEs growth, as the MSMEs have managed through the constraints and have adapted through the pandemic. He mentioned that the single window clearance for ease of doing business is ready in India and 12-15 States have already adopted the same. He

opined that maneuvering through the pandemic is both a mindset game and technology game.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber, in his presidential remarks said that meaningful and proactive reforms undertaken by the Government in last many quarters has pulled the economy from the extreme lows. He opined that the declining new Coronavirus cases, gradual unlocking in various parts of the country and announcement of calibrated economic reforms by the Government have created scope for the economy to recover from the daunting impact witnessed in April and May 2021.

Mr. Sanjay Chadha, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, said that India’s Ease of doing business has improved as well as technology advancement and innovations have also increased. The Government has taken various policy initiatives for industries to enable it to function and perform well. He mentioned that the PLI scheme is one of many WTO-compliant schemes aimed at making industries more competitive in a global arena to capitalize on PLI scheme as well as other production incentives and provide efficient access to market to the investors to make India a global manufacturing hub.

Dr Pronab Sen, Renowned Economist, Programme Director, International Growth Centre & Former Chairman, National Statistical Commission, said that the potential growth of a country depends upon level of investments, which is in-turn driven by the investment confidence. He informed that prior to the pandemic, the investment rate was 30%, however has decreased thereafter. Investment rate has not really recovered as of now and therefore, focus is required to boost the investment rate. He said that the volume of investments is not translating into the global GDP.

Prof. (Dr) NR Bhanumurthy, Renowned Economist and Vice Chancellor, BASE University, Bengaluru, said that ease of doing business has come a long way in India and the country may be near to rank in top 50 in the upcoming year. This year, India is completing 3 decades of economic reforms. It is important that Government further increases its focus on land reforms and labor market flexibility. He predicted that

the Indian economy is likely to exhibit the potential GDP growth of 6-6.5% in FY 2022. The correlation between ease of doing business and actual GDP growth and GDP growth potential needs an assessment. He suggested that the need to improve business sentiments is through decreased cost of production, decreased transaction cost and improved governance.

Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, PHD Chamber, said that the Government is very well aware of the ground reality and pain points of the private sector and is taking proactive steps to ensure streamlined functioning for ease of doing business. He opined that there is a lot of uncertainty in the economy due to the current pandemic situation. He suggested that the Government should focus on boosting demand in the economy and create a favourable environment.

Mr. Alok B. Shriram, Former President, PHD Chamber, suggested that India needs to focus on improving the lifestyle and quality of life by improving various problems related to education, skill, poverty and population. He stated that the single largest problem in India is unemployment. He further mentioned that MSMEs have faced various problems related to compliances, which need Government attention. He suggested that interdependence is the order of the day.

Dr Mahesh Gupta, Former President, PHD Chamber talked about the devastating impact of the pandemic on the businesses and said that it is the biggest tragedy that happened to the businesses in the last 100 years. He said that due to this pandemic, people’s mindset has changed and people spend more on health care facilities. He suggested that health care infrastructure needs to be strengthened in the country.

Mr. Rajeev Talwar, Former President, PHD Chamber opined that there is a need to uplift economic growth in such a way that it is inclusive and creates job opportunities. The aspirations of the large Indian demography need to be fulfilled to move from US\$ 5 trillion economy to US\$ 10-20 trillion economy. He mentioned that India has a major gap in up-skilling workers who are not skilled in a modern way. Digitization, Artificial intelligence, robotics, etc.



will be cutting edge technologies for the future. There is a need to evolve methods and ensure implementation of ease of doing business, with respect to the convenience of businesses for next generation to have per capita income for US\$ 10,000.

Mr. Anil Chopra, Chair, Economic Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber in his theme presentation said that the Government has undertaken appreciable reforms during the pandemic to provide relief to hardships of the industry and stimulate the economy. He suggested the need to invest in both physical capital as well as human capital. He mentioned

that India has improved in terms of ease of doing business over the years; however, working on the low scoring factors for the country would prove to be transformational in making India one of the best destinations to do business.

Ms. Kanika Shriram, Co-chair, Economic Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber while moderating the technical session on 'Uplifting Economic Growth' said that at this juncture, specific focus is required on easing out the compliances for MSMEs for ensuring their smooth functioning and reduced cost of doing business.

Mr. Vikram Singh Mehta, Co-chair,

Economic Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber stated that there is a need to focus on mobilizing the domestic capital by increasing domestic savings and channelizing the investments.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHD Chamber, delivered the vote-of-thanks to the esteemed speakers and industry stakeholders for participating in the Conclave.

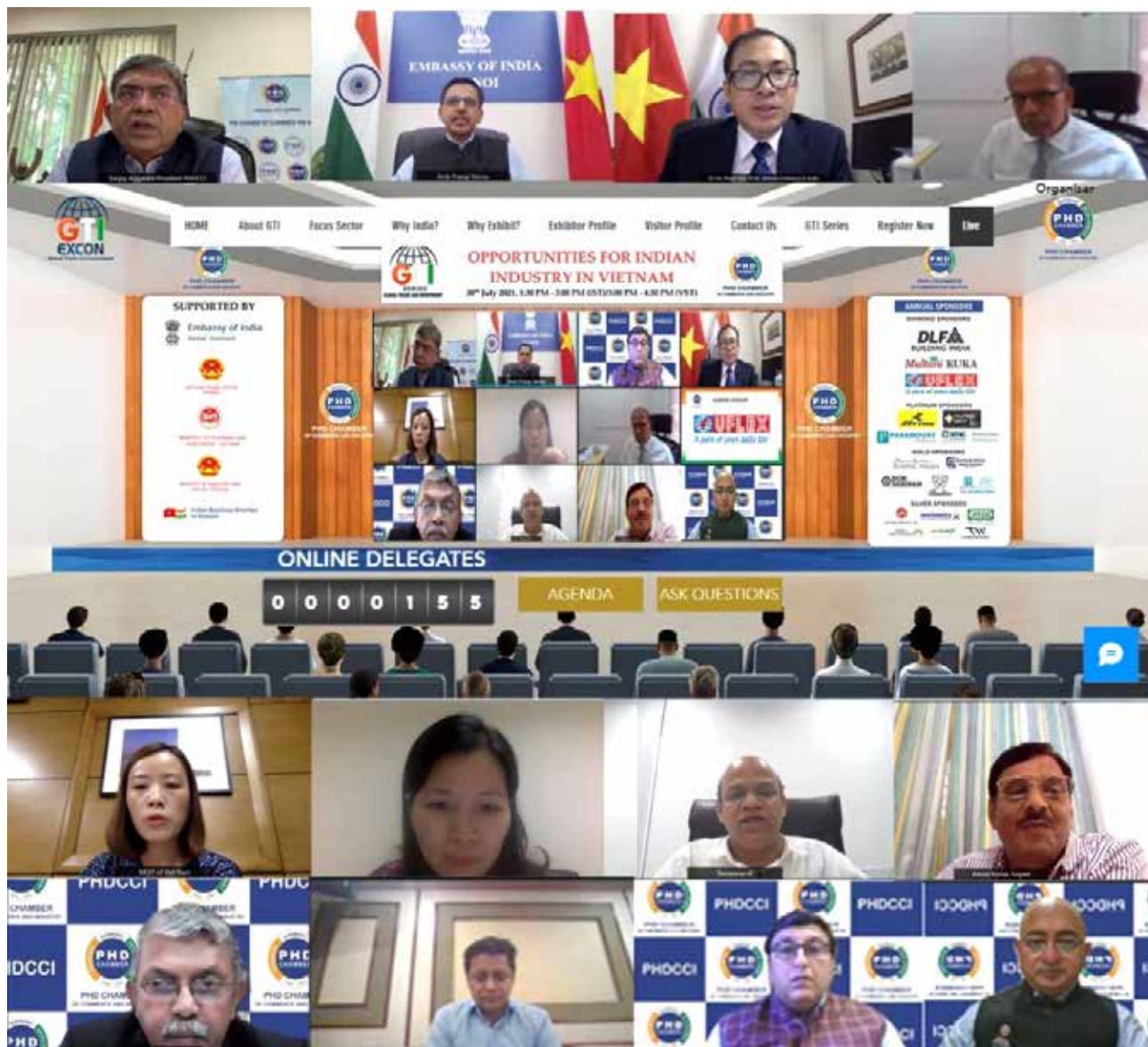
Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist | DSG, PHD Chamber suggested that there must be a synchronization of economic reforms between Centre & States and Reserve Bank of India & the Banking sector and Ease of Doing Business & Cost of doing business.

FILM FESTIVALS AND WEBINAR AS PART OF AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV CELEBRATION

A variety of events are being organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and Films Division has chipped in with a week-long programme, 23 to 29 August, 2021 wherein film festivals and a seminar will be organized on virtual platforms. The online film festivals, A Voyage of Progress and Ratnas of India will be followed by a webinar on technological advancements in film making over the years. A Voyage of Progress, showcasing documentary films on important projects, industries and iconic institutions in India will be held from August 23 to 25, 2021 and the package include success stories of Bhakra Nangal, Hirakud and Nagarjuna Sagar dams, institutions like National Physical Laboratory, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, TIFR, BHEL, Shipping and Oil industry, DRDO and space projects like Chandrayan & PSLV. In the second part of Salute to the Nation, some of the iconic personalities in the field of science, art and culture bestowed with the highest civilian honour, Bharat Ratna, will be remembered by screening their biopics. Ratnas of India will be screened from August 26 to 28, 2021 and include biographical of Prof. C. V. Raman, Dr. M Vishveshwaraya, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Prof. C. N. R. Rao, Satyajit Ray, M.S. Subbulakshmi, Pt. Ravi Shankar, Ustad Bismillah Khan and Pt. Bhimsen Joshi. The week-long event will be concluded with a webinar on technological advancements in film making over the years on 29th August, 2021 in which senior film makers and technicians of Films Division will interact with media students from across the country after a session of knowledge-sharing.

The films will be streamed free of charges on <https://filmsdivision.org/> à 'Documentary of the Week' and on <https://www.youtube.com/user/FilmsDivision> from August 23 to 28, 2021 and Webinar on Google Meet will also be arranged on 29th August.





VIRTUAL INTERACTIVE SERIES ON GLOBAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIAN INDUSTRY IN VIETNAM

The International Affairs & Trade Fairs Division, PHDCCI organized a Virtual Interactive Series on 'Global Trade and Investment Opportunities for Indian Industry in Vietnam' on July 30, 2021 as part of the Series on Virtual Global Trade and Investment (GTI) Interactive Sessions.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI in his presidential address deliberated about the changes done in outbound investment in India in terms of geographical spread and apprised on the historical deep-rooted relations

shared between India and Vietnam. He mentioned that due to high-level visits there has been an increase in bilateral and trade relationships between the two nations in recent times creating strong contributions towards capacity building, sustainable development goals and contribution towards the economic development of Vietnam.

Mr. Ajay Poddar, Chair, International Affairs Committee for East Asia, South East Asia & Oceania, PHDCCI discussed the increase in trade relations between India and Vietnam

from the past few years due to diligent efforts from both sides. He mentioned that the cultural ties and foundation of the relationship are strong and a lot of Indian investments are being done in Vietnam which is increasing the scope of trade and investment relations between the nations.

H.E. Mr. Pranay Verma, Ambassador, Embassy of India, Vietnam discussed the challenges faced in Vietnam related to disruption in production, supply chain, logistics, and many more, yet at the same time

arising of new opportunities in areas of technology, business practices, trade relations, diversifying partners and trade baskets.

His Excellency emphasized that there is a need to take advantage of each other's economic strength for increasing business relations between the two nations at the same time leverage each other's global value chains to utilize each other's trade network. There is a need to look at the domestic market, especially in India that can offer growth opportunities to Vietnam. There is a need to focus on e-documentation and e-payments which will help to increase business growth and foster B2B engagement, connecting MSMEs, he further emphasized.

Dr Do Thanh Hai, DCM, Embassy of Vietnam, India discussed the flow of economic and trade opportunities between India and Vietnam despite the pandemic and stated that the economic and trade exchanges will pick up in the times to come. There is a restructuring of the global supply chain and both nations have the capabilities to take advantage of the opportunity. He predicted that with the strategic location of both nations and change in reforms, there will be an increase in trade exchanges that will be a driving engine for the global economy in times to come. We need to find other areas of trade exchange which will help to increase

trade relations at the same time and meet the population demands for the future, he added.

Ms. Le Thi Mai Anh, Head of Southeast Asia, South Asia and Regional Cooperation Division, Asia-Africa Market Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam gave an overview on Vietnam's economy and trade relations and opportunities. She highlighted that 'Vietnam and India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' is one of the five pillars that underline the strong relations. India emerged as the 10th largest trading partner of Vietnam. She mentioned that both the nations should continue to revitalise its business and investment climate and build an advanced and integrated framework for businesses to create more opportunities to further deepen global economy and provide a way for business production and trade facilitation.

Ms. Do Thi Quynh Nga, Director, Investment Promotion Center – North Vietnam Foreign Investment Agency, Ministry of Planning and Investments of Vietnam in her presentation highlighted on Vietnam investment environment and investment Opportunities in sectors such as processing, healthcare and pharmacy, ICT & software, infrastructure & PPP, M&A startup, banking and insurance, real estate, renewable energy and biotechnology with stable political open society, high and stable

economic growth rate, competitive production growth, human resource, institutional mechanism and strategic location.

Mr. Raghu Narayanam, CEO, Tata Coffee (Vietnam), Member, INCHAM Vietnam mentioned that Vietnamese market is often drawn by its competitive costs and high level of cooperation from government. He apprised that Vietnam's tax incentives are a standout feature of the tax regime and are applied to a variety of industries and projects.

Mr. Kamal Sogani, CEO, R K Marbles, Vietnam, Member, INCHAM, Vietnam said Vietnam is an excellent place for investment with advantageous geographic location which serves as a launch pad and home base for setting up the business with excellent provision of law and order.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries and mentioned that it's the opportune time for the Indian businessmen to engage and work in a deeper cooperation with both the nations for attracting incoming investments and sectors and areas for economic cooperation.

The inaugural session was moderated by Mr. Naveen Seth, ASG, PHDCCI and witnessed the participation of more than 150 Industry stalwarts from India and Vietnam.



PILOT LAUNCH OF INTERNATIONAL BULLION EXCHANGE – THE GATEWAY FOR BULLION IMPORTS

Mr. Injeti Srinivas, Chairperson, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), launched the pilot run/soft launch on August 18, 2021. The International Bullion Exchange is scheduled to go live on October 1, 2021 the Foundation Day of IFSCA. Following the announcement by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman in Union Budget 2020-21, the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Bullion Exchange) Regulations, 2020 were notified on December 11, 2020 which inter alia cover the Bullion Exchange, Clearing Corporation, Depository and Vaults. The Government has also taken steps to notify bullion spot trading and bullion depository receipts with underlying bullion as financial products and bullion related services as financial services.

The International Bullion Exchange shall be the "Gateway for Bullion Imports into India", wherein all the bullion imports for domestic consumption shall be channelized through the exchange. The exchange ecosystem is expected to bring all the market participants at a common transparent platform for bullion trading and provide an efficient price discovery, assurance in the quality of gold, enable greater integration with other segments of financial markets and help establish India's position as a dominant trading hub in the World.

Pursuant to MoU between National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE), the Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX), India INX International Exchange (IFSC) Limited (INDIA INX), National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL), the holding company India International Bullion Holding IFSC Ltd. (IIBH) has been created for setting up and operationalising International Bullion Exchange, Bullion Clearing Corporation and Bullion Depository in IFSC, GIFT City.



INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AYUSH SECTOR

The AYUSH Committee of PHDCCI organized a webinar on 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship in AYUSH Sector- Role of Industry and Government of India' on July 15, 2021.

Chief Guest, Dr Manoj Nesari, Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH said that his Ministry is dedicatedly working for upgrading the pharmacopeia and improving its quality and acceptability worldwide with other countries, which will help in increasing exports from the country.

Dr Nesari underlined the need for training and capacity building for which the Ministry is already working with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for developing integrated programs for training and education at different levels of doctors and post-doctoral programs. This will help to create awareness among the scientists, so that they can further develop themselves in these areas. He further mentioned that AYUSH has the potential to contribute to the growth of the economy and via ayurvedic biology program launched by the Government of India, will help to integrate innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship in the AYUSH sector.

Padma Bhushan Vd. Devendera Triguna, President of AMAM, All India Ayurvedic Congress and Ayurveda Mahasammelan said that there are around 12,500 centers which are run under the Central Government. He further mentioned that it is the responsibility of the industry to

provide quality and standardized medicines to the country and also thanked the industry for raising the standards.

Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHD Chamber said that it is essential to promote integration and mainstreaming of AYUSH systems in national health care programs.

Mr. Arvind Varchaswi, Chair, AYUSH Committee, PHD Chamber & Managing Director, Sri Sri Tattva mentioned that AYUSH has a huge potential to promote better health and thus positively impact the Indian economy. He further said that scientific research in AYUSH should be broad-based and not limited to drug discovery where there is an utmost need to launch a programme that can strengthen AYUSH Sector, create more Enterprises and more jobs to support the Indian Economy.

Dr Jitender Sodhi, Co-chair, AYUSH Committee, PHD Chamber & Managing Director, AYUSH Herbs Pvt. Ltd. said that the market strategies including cost reduction and quality performance will have to be evolved through alternative models of the health care system. He also mentioned that the budget allocation to AYUSH sector by the Government of India should be adequately raised to increase investment in programs and activities that promote innovation.

Dr Rajiv Rai, Head Research, Dabur India Limited mentioned the areas of opportunities in the AYUSH sector like

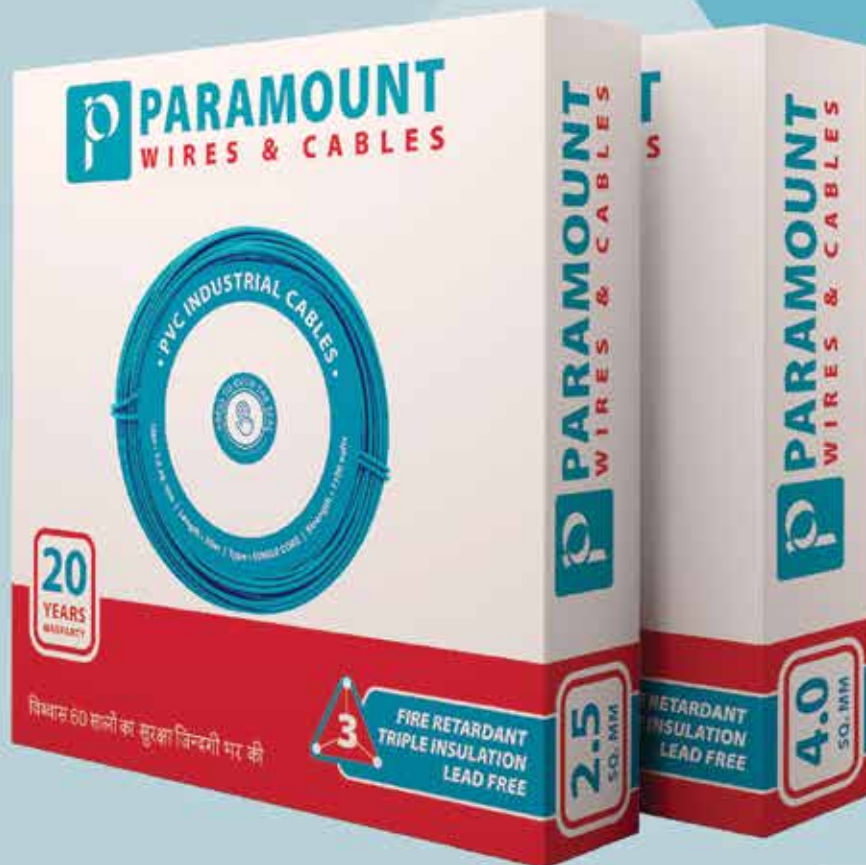
Academics & Research by promoting post graduate teaching centres & research centre for research based product development. Second is Industry where the units must be WHO-GMMP certified and provide quality products. Third is service sector where the hospitals should be pollution free areas & linked with tourism. The fourth is cultivation where he mentioned that availability of genuine and sustainable raw materials is the biggest weakness of AYUSH sector and should be worked upon.

Dr Santosh Joshi, Sr. General Manager (R&D), Hamdard Laboratories India talked about traditional medicine should adopt modern science techniques and better technology for its advancement. He said Ayurveda offers various methods to manage lifestyle disorder diseases by following daily regimens. He highlighted that there's an utmost need for improvement and adoption of new innovations & technologies available in the market for medicines like herbal extracts for their better results. Dr Joshi also mentioned the need for standardization of pharmacopeia in the sector for the growth of the Industry.

Dr Vijendra Prakash, General Manager, Himalaya Drug Company, talked about immense scope for young entrepreneurship in various services and products of AYUSH. He also talked about new emerging opportunities for start-ups in preclinical certification laboratories and various marketing platforms available in Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the sector.

The webinar was sponsored by Association of Manufacturers of Ayurvedic Medicine (AMAM) and AYUSH Herbs Pvt. Ltd.





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INDIA – AFRICA BUSINESS PROMOTION, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE 3P AFRICA INTERNATIONAL EXPO 2021

The PHDCCI International Affairs & Trade Fairs Division and Packaging Committee organized the Virtual Inaugural Session themed “India – Africa Business Promotion, Challenges and Opportunities” on July 15, 2021 of the 3P AFRICA INTERNATIONAL EXPO 2021. The Expo was held from July 15-16, 2021 and the India Pavilion was organized by

PHDCCI with the support of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India representing the Indian Industry covering Paper, Printing and Packaging Sector.

Mr. Vivek Agarwala, Chair, International Affairs Committee for Africa, PHDCCI in his theme address highlighted that Investment linkages between India and Africa

have grown significantly in recent years and have seen phenomenal growth primarily in pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, information technology, energy, agriculture, mining and automobile sectors.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI in his presidential address mentioned that Africa is increasingly becoming an attractive hub for

foreign investors in the light of various economic, political and social reforms that are being implemented throughout the continent, resulting in a much improved business environment.

H.E. Mr. Ajit Gupte, Ambassador of India to the Arab Republic of Egypt deliberated about the growing bilateral trade between both nations that are in the trade baskets of areas like tobacco, automobiles, cotton yarns, petroleum, chemical fertilizers, etc. He shared that Egypt has been one of the largest export destinations for India and, many large Indian companies have invested in Africa for years. Talking about the opportunities, H.E. Mr. Ajit Gupte mentioned sectors for business growth and investment which included renewable energy, solar power, irrigation, agriculture, infrastructure, textiles, IT, education, and many more. He emphasized that there will be demand for recyclable products in Egypt in times to come.

H.E. Mr. N.J. Gangte, High Commissioner of India to Zambia mentioned that there is an increase in the demand for printed materials in Zambia offering opportunities for trade and business to other nations. He emphasized that Indian companies should also look at industrial packaging and sustainable plastics to meet future goals and become environmentally friendly.

H.E. Mr. G V Srinivas, Ambassador of India to Senegal, Cabo Verde, The Gambia, and Guinea Bissau emphasized that Indian companies can come forward to look at pharmaceuticals packaging as it is in demand in the current times. He mentioned that there is a need for involvement of the SME sector and stringent quality checks should be placed on the products being sent to both nations.

H.E. Mr. Prashant Agrawal, High Commissioner of India to Namibia opined that there is a need to publish more textbooks and ITC solutions for the newspaper in Namibia. There is a

need for quick packaging solutions and units in Namibia which will help to generate employment.

H.E. Mr. Ravindra Prasad Jaiswal, Ambassador, Embassy of India, Sudan discussed the relationship shared between the nations that has been growing steadily over the years. He discussed the reforms initiated by Sudan to enable ease of doing business, liberalization of trade and promoting business ties, etc. He mentioned the sectors of business opportunities in Sudan which included infrastructure, transport, agriculture, mining, energy, agro-processing, SMEs, manufacturing, etc. He mentioned that there is a need for a steady supply of printing and packaging material in Sudan which will help to increase its demand and supply.

H.E. Mr. Abhay Thakur, High Commissioner of India to Nigeria mentioned that Printing, Plastics, and Packaging are critical areas of engagement between India and Nigeria. Biodegradable plastics and packaging is growing at a fast rate and engagement in manufacturing, trading and new technologies can offer immense opportunities.

H.E. Ms. Judith K.K. Kan'goma Kapijimpanga, High Commissioner of Zambia to India mentioned that Zambia looks forward to attracting investors from paper mills in India. She shared that the government has liberalized the economy to allow private players and the demand for printed products is high and opportunities for packaging are high in the wake of priority areas like food processing, clothing, electric goods, etc.

Mr. Ashish Sinha, Chargé d'Affaires, High Commission of India to Kenya while discussing the challenges faced by the industry amidst the pandemic, mentioned that trade and investment have been an important part of the relationship between India and Africa. He mentioned that Africa is a blooming region and, India needs to

be competitive in a futuristic manner. He informed that Africa has lines of credit that offer economic and business development opportunities for Africa.

Mr. Amararam Gujar, Director [E&SA], Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India stated that Africa is emerging as a key player in the printing, plastic and packaging industry where plastics goods are high in demand. India needs to take advantage of the opportunity and should move forward towards catering to the demand. India and Africa have been closely working on many projects indicating that India has been a development partner in Africa's growth. Africa offers numerous opportunities to multiply its space and business.

Ms. Padma Ganesh, Deputy Secretary, FT(Africa), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry while talking about the robust and long-term relations shared between India and Africa, mentioned that due to the change in business and trade practices there are opportunities for growth and development between both the nations in the times to come.

She mentioned that with Africa being one of the largest trading partners with India, items like petroleum, pharmaceuticals, energy, machinery and equipment, cereals, nuts and plastics have been the major items for trade.

Mr. Prem Anveshi, Managing Director, Futurex Trade Fair & Events Pvt. Ltd mentioned about the advantages of cost effective virtual exhibition.

Mr. J Pillai, Co-chair, Packaging Committee, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries and mentioned about the continued expansion of the packaging and allied industries demand globally.

The virtual Expo was organized by Futurex Trade Fair and Events Pvt.

The inaugural session was moderated by Mr. Naveen Seth, ASG, PHDCCI.





3rd WEBINAR SERIES OF PHD CHAMBER ON BORDER TOURISM: FEROZEPUR

Thousands of tourists visit the holy city of Amritsar every day to visit the Golden Temple followed by Jallianwala Bagh, Beating Retreat Ceremony at Wagah Border and to experience the cuisine of Punjab. However, there are several other unexplored districts like Ferozepur, which despite having immense tourism potential get overlooked due to lack of awareness and promotion. This was discussed during the 3rd webinar of PHD Chamber Border Tourism Webinar Series held on July 14, 2021 focusing on Ferozepur district for the promotion of Border Tourism in Punjab. The webinar was supported by the Ministry of Tourism.

Delivering the Keynote Address, Mr. Gurpal Singh Chahal (IAS), Deputy Commissioner – Ferozepur District, Government of Punjab, informed that recently the Punjab Government has sanctioned Rs. 5 crores for the development of Light and Sound Show at the National Martyrs Memorial at Hussainiwalla Border. He further mentioned that the Harike Wild Life Sanctuary, situated on the confluence of the River Beas and Sutlej at the Ferozepur and Amritsar border is one of the most important Wild Life Sanctuaries throughout the world. It has the potential for promoting eco tourism and other activities like bird watching, boating, etc.

Mr. Rama Kamaraju, Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog, spoke about the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2018. He said that Ferozepur district has many historical places, museums, forts, wildlife to offer. Connectivity is a challenge in the district and if addressed properly can certainly help in improving tourism. Mr. Kamaraju suggested that the state government can look at launching a 'Desh Bhakti' circuit which can connect the key tourist places of Punjab. Mr. Kamaraju informed that Ferozepur district has performed extremely well in the ADP with an average growth of 25% in all the thematic areas.

Mr. Harsh Mittal, Manager – Marketing and Skill Development, Punjab Heritage & Tourism Promotion Board, Government of Punjab, discussed about the projects and initiatives undertaken by the state government to attract more tourists into the state. He informed that there are three retreat ceremonies held at Attari, Ferozepur and Fazilka. While Attari is already a popular tourist attraction, the other two need push for the promotion of Border Tourism in the state.

Mr. Manmeet Singh, Chairman – Punjab Chapter, Indian Association of Tour Operators, mentioned that while Amritsar has been a tourist attraction

for years, there is a need to promote Ferozepur and other adjacent areas of Punjab.

Mr. Manasvee Pushkarna, Director of Sales, Taj Hotels, highlighted the need for better road connectivity and accessibility.

Mr. Anirudh Gupta, CEO, D.C.M. Group of Schools, while giving a holistic background on Ferozepur district said that the district has several attractions which need to be capitalized and infrastructure should be developed to ease tourists' connectivity.

Mr. R S Sachdeva, Mentor – Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI, mentioned that Ferozepur district along with other districts of Punjab can play a pivotal role in promoting Border Tourism as they have immense tourist attractions and hospitality facilities.

While presenting the theme address, Mr. Anil Parashar, Chairman – Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, said that Punjab has always ranked high when it comes to courage, might and valour. The richness of the state is reflected in its dress, customs, traditions and also cuisine. There are religious sites to be visited, museums, forts and palaces to be explored and many other things to be done during a visit to Punjab.

Mr. Rajan Sehgal, Co-chairman – Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, while delivering the vote-of-thanks to the delegates, mentioned that post pandemic, tourists are looking at exploring lesser known destinations across the country and Ferozepur can be an ideal option for them with so much of history and culture associated with it.

The webinar was moderated by Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI.





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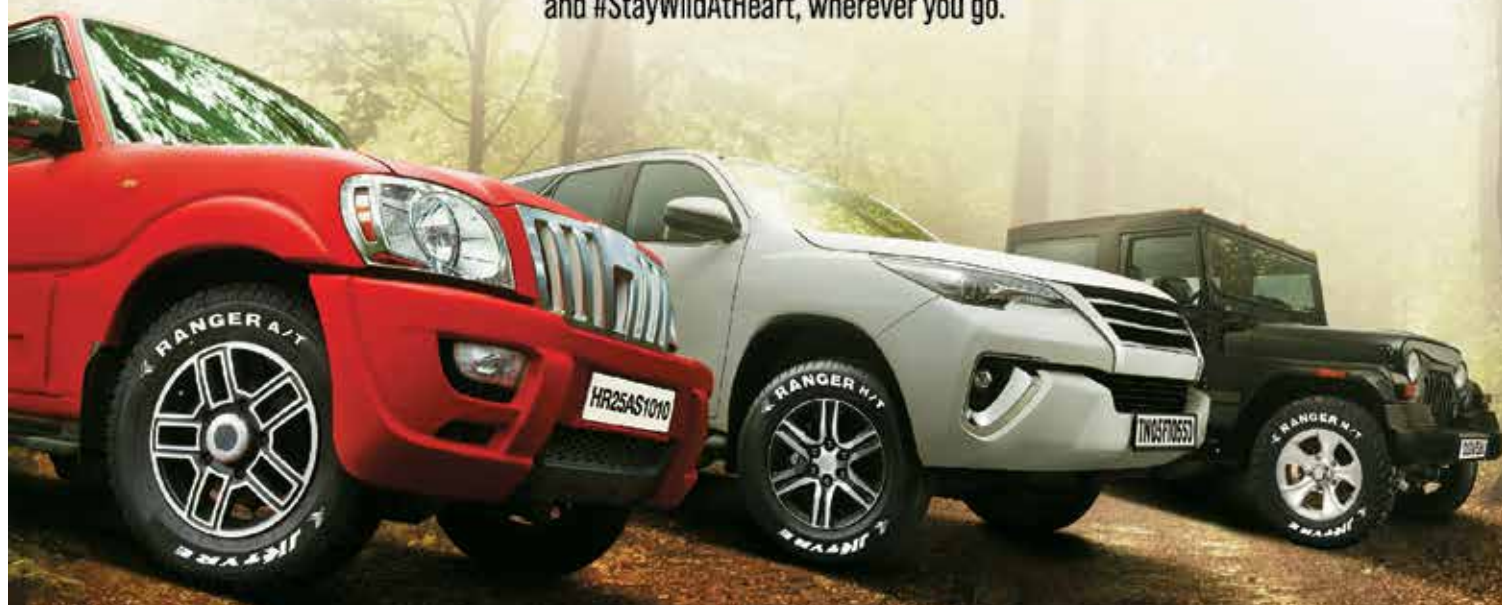


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WEBINAR SERIES ON THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND - THE ROAD AHEAD FOR SMEs

The MSME Committee of PHDCCI organized the 1st Webinar series on 'The Pandemic and Beyond - The road ahead for SMEs' on July 22, 2021. The webinar was moderated by Dr HP Kumar Former CMD, NSIC & Advisor MSME, PHD Chamber.

Mr. Mohit Jain, Chairperson, MSME Committee, PHDCCI suggested that there should be incentives that can be offered to Indian firms, especially small and medium enterprises, to adapt IT and go online. This will not only help them to access more global clients and diversify export markets but also improve their own productivity and efficiency. He further suggested that IT adaptation also needs supporting regulations so that sellers and buyers are protected from online fraud, etc.

Mr. Anil Khaitan Former President, PHD Chamber and Mentor MSME PHDCCI said that Coronavirus crisis and the lockdown was a phase of

evolution for various MSME sectors. He opined that digitization opened the gates for many local businesses to strengthen their operations and cope up with these stressful times. Indian MSMEs also have to clear some roadblocks to sustain on the path of digital transformation.

He also pointed out that many SMEs are unbanked and outside the realm of the formal economy, making distribution of monetary benefits and access to capital a challenge. Nearly 96% are unregistered and approximately 94% are proprietorships. He suggested that the Government should come with a scheme for tapping the unbanked SME segment through optimal selection, effective monitoring, lower costs and improved customer experiences.

Chief Guest, Mr. Ateesh Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSMEs pointed out that most Indian

MSMEs are still grappling with a lack of competitiveness, especially when compared to global counterparts. The issue is structural – our MSMEs are not becoming larger, with 99% of the estimated 60 million in India continuing to be micro-enterprises through their life cycle, with limited means and aspirations. Sub-scale units are tied to low productivity and so the vicious cycle continues.

He also mentioned that the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) issued orders appointing an advisory committee for its 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) project that is aimed at curbing "digital monopolies". This is a step in the direction of making e-commerce processes an open source, thus creating a platform that can be utilised by all online retailers. Several operational aspects including onboarding of sellers,

vendor discovery, price discovery and product cataloguing could be made an open source on the lines of Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

He mentioned that Technology is, in a sense, the backbone of a self-reliant enterprise, as it provides self-owned businesses with the tools and skills to access funding, customers and markets to compete in the new-age economy on a level-playing field. If India's SMEs are restructured to integrate technology into their business models, they can close the digital gap that has plagued them for generations. They can also truly be economically self-reliant, and no longer depend on big banks or big businesses for financial security.

The first session on Customer Acquisition in the "New Normal" was moderated by Ms. Arundhati Mukherjee, Founder Director, Aaroh Consulting. She said that COVID-19 has inflicted significant damage on the organized world; several new opportunities for transformation

have also emerged. The current situation has provided businesses an opportunity to make an extreme paradigm shift in the way they approach the market, employees and investments in the future. A key change has been in the mindset on equity structure. Businesses have gradually understood that they need to be agile and flexible for survival, in addition to looking for and leveraging opportunities thrown up by adverse conditions.

The second session on 'Why SMEs should be digital ready –make tech growth partner' was moderated by Mr. Logesh Velusamy, Founder Effitrac Solutions. He said that Digital transformation has been the key in responding to the disruption of work and business ecosystems, and most businesses ramped up their efforts to meet this sudden change. Eight in ten organizations fast-tracked their digital transformation programmes in 2020, according to Dell's Digital Transformation Index 2020, which

surveyed over 4000 business leaders globally. In addition, 89% said that the pandemic highlighted the need for a more agile and scalable IT environment. It's evident that in this new world, technology is not a choice, but a fundamental business strategy that must be interwoven into every part of an organization.

The third session on 'Digital transformation in Finance' was moderated by Mr. Ramesh Jayaraman, Partner/CFO on Demand CFO Bridge Services. He said that despite potentially tremendous benefits, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) lag the digital transformation. Emerging technologies, as diverse as they are, offer a range of applications for them to improve performance and overcome the size-related limitations they face in doing business. However, SMEs must be better prepared, and stakes are high.

Mr. D P Goel Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests.



THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (FTA) STRATEGY BEING REVAMPED

"Free Trade Agreements are being formulated in a much more interactive process, we are engaging with industry to ensure that FTAs are fairly and equitably crafted. At the same time, FTAs cannot be a one-way traffic, we also need to open our markets, if we want a larger share in foreign markets. So, we need to identify areas where we can withstand competition. We can sort out FTAs fairly quickly, if the areas where we have the ability to compete internationally can be identified, as part of a collective effort."

Informing about the progress of FTAs with various developed countries, the Minister informed that we are at a very positive momentum in terms of FTAs, with the UK, EU, Australia, Canada, UAE, Israel and the GCC countries. "Our effort is to ensure focus on countries where we have significant potential, where we can compete better and where market size is significant."

Minister Mr Goyal said that India is looking at identifying areas of immediate interest for India and UK, and conclude an Early Harvest Agreement with UK. Australia has shown the highest level of engagement and has shown significant interest to do an Early Harvest Agreement, this will help us engage with others too on similar lines, he informed. On the FTA with the EU, the Minister stated that it is only due to the Prime Minister's good will and credibility that the EU has agreed to once again engage in negotiations for an FTA. India will be working very hard to speed this up, he said.

He added: "If the FTA with UAE happens, FTAs with GCC countries too will get expedited. The USA has kind of indicated that they are not looking at new trade agreements, however, we will work with them to address market access issues on both sides, this will be a big opportunity for our export sector."



IMPACT OF COVID ON INDUSTRY: ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

The Industry Affairs Committee of PHD Chamber organized a virtual session on 'Impact of COVID on Industry: Issues, Challenges and Way forward' on July 6, 2021.

Ms. Alka Arora, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, in her key note address mentioned that the Government is determined to make MSMEs digitally literate and make them board the e-commerce platform.

Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal, Managing Director, Paramount Cables & Chair, Industry Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber in his welcome address stated that India needs to improve its manufacturing sector productivity with investment in critical technology.

Mr. Mohit Jain, Director, The Malt Company (India) Pvt. Ltd. & Chair, MSME Committee, PHD Chamber, emphasized that the MSMEs should be encouraged and facilitated to come forward and use technologies so that they can benefit by way of high productivity, low costs and incentivize

a better product.

Dr Mahesh Gupta, Former President, PHD Chamber, Chairman & MD, Kent RO Systems Ltd., mentioned that the shortage of semiconductors is adversely affecting home appliances, telephonic and automobile sectors.

Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Former President, PHD Chamber and Managing Director, Hindustan Tin Works Ltd, explained that in the short term it is essential for industries to strategize their supply chain diversification due to transition in consumer's demand.

Mr. Ajay Shankar, Former Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, highlighted the major concern for MSMEs is complex land norms and difficulty to access capital without diluting stake of industries.

Ms. Kanika Shriram, Joint President, DCM Shriram Industries Ltd. & Co-chair, Economic Affairs

Committee, PHD Chamber stated that the logistic cost is proving to be the biggest problem for Indian industries.

Mr. Sudhir Kumar Sirohi, Adviser, Industry, NITI Aayog, Government of India, stated that keeping into consideration uncertainty as new normal, the government of India has adopted calibrated measures from quarter-to-quarter.

Mr. Vikram Aggarwal, Managing Director, Prakash Industries Ltd. & Co-chair, Industry Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber, mentioned that MSMEs are not able to cope up with the working capital due to surge in commodity prices.

Mr. Vishwanath, CEO, Nath Bros Exim International Ltd. & Co-chair, Industry Affairs Committee, PHD Chamber, delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries and stated that Ease of Doing Business can help the business units to revive.

Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist| DSG, PHD Chamber, moderated the session.





First row (L-R): Mr. S K Rahman, Joint Secretary, GST Council; Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber; Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHD Chamber; CS Nagendra D. Rao, President, Institute of Company Secretaries of India
 Second row (L-R): Mr. Rajeev Talwar, CEO & Whole Time Director, DLF Ltd.; Mr. Alok B. Shriram, Senior Managing Director & CEO, DCM Shriram Industries Ltd.; Mr. Gopal Jiwarajka, Chairman & Managing Director, Salora International Ltd; Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Managing Director, Hindustan Tin Works Ltd.
 Third row (L-R): Mr. Anil Khaitan, Chairman & Managing Director, Sunil Healthcare Ltd; Mr. Bimal Jain, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Committee, Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General and Dr S P Sharama, Chief Economist, PHD Chamber



GST DAY CELEBRATION

On the occasion of four years of implementation of GST in India, the Indirect Taxes Committee of PHD Chamber celebrated the GST Day with an Open House Session with Mr. K Rahman, Joint Secretary, GST Council on July 1, 2021.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber in his welcome address stated that there are unresolved issues with respect to Input Tax Credit, GSTR 2A/2B, Classification of Goods & Services under HSN/ Service Accounting Code, E-Invoicing, Quarterly Return Filing and Monthly Payment of Taxes Scheme (QRMP), Valuation among others. He underlined that it is important that the Government should facilitate ease of doing business.

Mr. S K Rahman observed that the Government is fighting COVID with negative GST tax revenues. He accentuated that the GST Council has

conducted 44 meetings so far, which shows the integrity and seriousness with which industry issues are being taken up for smoothening of operations. He added that there was rate rationalization done on a number of goods. He pointed out that other important decisions relating to online registration; refund claims; QRMP; GSTR 9 & 9C; e-invoicing; extension of due dates for various compliances; e-way bills; waiver of late fees; among other measures have been taken for helping trade & Industry.

Giving the theme presentation, Mr. Bimal Jain, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Committee, PHD Chamber said that GST was envisaged to be Good and Simple Tax but, it's not up to the mark for a number of reasons like lots of teething hurdles on seamless flow of credit across supply chain, buyers are denied credit, even if they have paid taxes to suppliers, blocked credit,

glitches on GST common portal, Rules made in GST are contradictory to the provision of the GST Law and Parallel proceedings by both CGST & SGST Authority.

CS Nagendra D. Rao, President, Institute of Company Secretaries of India raised concerns pertaining to CSR expenditure incurred by corporates during the COVID pandemic. He highlighted that corporates are facing complications around input tax credits on costs incurred under CSR. He urged the government to provide clarity on the subject matter.

Mr. Rajeev Talwar, CEO & Whole Time Director, DLF Ltd. suggested that all real estate constructions should be allowed to charge either 1% or 5% for affordable housing or non-affordable housing with no ITC, should also be allowed with another option of GST @ 12% with GST ITC, so that credit chain is not broken and costs of constructions becomes competitive for the builders.

While appreciating the implementation of GST, Mr. Alok B. Shriram, Senior Managing Director &

CEO, DCM Shriram Industries Ltd. said that GST Council was formed with the intent to provide quick resolutions of issues and for laying down policies without ambiguity. However, there is still a lack of consensus on many aspects of GST which is leading to disputes and uncalled for litigation. He called for providing clear decisions which in turn could help the trade & industry comply with the provisions of GST.

Mr. Gopal Jiwrajka, Chairman & Managing Director, Salora International Ltd. raised the issue related to e-commerce market place,

where 1% TCS and TDS were imposed by the CBIC and CBDT respectively on all e-commerce sellers to track every e-commerce transaction. He suggested that the government reduce the tax rates from 1% to either 0.1% or 0.25%.

Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Managing Director, Hindustan Tin Works Ltd. emphasized that the defaulting suppliers should be punished & penalized for their default for non-payment of taxes. The buyers should not be denied Input Tax Credit if they had paid taxes to Suppliers.

Mr. Anil Khaitan, Chairman &

Managing Director, Sunil Healthcare Ltd felt that the massive deployment of technology through adoption of E-way Bill and E-invoicing has enabled better compliance and efficiency. The nimble approach which the GST Department has taken for a faster response to the industrial concerns has been a force multiplier, which will no doubt facilitate the key goals, which we all Indians aspire to meet.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHD Chamber delivered the vote of thanks to the delegates.

OBSERVATION OF MSME DAY

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) day instituted by United Nations General Assembly is celebrated every year on 27th June. This year, the Ministry of MSMEs organized a virtual conference on the theme "Indian MSMEs – Growth Engines of Economy" to celebrate International MSME Day and acknowledge the contribution of MSME sector to the Indian economy. As per Central Statistics Office (CSO), share of MSMEs in the Gross Value Added (GVA) in All India Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the year 2020-21 is 30% with 11.10 crore workers estimated to be in the MSME sector.

The growth of MSMEs depends on various factors such as access to market, quality of products, availability of timely credit, upgradation of technology etc. For capacity building of Indian MSME sector, the Ministry of MSMEs is implementing various schemes for skill development, technology up-gradation, marketing support and access to credit to MSMEs. A provision has also been made in Public Procurement Policy which mandates 25% of annual procurement from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) by Central Ministries/Departments and CPSEs.

To counter the impact of Covid 19, the Government has taken a number of initiatives under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan to support the MSME sector. Some of them are: Rs. 20,000 crore Subordinate Debt for MSMEs; Rs. 3 lakh crores Collateral free Automatic Loans for business, including MSMEs; Rs. 50,000 crore equity infusion through MSME Self-Reliant India Fund; New Revised criteria of classification of MSMEs; Registration of MSMEs through 'Udyam Registration' Portal for Ease of Doing Business and No global tenders for procurement up to Rs. 200 crores.





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L-R : Mr Tarun Kapoor, Hon'ble Secretary-Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas; Mr. A.K Jana, Managing Director -IGL; Mr. E.S Ranganathan , Director Marketing-GAIL; Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI ;
L-R : Mr. Vinod Kumar Mishra, Director Finance-Petronet LNG; Lt Col Monish Ahuja (Retd.), Managing Director-PRESPL; Mr. Bijay Kumar, GM (AE) Corporate Office Business Development- Indian Oil Corporation Limited & Dr Rimika Kapoor, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

INDIA'S SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRANSITION- ACCELERATING COMPRESSED BIO GAS AS THE NEXT AFFORDABLE FUEL



The Hydrocarbon Committee of PHDCCI organized the Virtual Conclave on “India’s Sustainable Energy Transition - Accelerating Compressed Bio Gas as the next Affordable Fuel” on July 8, 2021.

Chief Guest, Mr. Tarun Kapoor, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas stated that the government is catering to the economic activities of the farmers; building energy security and controlling pollution and cleaning the environment via Compressed Bio Gas. He also mentioned that Compressed Bio-Gas will be a game-changer not only for the energy sector but also for the agriculture sector. They are looking at useful solid waste and thereby cleaning up the urban areas, alongwith absorbing parali to reduce pollution, he added.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI in his presidential address deliberated about the importance of biogas that can be produced and

consumed without any adverse effect on the environment. He asserted that Biogas has the potential to cater to the needs of every sector and at the same time being an organic fertilizer, it helps in reducing carbon emissions.

Mr. A.K Jana, Managing Director, Indraprastha Gas Limited discussed the various initiatives undertaken by the government to increase the energy basket and production of Compressed Bio Gas. He also discussed the involvement of private players which will help to boost production and demand.

Mr. E.S Ranganathan, Chair, PHDCCI Hydrocarbon Committee & Director Marketing GAIL in his theme address discussed the importance of natural gas and Compressed Bio-Gas. He mentioned that strong policies on technologies upgrading are needed for moving India towards clean energy and making it self-reliant.

Mr. V.K Mishra, Co-chairman, Hydrocarbon Committee, PHDCCI &

Director Finance Petronet LNG stated that Compressed Bio-Gas will help to reduce carbon emissions as it’s aligned with Swatch Bharat Abhiyaan and Self-Reliant India contributing to the rural economy and generating employment.

Mr. Bijay Kumar, GM(AE), Corporate Office - Business Development- Indian Oil Corporation Limited detailed about the SATAT scheme and importance of CBG as the future green fuel.

Lt. Col Monish Ahuja (Retd), Managing Director, PRESPL mentioned that clean and green energy will be the sustainable form of energy going ahead. He discussed India’s shift towards clean energy in the future which will help to reduce carbon fossil fuels.

Dr Rimika Kapoor, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi deliberated upon the need to boost the availability of affordable and clean transport fuel to meet the demand for residential, industrial & transportation sector.

Mr. Pawan Tibrawala, Co-chairman, Hydrocarbon Committee, PHDCCI delivered the vote- of- thanks to the guests.

The conclave was moderated by Ms. Bhavna Singh, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI, and was attended by many industry stalwarts across the nation. The conclave was Sponsored by IGL & GAIL.



Mr. Nilesh Sathe, Former Member Life, IRDAI; Mr. Rishi Dua, Sr. Vice President, Axa France Vie India Reinsurance Branch; Mr. Ravi Sadarangani, Head, Credit Life & Corporate Solutions-Group Business, Max Life Insurance Company Ltd; Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Director, Management Development Centre, Life Insurance Corporation; Mr. Anil I Lobo, Senior Consultant, Retirement Trust & Employee Benefits; Mr. Shailesh Kumar, Co-Founder & Insurance Head, Insurance Samadhan; Mr. S K Sethi, Founder & CEO, Insurance Foundation of India & Senior Member PHDCCI; Mr. Rakesh Sarin, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Wellness Mandala Pvt. Ltd. and Dr SP Sharma, DSG/ Chief Economist, PHDCCI

WEBINAR ON EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INSURANCE

With the objective of deliberating in details, the importance of employee benefits insurance & the Issues being faced by Corporates & MSMEs in deciding how risk mitigation can be done by buying insurance, the Banking, Financial Services & Insurance Committee of PHD Chamber organized a Webinar on 'Employee Benefits Insurance, Need – Myth – Reality – Strategy' on July 6, 2021.

While giving the opening remarks, Dr SP Sharma, DSG/ Chief Economist, PHD Chamber observed that employees are the most valuable assets of an organization. It is therefore imperative to provide a safe working environment along with employee insurance.

Mr. S K Sethi, Founder & CEO, Insurance Foundation of India and Senior Member PHDCCI, spoke about why the importance of employee benefits have increased these days.

The concept of perquisites now includes insurance in addition to other benefits. During the havoc created by the pandemic, it is even more important to handhold the employees and their families in case of demise of an employee.

Mr. Nilesh Sathe, Former Member Life, IRDAI, discussing on the new horizon of the life insurance industry and future of group insurance products in India explained that the premium of the group insurance products are calculated based on the past experience. He felt that insurance is more than a financial contract as it entails long term relationship between insurers and the insured. He observed that gratuity, leave encashment and the provident fund being paid to employees on retirement or upon exiting the company are the statutory liabilities to the company and the company

may face prosecution for default in payments. Covering gratuity liability mitigates the risk of the employer in case contingency happened to the company or employer. Group leave encashment coverage is also a big opportunity for insurers and helps the insured by covering the employee. Another product is covering provident fund liability, which has gained acceptance, he added.

Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Director, Management Development Centre, Life Insurance Corporation of India observed that COVID has created challenges by disrupting the status quo. Due to this pandemic, work from home has become the new normal. He highlighted that some studies have claimed that working from home has increased the efficiency of the employee by 17% and people are more comfortable in working from home scenario.

Mr. Rishi Dua, Sr. Vice President, Axa France Vie India Reinsurance Branch stated that it is the right time to talk about health insurance as health insurance has played a very important role during the pandemic. He observed that the huge segment of MSMEs which faces risks at every phase of their businesses is undervalued and underpenetrated so it is imperative for the MSMEs to value the risks associated with their businesses and also the health of their employees and mitigate them by taking group health insurance.

Mr. Anil I Lobo, Senior Consultant, Retirement Trust & Employee Benefits talked about the Employer role in Employee Benefits in India. He emphasized that intention of providing the employee benefits is to attract and retain the best talent. Now big basket of employee benefits insurance is available along with group medical insurance for the employee which helps the organization as well as an employee of the organization. He asserted that employee benefits are the responsibility of the employer and each employer must undertake this so that in case of catastrophe, the employee is able to avail them.

Mr. Ravi Sadarangani, Head Credit Life & Corporate Solutions-Group Business, Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. talked about Life Insurance Solutions for MSME Groups. He said that during the pandemic the claims have increased 500 times.



As per the studies, the third wave is inevitable so it is very important for all the entrepreneurs and MSMEs to cover their employees by not only purchasing group insurance policies but adequate policy cover.

Mr. Shailesh Kumar, Co-Founder & Insurance Head, Insurance Samadhan, discussed about Group Health & Group

Term Insurance Claims. He observed that a group insurance policy is much cheaper than an individual insurance policy. Along with a group insurance policy, a partnership insurance policy is also available as a product.

Mr. Rakesh Sarin, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Wellness Mandala Pvt. Ltd. made a comprehensive

presentation on employee wellness to enhance productivity and reduced medical costs. He said that there is a direct relation between the wellness of the employee and their productivity.

The webinar was sponsored by RIA Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd. and was attended by more than 150 participants.



IPR ON ENFORCEMENT

The PHDCCI IP Facilitation Centre (IPFC), in collaboration with United IPR organized a webinar on “IPR on Enforcement” on July 29, 2021.

Mr. Mohit Jain, Chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI in his welcome remarks informed about PHD Chamber’s IPFC Facilitation Centre for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. The Facilitation Centre has a panel of legal and technical experts to provide assistance in this venture. The Centre, in addition to providing general advisory about IPRs, such as, patents, trademarks, designs and copyrights also provides services related to patent searches, patent drafting, patent prosecution, facilitation in commercialization of Inventions, trademark prosecution matters, etc.

Guest of Honor, Prof. Anand Prakash Mishra, Director Law Admissions and Associate Professor

of Legal Practice & Associate Dean (Admissions, Outreach & Institution Building), OP Jindal Global University said that India strives to achieve a conducive environment where enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights is given paramount importance. He stated that enforcement agencies have been actively working towards curbing the menace of counterfeiting and piracy in IP intensive industries.

Chief Guest, Mr. Sameer Kumar Swarup, Deputy Controller of Patents & Designs Information Technology Wing, Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks mentioned that the protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) is important for the economy and for its further growth in areas such as research, innovation and employment. Effective IPR enforcement is also essential for health and safety. For these reasons, IP rights are worth protecting, both domestically and

internationally.

A session was moderated by Dr H P Kumar, Former Chairman, NSIC and Advisor MSME, PHDCCI in which he welcomed Mr. Shravan Kumar Bansal, Senior Partner & Mr. Gaurav Gogia, Principal Associate.

Mr. Shravan Kumar Bansal, Senior Partner from United IPR in his PPT spoke on Enforcement of IPRs. He explained about the remedies, importance and gave examples on Trademark & Copyright Enforcement.

Mr. Gaurav Gogia, Principal Associate from United IPR stated that an effectively enforced intellectual property infrastructure is necessary to ensure the stimulation of investments in innovation and to avoid commercial-scale intellectual property rights (IPR) infringements.

The vote-of-thanks to the panelists was delivered by Mr. Mohit Jain, Chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI.

Mr. Mithilesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the webinar.



RISK MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE ENSURING BETTER LIVELIHOOD FOR FARMERS

L:R - 1st Row: Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI; Dr S K Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India; Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI; PHDCCI; Dr Yogesh Srivastav, ASG, PHDCCI;
2nd Row: Mr. Kapil Dev, CBO, NCDEX; Mr. S K Sethi, Director, Ria Insurance Brokers P Ltd; Mr. Rohit Dhanda, AVP, Capital Markets & Strategic Initiatives, Samunnati; Mr. G. Chandrashekhar, Agribusiness Specialist and Policy Commentator; Ms Mallika Verma, Director, Agriculture & Food Processing;
3rd Row: Mr. Nixon Joseph, Former President & COO, SBI Foundation; Ms. Kavita Jha, VP, NCDEX; Mr. Deepankar Khare, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI and Mr. Nand Kishore Aggarwal, Chairman-Agriculture Committee, PHDCCI

The Agribusiness Committee of PHD Chamber organized a webinar on 'RISK MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE – Ensuring better livelihood for farmers' on July 8, 2021. The objective of the webinar was to brainstorm effective strategies to mitigate risk in Indian Agriculture and also to discuss better livelihood for farmers.

Chief Guest, Dr Suresh Kumar Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare apprised that the Government of India has submitted a proposal to the United Nations that the International Year of Millets should be observed in the year 2023.

He mentioned that the government is keen to increase water use efficiency to increase agriculture efficiency. More crops are being promoted so that we can invest in utilization of water; sprinklers and micro-irrigation have been installed for the same. We have a production and national agriculture system which is evolving. Farmers are also given weather warning systems so that they are aware of any climate crisis beforehand.

The panel discussion on 'Mitigating Risk in Indian Agriculture' was moderated by Mr. G. Chandrashekhar, Agribusiness Specialist, and Policy Commentator and participants included Mr. Kapil Dev, Chief Business Officer, NCDEX; Mr. S K Sethi, Director, Ria Insurance Brokers P Ltd.; Mr. Nixon Joseph, Former President & COO, SBI Foundation and Mr. Rohit Dhanda, AVP, Capital Markets & Strategic Initiatives, Samunnati. The discussions explored the efficient ways to strategize risk management in Agriculture as well as touch upon the best strategies for better price discoveries to the farmers.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI in his presidential address apprised about the work done by PHDCCI in constructing check dams in various parts of the nation and lauded the efforts made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare for seamless working. He deliberated about the need for risk management that will help farmers to control the various unforeseen risks factors and at the same time help farmers to grow and prosper.

Mr. Nand Kishore Aggarwal, Chair, Agribusiness Committee, PHDCCI while discussing the need for stringent policies for controlling food risk management, mentioned that there is a need to involve the industry and insurance for development of the sector.

The webinar was moderated by Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary-General, along with Dr Yogesh Srivastav, Assistant Secretary-General, PHDCCI, who delivered the concluding remarks.

The webinar was attended by many industry stalwarts across the nation. The webinar was sponsored by NCDEX and Ria Insurance Brokers P Ltd. and was supported by DLF India; Multani Pharmaceuticals; UFLEX; JK Tyre & Industries; Marble City; Paramount Cables; SMC Investments and Advisors; Blossom Kochhar Aroma Magic; Comtech Interio; DCM Shriram Industries; Radico Khaitan; R E ROGERS INDIA PVGT LTD.; Ajit Industries; Synergy Environics; Timberworkz; Jindal Stainless; P S Bedi & Co and IFFCO.





WEBINAR ON CHALLENGES BEFORE THE SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION APPLICANTS UNDER IBC

The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Committee of PHDCCI in association with UKCA and Partners, Madaan Law Offices and Missing Bridge, organized a webinar on 'Challenges before the Successful Resolution Applicants Under IBC' on July 12, 2021 in a virtual mode.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI in his presidential address pointed out that even after five years of introduction of the Code, resolution applicants in India still face many obstacles. Issues such as approval delays by Committee of Creditors, Banks and other Adjudicating Authorities are very common for the resolution applicants and this hinders the entire resolution process.

The Keynote Speaker of the webinar, Dr U K Chaudhary, Senior Advocate, elucidated on many pertinent issues related to successful resolution applicants, problems faced by them and their probable solutions. He explained the difference between a Resolution Applicant and a Successful Resolution Applicant, the stages at which, majority of problems arises for a Resolution Applicant. Dr Chaudhary while elaborating more on the topic explained the main problems and their prime causes of a successful Resolution Applicant. He also pointed out the painful delays caused due to pending litigations in various courts of law.

Mr. Sanjeev Ahuja, Chair, IBC Committee, PHDCCI and Mr. G P Madaan, Co-chair, IBC Committee, PHDCCI, also took up many pertinent issues such as effectiveness of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016, Role of NCLT, NCLAT, MoCA and Adjudicating Authorities. They also discussed many landmark judgments relating to the topic. Revival Plans, Financial Viability of companies going for resolution plans, Winding up and Clean Slate & Going Concern, etc.

Mr. Satwinder Singh, Co-chair, IBC Committee, PHDCCI summed up the session while Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI delivered the vote of thanks to the guests.

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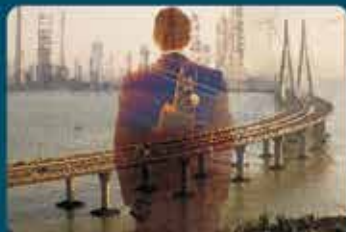
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First Row (L-R): Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHD Chamber; Mr. Bimal Jain, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Committee, PHD Chamber; Mr. Sudipta Bhattacharjee, Partner, Khaitan & Co.
Second Row (L-R): Mr. Shivam Mehta, Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan; Mr. Dharnendra Kumar Rana, Partner, NITYA Tax Associates and Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist | DSG, PHD Chamber

SEARCH, SEIZURE, ARRESTS, RECOVERY AND PROVISIONAL ATTACHMENT - INTRICACIES AND WAY FORWARD



With an aim to provide handholding to the taxpayers on the different facets of Search, Seizure & arrest provisions provided under GST, the Indirect Taxes Committee of PHD Chamber organized a webinar on ‘Search, Seizure, Arrests, Recovery and Provisional attachment – Intricacies and Way Forward’ on July 23, 2021.

Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHD Chamber observed that search and seizure provisions are an invasion on the fundamental rights of citizens which adversely affects their reputation and paralyzes businesses, therefore, while exercising such powers, the authorities should be rather careful and cautious and must exercise it strictly under the authority of the law.

Mr. Bimal Jain, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Committee, PHD Chamber emphasized on conducting proper due-diligence before initiating Investigation, Search, Seizure and Arrest provisions under the GST Laws. He observed that the meaning of the

word “reason to believe” as giving power to the proper GST officer under relevant sections of the GST laws should be supported and substantiated by a solid background and facts of the case wherein Investigation, Search, Seizure and Prosecution are initiated by the GST Department. He opined that there must be proper due-diligence exercise, proper checking, and verification before initiating any search and seizure activities by the GST Department.

Mr. Shivam Mehta, Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan made a comprehensive presentation on Adjudication vs. Criminal Prosecution – Whether can go hand in hand; Grant of bail; Reason to believe & Constitutional validity of arrest provisions. He enumerated the recent arrests made under GST. He deliberated in detail Section 69 relating to power to arrest and Section 132 relating to prosecution under the GST law. He cited numerous case laws to deliberate on adjudication and criminal prosecution.

Mr. Sudipta Bhattacharjee, Partner, Khaitan & Co. made a comprehensive presentation on when can inspection, search and seizure be initiated. He deliberated on the trigger points of inspection, search and seizure. He said if mere difference between GSTR3B and GSTR 1/2A/2B qualifies as ‘reasons to believe’ for ITC blockage under Rule 86A (which also uses the word ‘fraudulent’), mismatches may now be used as a pretext to threaten arrest/ actually arrest - only option for hapless assessee/ recipients will be to file writs/ anticipatory bail against such threats and seek judicial protection. He explained the Cognizable and non-bailable offences & Non-Cognizable and bailable offences under GST law.

Mr. Dharnendra Kumar Rana, Partner, NITYA Tax Associates in his presentation highlighted that where a proper officer under the State Goods and Services Tax Act or the Union Territory Goods and Services Tax Act has initiated any proceedings on a subject matter, no proceedings shall be initiated by the proper officer under this CGST Act on the same subject matter. He also said any proceedings for rectification, appeal and revision, wherever applicable, of any order passed by an officer appointed under CGST Act shall not lie before an officer appointed under the State Goods and Services Tax Act or the Union Territory Goods and Services Tax Act.

More than 700 delegates participated in the webinar.

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ESG ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE - THE NEW AGENDA OF CORPORATE INDIA

The Corporate Affairs Committee of PHDCCI organized a webinar on 'ESG: Environmental, Social and Governance - The New Agenda of Corporate India' on August 4, 2021.

Ms. Ranjana Agarwal, Co-chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI while welcoming the panelists, deliberated about the importance of ESG in the corporate arena that will help in long-term value and sustainability.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI deliberated about the impact of the pandemic on the economy and business and the strong corporate governance that has helped in bouncing back of businesses quickly. He highlighted that India is moving towards 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

Ms. Surabhi Gupta, General Manager - CMD & CFD, SEBI mentioned that the people who are driving the investments in ESG are investors, government and the regulators. He

mentioned that SEBI has taken many initiatives to ensure ESG in corporates and has announced a new requirement of sustainability reporting known as Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report.

Mr. Naveen Unni, Managing Partner and Mr. Divy Malik, Associate Partner, McKinsey & Company discussed Why and How Companies (both small and big) are integrating ESG in their Business decisions. They deliberated on the global and Indian context on de-carbonization, actions being taken by major companies and potential role of MSMEs.

Mr. N Sivaraman, Managing Director & Group CEO, ICRA Limited presented how ESG factors affect credit rating and the cost of capital. He discussed the key trends expected to shape the industry and emphasized that capital markets would warrant enhanced disclosures to support ESG based decision making on the back of

increased investor demands.

Dr Niraj Gupta, Head - Corporate Governance & Public Policy, IICA spoke on the Role of 'Corporate Boards in Investing in ESG and Rethinking Value Creation'. He emphasized the need to revisit the corporate purpose in brand building value chain.

Mr. Sudipto Saha, Head-Operations, Joyville Shapoorji Housing Pvt. Ltd. mentioned as to How Real Estate Sector is contributing towards the environmental, social and governance concerns of investors and discussed the challenges faced by the construction industry. He emphasized the need for reforms with support from the government to reduce compliance burden and ease of implementation.

Mr. Vivek Seigell, Asst. Secretary General, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the speakers, sponsors and delegates.



BORDER TOURISM: GUJARAT



The Gujarat Government is laying strong emphasis on promoting Border Tourism in the state. ‘Seema Darshan’ project is being constructed as a major Border Tourism spot at Nada Bet in Banaskantha district which is likely to be inaugurated by next month. This was deliberated by the Speakers during the 5th webinar under PHD Chamber’s Border Tourism Webinar Series held on August 6, 2021 focusing on Kutch district for the promotion of Border Tourism in Gujarat. The webinar was supported by the Ministry of Tourism and Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd.

Delivering the Keynote Address, Ms. Rupinder Brar (IRS), Additional Director General – Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, said that India is an ancient nation and the young generation needs to know India’s history, culture and rich heritage. She suggested that PHDCCI can collaborate with the Association of Indian Universities that brings around 850 Universities and Colleges together with 3 crore students and host question banks with these students which will help to sensitize them about

the lives of defence and para-military personnel. Once established, Border Tourism will create an economic engine for locals who are living in the villages close to the border areas.

Ms. Brar mentioned about the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’, an initiative launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. Lauding the efforts of PHDCCI for launching the Border Tourism Webinar Series, she stated that it is an apt time to promote this segment and create awareness among the people of our country.

Mr. Jenu Devan (IAS), Managing Director, Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd., appreciated the efforts taken by the Hon’ble Prime Minister in transforming Rann of Kutch which has become a top tourist attraction in the state while ‘Rann Utsav’ is frequented by millions of tourists from across the globe. He also mentioned about the ‘Seema Darshan’ project which was inaugurated on December 2016 at Nada Bet and soon after its launch started gaining attraction with 4000-

5000 visitors during weekends.

The Tourism Department is now trying to promote Nada Bet on the lines of the Wagah Border with not only a Retreat Ceremony, but also creating a 2-3 hours tour package for that entire area which will include a Tourist Facilitation Centre, Auditorium, Museum and other amenities. Electric vehicles will be introduced that will take the tourists around the 25 km border area up to zero point where they will be allowed to take selfies. He further informed that training modules will be introduced in the border areas to help the villagers turn into tour guides for facilitating tourists while creating employment opportunities for them.

Mr. Avinash Mishra, Adviser – Tourism, NITI Aayog, spoke about the importance of tourism sector and its contribution towards GDP. He mentioned that with its diverse culture and architectural heritage, India has the potential to become one of the world’s premium tourist destination.

Sharing details on the Border Tourism development in Gujarat, Mr. Eapen PV, Deputy Inspector General – Frontier Gujarat, Border Security Force (BSF), informed that the ‘Seema Darshan’ project is being developed by Gujarat Tourism, Roads & Buildings Department & BSF and is likely to be inaugurated by next month. He further mentioned that major attractions at the spot

will include Ajay Prahari Memorial, Parade Ground, Exhibition Centre, Museum, resting place for visitors and specially designed Gates depicting the theme of border security. Mr. Eapen pointed out that Border Tourism will transform the security scenario in the country. He stressed that need of the hour is to improve connectivity and infrastructure at the border areas for better facilitation of tourists.

Mr. Paras Lakhia, Managing Committee Member & Chairman – Airline Council, Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), said that Border Tourism is a vertical that creates thrill and excitement and this segment has immense potential to create employment opportunities as well. He suggested that interesting itineraries can be made for the tourists that can generate business and revenue in these difficult times while promoting Domestic Tourism in the country.

Mr. Sandipan Bose, General Manager, Radisson Blu Hotel Ahmedabad, highlighted the tourist attractions in Rann of Kutch and

elaborated how ‘Rann Utsav’ helps to increase local employment, promote cultural and entertainment activities leading to the overall creation of opportunities for local people.

Highlighting the issues faced by the tourists while visiting the border areas at Kutch district, Mr. Pravin V. Dangera, Proprietor, Kutch Expeditions & Approved Tourist Guide at Bhuj- Kutch, said that getting permission to visit East Kutch and West Kutch is a major challenge and the tourist has to visit three offices in order to get the permission. He requested the government to come up with Inner Line Permits (ILPs) like North Eastern States and Ladakh for smooth access to these locations.

In his Presidential Address, Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI, said that Gujarat Government has laid strong emphasis on promoting this niche segment of Border Tourism. This is evident from the recently launched ‘Seema Darshan’ project which was spearheaded by the Hon’ble Chief Minister, Mr. Vijay Rupani. Mr. Aggarwal was hopeful this will

certainly put Gujarat in a unique place on the world map of Border Tourism.

Mr. Anil Parashar, Chairman, Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, congratulated the Ministry of Tourism and Gujarat Tourism as Dholavira, the Harappan City in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat has been inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage list. He hoped that the ongoing ‘Seema Darshan’ project at Nada Bet will give further impetus to the tourism sector in Gujarat and also help in promoting Border Tourism in the state.

Mr. Rajan Sehgal, Co-chairman, Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, delivered the vote- of –thanks to the guests.

The webinar was moderated by Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI, and received participation from senior government officials, travel agents, tour operators, hoteliers, tour guides, airline professionals, travel associations, and students from the travel and hospitality institutes.



HYDROGEN, THE FUEL OF THE FUTURE

For many, hydrogen is the fuel of the future: When ignited, it leaves behind only water and not carbon dioxide (CO₂). Thus, using this most abundant element for our energy needs may help tackle greenhouse gas emission.

Also, the energy produced by 1 kg of hydrogen gas, according to the US Department of Energy, is about the same as the energy in 2.8 kg of gasoline. Keeping these benefits in mind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech announced the National Hydrogen Mission in a bid to make India energy independent by 2047 and also meet its climate targets. The National Hydrogen Mission is all about green hydrogen as Mr Modi targets to evolve the country into a hub for the same.

3rd EDITION OF VIRTUAL RETAIL SUPPLY CHAIN EXCON: FUTURE OF GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS



Mr. Shashvat Somany, Chairman, Retail Committee; Mr. Adil Zobair, Vice President, Sedres Shipping; Dr. Rakesh Paras Singh, Chairman, Mr. Arvind Kalra – Supply Chain Professional, ISCM. John Gattorna – CEO, Gattorna Alignments; Dr. Yogesh Srivastav, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI; Mr. Virendra Sharma, AVP – Supply Chain, Jockey India

PHDCCI organized the 3rd Edition Virtual Supply Chain Excon: Future of Global Supply Chain and Logistics, July 22 – 23, 2021.

Technical Session 1: Future of Global Supply Chains

Mr. Shashvat Somany, Chairman, Retail Committee, PHDCCI in his theme address said that the Indian retail industry has emerged as one of the most dynamic and fast-paced industries due to the entry of several new players. It accounts for over 10% of the country's GDP. India is the world's fifth-largest global destination in the retail space. In FDI Confidence Index, India ranked 16 (after US, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, China, Japan, France, Australia, Switzerland, and Italy). He stated that the global COVID-19

pandemic exposed just how much the supply chain can make or break a company's success.

Dr John Gattorna, CEO, Gattorna Alignments pointed out that the Supply chain is complex and technical so it is important to have human consideration into it. Technology is going to play an important role. Post-COVID, we can see that consumer behavior is becoming more predictive to satisfy the needs of the consumer. He underlined that the current architecture of any organization, locating the target market, using the data and information, and then relocating as per the information is the important aspect for any business working at the regional level.

Mr. Adil Zobair, Vice President, Sedres Shipping emphasized that 70%

of trade movement is done by sea so it is very important to have strong trade at every level i.e. loading and unloading of material, transportation, shipping, etc. During COVID-19 there is a drastic change in consumer behavior and also in businesses too. Retail sales have increased in the year 2020 in comparison to the year 2019 in the US market. The development of the port has to take care of. He stressed that intervention of policymakers is the need of the hour. The industry is moving towards digitization and automation but the involvement of the human element is important.

Mr. Arvind Kalra, Supply Chain Professional emphasized that globalization is good for competition but it is important to develop regional markets too. He stated that the industry cannot depend 100% on technology like digitization and automation. There should be a ratio of 80% technology and 20% of the human element as important decisions cannot be taken without the human element.

Mr. Virendra Sharma, AVP – Supply Chain, Jockey India remarked that during COVID times those companies succeeded who have invested in the supply chain. The traditional model of the supply chain did not work as consumer behavior changed. He emphasized that it is very important for any company to timely understand the market behavior and take strategic decisions timely for business continuity. He further said for market forecast and understanding consumer behavior, human element is a must with the amalgamation of technology.

Dr Rakesh Paras Singh, Chairman, ISCM was the session moderator and Dr Yogesh Srivastav gave the introductory remarks for the session.

Session – 2: Building Digital bridges across Supply Chains

Mr. Shashvat Somany, Chairman, Retail Committee, PHDCCI presented the theme of the session. He



Mr. Shashvat Somany, Chairman, Retail Committee, PHDCCI; Mr. Girish V S, Executive Director, ISCM; Mr. Bhargab Dutta, VP, Aditya Birla Group; Mr. Girish Ravindran Reddy – AVP, SHIL and Mr. Sumesh Rahavendra, Vice President, Freight Tiger

deliberated that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic across the world has been unmatched. It has strongly challenged the status quo and forced us to rethink how we live our lives and earn, spend, and save our money. Technology can help the supply chain to bring companies and people closer together in today's global economy. He advised that Businesses should time and again run stress tests to figure out risks within the supply chain and a business continuity plan should also be charted out in case of disruption or any new kind of crisis. He underlined that to tackle the growing challenges, disruptions and rising market demands, we need smart technology that is resilient towards changing market perceptions and environmental conditions. Unfortunately, many companies learn the hard way that when it comes

to supply chain technology, it is not “one size fits all” or “technology for technology’s sake.”

Mr. Girish Ravindran Reddy, AVP, SHIL deliberated about the Blockchain approach need of every industry on logistics. SLA process needs to be strictly monitored and communicated to consumers to manage consumer expectations.

Mr. Bhargab Dutta, VP, Aditya Birla Group said that technology is an important aspect of business but is not required for all kinds of businesses. Real-time visibility, creating the data infrastructure and right analytics are important steps from the business sustainability point of view.

Mr. Sumesh Rahavendra, Vice President, Freight Tiger said that depending on the need, an organization must make a decision to

own technology or lease a technology. Owing the technology will force the business to continuously invest in it, he further opined.

Mr. Amit Kale, AVP – Supply Chain, Reliance Retail emphasized that with the use of technology, visibility of the tracking system has been improved. This will help the company to work on the return load mechanism that will reduce the freight cost, inventory cost, and delivery time, he added.

Mr. Girish V S, Executive Director, ISCM moderated the session.

Technical Session 3: Revolutionize Urban Logistics

Chief Guest, Mr. Vikas Chaube, Joint Secretary, Logistics, Ministry of Commerce & Industry opined that city logistics is an area of focus looking at the expansion in e-commerce and growing needs of the rural population.



Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, PHDCCI; Mr. Vikas Chaube, JS, Logistics, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Mr. Vipin Vohra, Co-chairman Logistics Committee, PHDCCI; Mr. Tepaswi PVN, Head – Logistics, Henkel India; Capt. T S Ramanujam, CEO, Logistics Skill Council; Mr. Piush Goyal, Managing Director, Kelley Material Handling; Mr. Umesh Grover, Secretary-General, CFSAI; Mr. Amit Gupta, Vice President, Synchronized Supply Systems and Mr. Ajay Bansal, Secretary, PHDCCI

He called for a need to maintain smooth systems, institutional mechanisms, right co-ordination involving all stakeholders and authorities that will help to smoothen the working of city logistics. Cities should develop their city logistics considering their population, needs, freight, transportation, and other

important factors. He mentioned that the five stages to better city logistics plan are data; institutional mechanism; creating a guiding mission; make an evaluation framework and find modes of arranging capital.

Talking about the challenges faced by warehousing, he informed that the Ministry is well aware of it.

Many of the logistics are in the zone of the Government of India and state list which requires the involvement of a lot of stakeholders. He said that the government is working out the approvals process.

Capt T S Ramanujam, CEO, Logistics Skill Council while moderating the session mentioned

that there is a need to get all the regulators and stakeholders together for ensuring seamless working and development of the logistics sector. He also mentioned that there is a need for better IT and communication systems; improvement of the health of the employees; promote skill development; ease of doing business; improvement of freight management and creating transit hubs.

Mr. Piush Goyal, Managing Director, Kelley Material Handling mentioned that there is a need for road infrastructure, different trucks based on the goods, and investment in technology for improvement in the logistics sector, especially in warehousing and hardware.

Mr. Tepaswi PVN, Head – Logistics, Henkel India apprised about the mindset change in making the logistics sector more functional, competitive and prosperous. He opined that there is a need for infrastructure

and skill development which will lead to employment generation. He emphasized that rural logistics will also help in making smart cities.

Mr. Amit Gupta, Vice President, Synchronized Supply Systems mentioned that rural logistics have a lot of business opportunities due to rapid urbanization and increase in demand of retail sector but, there is a need for standard wages for labor, fewer reservations, skill development of workers and better IT connectivity.

Mr. Umesh Grover, Secretary-General, CFSAI while giving an overview about urban logistics, mentioned that there is a need for small trucks, increase in costal shipping and more standardization.

Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, PHDCCI deliberated about the importance of the logistics sector in the development of the country and the increase in its demand in the retail industry.

Mr. Vipin Vohra, Co-chairman Logistics Committee, PHDCCI while discussing the issues and challenges faced by the logistics sector during these times, mentioned that a policy needs to be developed that helps to recognize the logistics sector as an industry as it helps in trade regulation. He suggested that money should be invested in infrastructure that will help the brokers be equipped with modern equipment. He also suggested that there must be a legal policy for place allotment of warehouses and the government should allot someplace in different business parks to the warehousing that will help to reduce the transportation cost.

Technical Session – 4 : Asia : The Value of Highway for Global Logistics

Mr. Niki Frank, CEO India & South Asia, DHL Global Forwarding said that the Pandemic brought logistics into a different level and the opportunities in the sector have been increased.



Mr. Abhishek P Rao, Group Director, Varuna Logistics; Mr. Vivek Kele, Founder, Teamglobal Logistics Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Satish Lakkaraju, CCO, Agility Logistics; Mr. Vaibhav Vohra, Managing Director, Continental Carriers; Mr. Niki Frank, CEO India & South Asia, DHL Global Forwarding, and Mr. Ajay Bansal, Secretary, PHDCCI

Logistics is an interface between the producers and customers. The pandemic brought an opportunity for the Indian logistics industry and startups to grow globally and regionally.

Mr. Vivek Kele, Founder, Teamglobal Logistics Pvt. Ltd. emphasized that infrastructure has an important role to play in developing the logistics sector in India. The amalgamation of physical infrastructure and technology in the logistics industry will lead India to the global platform.

Mr. Vaibhav Vohra, Managing Director, Continental Carriers said that

the standardization of processes has been given importance under 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. The Pandemic brought the importance of the industry forefront. The government, policymakers, private players are focusing on the growth of the logistics industry.

Mr. Abhishek P Rao, Group Director, Varuna Logistics said that the transparency in the industry will improve visibility and reduce the gap in demand and supply. Talent development and training are important concerns for the growth of the logistics industry as automation and digitization alone cannot work.

Mr. Satish Lakkaraju, CCO, Agility Logistics moderated the session.

The event was attended by more than 1000 industry stalwarts across the nation. The session was sponsored by Somany Home Innovation Limited and Kelley Material Handling supported by DLF India; Multani Pharmaceuticals; UFLEX; JK Tyre & Industries; Marble City; Paramount Cables; SMC Investments and Advisors; Blossom Kochhar Aroma Magic; Comtech Interio; DCM Shriram Industries; Radico Khaitan; R.E. Rogers India; Ajit Industries; Synergy Environics; Timberworkz; Jindal Stainless; P S Bedi & Co; IFFCO and Hindware.



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MOU SIGNING OF TELE MEDICINE CENTER AT INDIRA GANDHI HOSPITAL

Telehealth Project for COVID India is the joint effort of Health Committee, PHD Chamber, Rotary Club of Delhi Central (RCDC), BAPIO Training Academy (BTA), UK and Indira Gandhi Hospital, New Delhi to provide the Tele-Consultation & Tele-Reporting (internet and mobile based) services and support Indian health care professionals looking after COVID / Non-COVID patients. The Tele Medicine Center was inaugurated at Indira Gandhi Hospital on July 27, 2021.

PHD Chamber, Rotary Club of Delhi Central, BAPIO Training Academy (BTA) and Indira Gandhi Hospital signed a MoU on July 27, 2021 to start the Telemedicine Center at Indira Gandhi Hospital where BTA will provide free of charge telemedicine service of their international doctors to Indira Gandhi Hospital and PHD Chamber & RCDC will act as a facilitator.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI, congratulated all the partners for taking this wonderful

step. In the wake of the ongoing pandemic, telemedicine will prove to be an added boon to the health-care provider as well as the patients in terms of reducing the burden of healthcare professionals and providing psychological support to the patients.

Dr Brijesh Kumar, Medical Director, Indira Gandhi Hospital thanked PHD Chamber, Rotary Club of Delhi Central and BTA for supporting this Digital healthcare initiative. He further said that this is a 1240 bedded hospital which will be operational from August 2021.

Mr. Anup Mittal, District Governor thanked everyone for joining the MoU ceremony. He said this is a great Initiative to start the telemedicine service at Indira Gandhi Hospital which will certainly reduce the burden of exhausted doctors and help the masses.

Prof. Parag Singhal, Executive

Director, BAPIO Training Academy & Co-chair, Health Committee, PHD Chamber explained how tele-medicine benefitted more than 1,00,000 patients virtually at the time of COVID. He thanked Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI for connecting them to Indira Gandhi Hospital, one of the largest public health hospital in Delhi.

Prof. Harvinder Popli, President, RCDC appreciated starting of the Telemedicine Centre at Indira Gandhi Hospital which will aim to support the Indian Healthcare professionals and also to the patients. She further stated that the future of Telemedicine is intertwined with accessible technology and this MoU is yet another step of Rotary to change lives through this initiative.

Dr. Niti Jain, Professor & Head, Indira Gandhi Hospital, New Delhi thanked everyone for their support to start the Telemedicine Service at Indira Gandhi Hospital and it will surely help reduce their burden not only for COVID but also for non COVID patients.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to all the partners for their support for this initiative.

Mr. Vivek Seigell, ASG, PHDCCI moderated the MoU ceremony.



MOU SIGNING & INAUGURATION OF TELEMEDICINE CENTER AT BURARI



Minister further asserted that this type of platform should be expanded at all levels by using innovative digital technology.

Mr. Dilip Kr. Pandey, Chief Whip Legislative Assembly & MLA Timarpur Assembly appreciated the efforts of Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, PHDCCI, Rotary Club and BTA for joining hands together to start the digital healthcare services which will ultimately reduce the burden on the Indian healthcare professionals and simultaneously work as a preparatory facility in case of the third wave.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI, welcomed the Minister and other dignitaries present physically as well as through virtual platform. He congratulated all the partners for taking this wonderful step and mentioned that rural India, where the access to medical specialists opinion and advance healthcare amenities are limited, telemedicine will bring access of healthcare and specialist doctors while reducing the time of consultations and improve the quality of healthcare services in the shortest possible time.

Dr Subramanian, Chair, Health Committee, PHD Chamber & Medical Advisor, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals said that technology determines excellence and convenience in healthcare. He added that this can truly revolutionize remote online consultation, diagnosis and follow up.

Prof. Parag Singhal, Executive Director, BAPIO Training Academy & Co-chair, Health Committee, PHD Chamber said that providing care for patients with COVID and non-COVID became a significant challenge especially during the second wave of the pandemic. However, it also offered opportunities and one opportunity was Telemedicine which has become a widely accepted practice and now is the key component of 'affordable healthcare' much needed during the times of economic crisis. Given the finite resources, efficient, effective and equitable healthcare is needed



The Telehealth Project for COVID India is the joint effort of Health Committee, PHD Chamber, Rotary Club of Delhi Central, BAPIO Training Academy (BTA), UK and Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services to provide the Tele-Consultation & Tele-Reporting (internet and mobile based) services and support Indian health care professionals looking after COVID / Non-COVID patients. The Tele Medicine Centre was inaugurated by Mr. Satyendar Kumar Jain, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Mr. Dilip Kr. Pandey, Chief Whip Legislative Assembly & MLA Timarpur Assembly on August 12, 2021 at Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, Burari, New Delhi.

PHD Chamber, Rotary Club of Delhi Central, BAPIO Training Academy

(BTA) and Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services signed an MoU on August 12, 2021 to start the Telemedicine Centre at Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services where BTA will provide free of charge telemedicine services of their international doctors to Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services and PHD Chamber and RCDC will act as a facilitator.

While congratulating the efforts of Sant Nirankari Mission for supporting the government to set this COVID centre facility, Mr. Satyendar Kumar Jain, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi thanked PHDCCI, Rotary Club & BTA for initiating the telemedicine service. The Minister further mentioned that this is one of the largest COVID care facility temporary (make shift) with 308 ICU beds with ventilators. The

and we must all look at different ways of working to address the healthcare challenges, he underlined.

Dr Shuchin Bajaj, Founder & Director, Ujala Cygnus Group of Hospitals described this as another step for third-wave preparation. He informed that Ujala Cygnus Group of Hospitals will be working closely with the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO), who all are testing specialists in the UK. They will connect online and help to treat critical patients (both COVID and non-COVID), who will be requiring ICU admission.

Mr. Joginder Sukhija, Secretary, Sant Nirankari Mission mentioned

that primary medical care is the basic right of every patient. With the advancement of technology, telemedicine has proved to be a boon for connecting urban providers with rural patients, particularly those who lack reliable transportation, especially in the times of pandemic. He stated that Sant Nirakari mission is trying to bridge this distance between doctors and underserved patients by establishing such centers with digital technology.

Prof. Harvinder Popli, President, RCDC & Co-chair, Health Committee, PHDCCI said that telemedicine is an upcoming field in India and could play a major role in making healthcare

accessible and affordable. It can play a pivotal role in anticipating epidemics which can be possible by studying the electronic medical records of the population and make a combined assessment of the health of the society. "Information technology and telemedicine can be used to inform, influence and motivate individuals and population organizations on health, health-related issues and adoption of healthy lifestyles. It can be a very important tool for the evaluation and monitoring of healthcare services".

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries.

VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA APPEALS TO PEOPLE TO TREAT KHADI AS 'NATIONAL FABRIC'

Vice President of India, Mr. M. Venkaiah Naidu speaking at the launch of 'Khadi India Quiz Contest' on August 31, 2021 organized as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) appealed to the citizens to treat khadi as 'National Fabric' and promote its use extensively. He called upon celebrities from various fields to come forward and promote the use of Khadi in a big way.

Mr. Naidu expressed his happiness over the phenomenal turnaround of Khadi in the last 7 years and lauded the government, KVIC and all the stakeholders for accelerating the growth. "I am happy to note that KVIC has succeeded in establishing a pan-India reach and has connected people with sustainable self-employment activities even in the remotest corners of the country," he added. The Vice President recalled the historical relevance of Khadi and said it was a binding force for the masses during the freedom movement. Mr. Naidu mentioned how Mahatma Gandhi in the year 1918 started the Khadi movement to generate a source of income for the poverty-stricken masses and later turned it into a powerful symbolic tool against foreign rule.

Referring to the environmental benefits of Khadi, the Vice President mentioned that Khadi has zero carbon footprint as it does not require electricity or any kind of fuel for its manufacturing. He said, "At a time when the world is looking for sustainable alternatives in clothing, it should be remembered that Khadi as an eco-friendly and sustainable fabric certainly meets the requirement."

The Vice President called upon educational institutions to explore using Khadi for uniforms. He said that it will not only give students an opportunity to experience the many benefits of Khadi but will also help them connect with our great freedom fighters and freedom movement. He appealed to the youth to make Khadi a fashion statement and promote its use among everyone with passion.





WEBINAR ON COMMODITIES - AN ASSET CLASS

The Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee of PHDCCI organized a webinar on 'Commodities - An Asset Class' on July 30, 2021.

The eminent panellists were Mr. Mrugank Paranjape, MD & CEO, NEML and Mr. Suresh Arora, Whole Time Director, Share India Securities Ltd.

While giving the presidential address, Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI said that investment in commodities gives three benefits to an investor such as hedge against inflation, diversification with other asset classes and return potential which is independent of equities and bonds. Since commodities are real assets, they tend to react to changing economic fundamentals in different ways than stocks and bonds, which are financial assets.

Mr. Vijay Bhushan, Chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI mentioned that commodities act as a good inflation hedge and by adding commodities the overall portfolio gets diversified as commodities have a low correlation

with equity and debt. Also as an asset class, commodities tend to follow distinct cycles, which make them a good diversifier of risk.

Mr. Mrugank Paranjape, MD & CEO, NEML mentioned that the Commodities have evolved as an asset class with the development of commodity futures indices and subsequently, investment options that benchmark against these indices. Apart from traders, hedgers, and arbitrageurs, the Indian regulator has allowed participation of mutual funds, banks, and Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) category 3 in the Indian market. With this permission, mutual funds, banks, and AIFs have started operating in the Indian commodities market giving more positive vibes to the market to make it stronger.

Mr. Suresh Arora, Whole Time Director, Share India Securities Ltd. mentioned that for today's modern scenario investment in commodity markets are an ideal investment for investors. Now-a-days in India investors can trade into the commodities electronically. He

suggested that there is a need to provide awareness programme to potential investors in order to make them aware about the commodity market. It is important to inform the benefits availed from commodity market, to least qualified people. Today, the investors have tools to invest in commodities from mutual funds to ETFs, covering the wide array from single commodity exposures to sector-based and broad-based commodity exposures.

Mr. B K Sabharwal, Senior Member, Capital Market and Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI while delivering vote-of- thanks to Speakers, sponsor and delegates mentioned that with the advent of commodity futures, commodities have emerged as a distinct asset class where individuals can actually participate through the market mechanism.

The webinar was also graced by Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI; Mr. Narendra Wadhwa, President, CPAI; Mr. Vijay Mehta and Mr. Satish Arya, Senior Members, Capital Market and Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI.

Mr. Vivek Seigell, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI moderated the webinar.

CPAI was the Associate partner of the event.

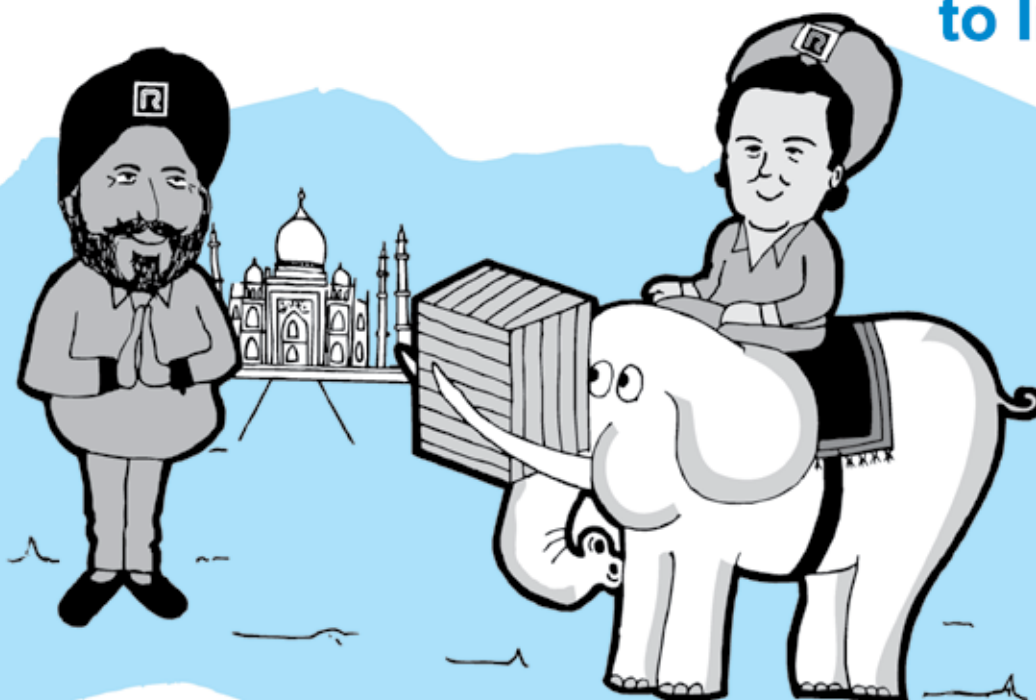




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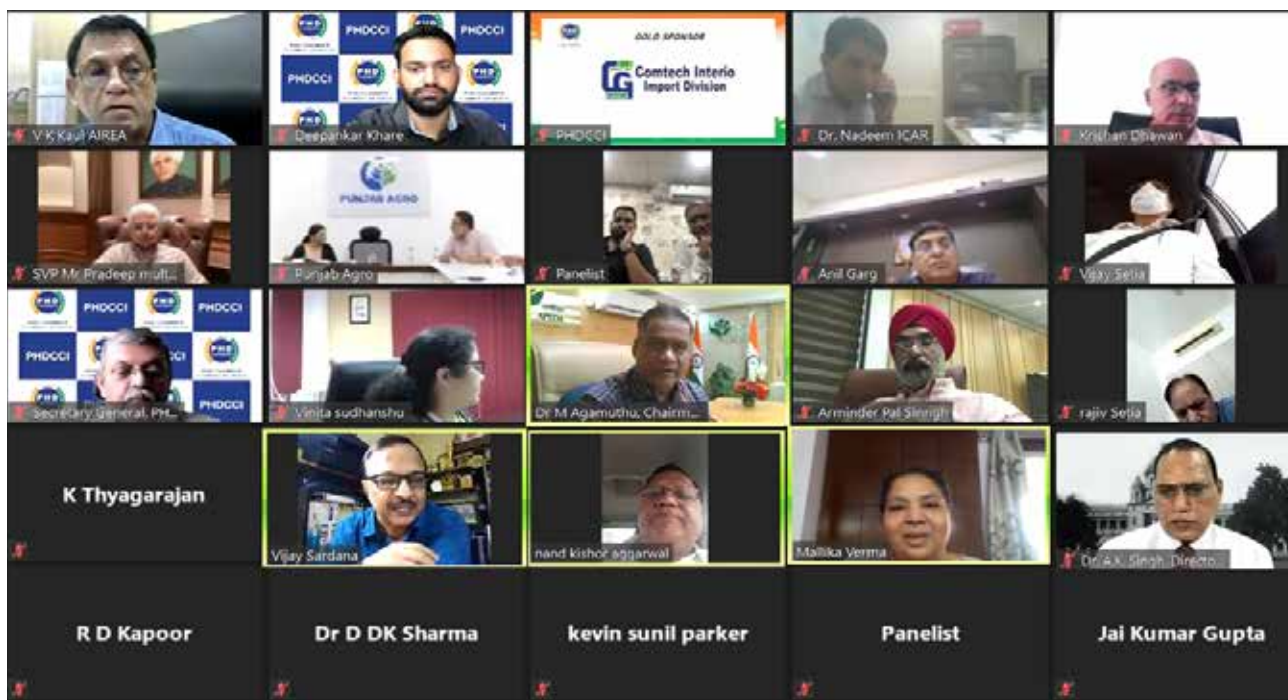
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L:R- 1st Row: Mr. V K Paul, All India Rice Exporters Association (AIREA); Mr. Deepankar Khare, Deputy Secretary PHDCCI; Dr. Nadeem Ahmad, Assistant Director (Plant Protection); Mr. Krishan Dhawan, Rice Exporter
2nd Row: Mr. Pradeep Multani, Sr. Vice President, PHDCCI; Dr. Deepa Dhankar, Head Agri Export, Punjab Agro and Dr. Ranbir Singh, General Manager, Punjab Agro, Other eminent rice exporters
3rd Row: Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI; Ms. Vinita Sudhanshu, Deputy General Manager, (Cereals and BEDF Divisions), APEDA; Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS, Chairman, APEDA; Mr. Arvind Pal Singh, AIREA, Mr. Rajiv Setia, AIREA
4th Row: Mr. K S Thyagarajan, President -Business Development &Special Projects at Crystal Crop Protection Limited; Dr. Vijay Sardana, Agriculture Policy Expert; Mr. Nand Kishore Aggarwal, Chairman-Agriculture Committee, PHDCCI; Ms. Mallika Verma, Director, PHDCCI and Dr. A K Singh, Director, ICAR-IARI

FOOD SAFETY AND SECURITY - LEVERAGING SCIENCE TO ADDRESS PRODUCTION & CHALLENGES FOR BASMATI RICE EXPORTS: WAY FORWARD

The Agribusiness Committee of PHD Chamber organized a webinar on “Food Safety and Security” Leveraging Science to Address Production & Challenges for Basmati Rice Exports: Way Forward” on July 27, 2021. The objective of the webinar was to address the concerns of its member exporters and chemical manufacturers.

Basmati rice has given identity to our country. We should implement best practices for sustainability vis-a-vis India’s environment. We should have a customized package of practices and services which our farmers can adopt and follow the practices for the long-term for sustainable production. There is need for interface between industry and government so that a tangible solution is taken out at the

farmers level which will help to ensure better practices and quality checks, mentioned Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS, Chairman, APEDA. Dr. Angamuthu appreciated PHD Chamber’s efforts and assured support in its initiatives.

Dr. A K Singh, Director, ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare mentioned that we need to find a permanent solution to the problem of pesticides and one of the solutions is incorporating genes for developing disease and insect resilient varieties for enhanced yields. We need to follow good agriculture practices and the farmers should be educated on what, when, how much to apply for residue free production. He also cautioned on mixing the two issues of sale of scrupulous products that can destroy the crop totally and

over dosage of chemicals which may protect the crop but may not get metabolized and leave residue in final produce.

Dr. Vijay Sardana, Agriculture Policy Expert; Mr. K S Thyagarajan and Mr. RD Kapoor from Chemical Manufacturing Industry made a presentation on how good agriculture practices in chemical spraying can help in preventing residues in the final produce.

Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHDCCI deliberated about the importance of quality checks and controls especially in the case of basmati rice. He said that the government’s step towards adopting Integrated Pest Management as the cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection in the overall Crop Production Programme will

help to keep quality checks at bay. He emphasized that there is a need for educating farmers on the types of chemicals, their effectiveness on specific pests and parts of the crop, their timing, dosage, and date of the last spray before harvest.

Mr. Nand Kishore Aggarwal, Chair, Agriculture Committee, PHDCCI while giving an industry perspective mentioned that India is one of the largest producers of rice in the world but, with time, exporters have been incurring losses which is also affecting the farmers and, there is a need to understand the issues being faced by the farmer and at the same time rectify the challenges faced and find effective solutions for the same. He said that the industry is willing to work with the government and farmers to address these challenges in the interest of the farmers and the nation.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary-General, PHDCCI in his opening remarks deliberated about the importance of agriculture for the growth of the economy and the need for enhancing production, yields, and quality of produce. Talking on issue of rice exports, he mentioned that Rice exporters have been making efforts to educate the farmers on the use of pesticides, but the result is not fruitful but, with the help of the government and All India Rice Exporters Association, some solutions can be taken out to make sure that exports happen seamlessly.

Mr. Ranbir Singh, CEO, Punjab Agro Development Corporation Ltd., Government of Punjab joined the Webinar along with Ms. Deepa Dhankar and shared their initiatives towards crop protection by Punjab farmers and the results it has yielded.

The webinar was also addressed by many Members of the All India Rice Exporters Association, who shared their challenges.

The webinar was moderated by Ms. Mallika Verma, Director, PHDCCI, and was attended by many industry stalwarts across the nation.

The webinar was supported by DLF India; Multani Pharmaceuticals; UFLEX; JK Tyre & Industries; Marble City; Paramount Cables; SMC Investments and Advisors; Blossom Kochhar Aroma Magic; Comtech Interio; DCM Shriram Industries; Radico Khaitan; R.E. Rogers India; Ajit Industries; Synergy Environics; Timberworkz; Jindal Stainless; P S Bedi & Co; IFFCO and Hindware, BAYER, Crystal Crop Protection Ltd, Syngenta, Indofil, Rallis and Willowood.



MINISTER PIYUSH GOYAL ADDRESSES TRADERS' FRATERNITY ON NATIONAL TRADERS' DAY

Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles Mr. Piyush Goyal lauded the contribution of traders in Indian economy on National Traders on August 9, 2021. He said traders are the backbone of the country's economy and financial powers. He said traders are the true ambassadors of Brand India. He asked the traders to push for the PM's clarion call for "Vocal for Local" and become ambassadors of brand India. Mr. Goyal said that India is becoming a global platform for goods and services and asked traders to become Atmanirbhar on all fronts of commerce and trade. He also stressed that trade is not an exchange of goods but is an exchange of culture, goodwill and trust also. The key to it is Quality and productivity. The minister also stressed on ensuring sale of quality products to achieve the above goals.

The Minister assured full support to the trader community from Government and asked traders to bring violations in law to notice of the Government. He said government is committed to protect traders and small entrepreneurs. He said the Government is working towards simplifying legal metrology and creating a single window online system to stop harassment of traders. The Minister urged traders to boost Swarojgar, Swadeshi & Sugam Vyapar.



First Row (Left to right): Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber; Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, PHD Chamber; Mr. Ved Jain, Past President, ICAI and ex-member ITAT; Mr. Mukul Bagla, Chairman, Direct Taxes Committee.
Second Row (Left to right): Mr. Rohit Jain, Partner, Vaish Associates; Mr. Sameer Gogia, Director, Deloitte; Mr. Ashish Ghosh, Co-chairman, Direct Taxes Committee; Mr. Ravi Bhatia, Co-chairman, Direct Taxes Committee.
Third Row (Left to right): Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHD Chamber; Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist | DSG, PHD Chamber and Ms. Monika Shingari, Joint Secretary, PHD Chamber.



FACELESS ASSESSMENT & FACELESS APPEALS LAUDABLE INITIATIVES - MIXED BEGINNING

The Direct Taxes Committee of PHD Chamber organized a webinar on 'Faceless Assessments & Faceless Appeals: Laudable Initiative – Mixed Beginning' on July 20, 2021.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber in his presidential address observed that the faceless assessment and appeals process has been introduced to make tax administration free of any bias and to remove any subjectivity that personal interface between the tax payer and officials could introduce in the process. He called out for suggestions from members' for making the process of faceless assessments & faceless appeals streamlined for making the scheme a success.

Mr. Mukul Bagla, Chair, Direct Taxes Committee, PHD Chamber observed that the Faceless Assessment is a pioneer initiative by the Indian Government as nowhere in the world,

similar procedure has been introduced for assessments. He felt that the main reason for the introduction of the faceless assessments was to impart transparency and accountability during the Tax Assessments and to reduce the cost of compliance for the tax payers and tax department. He added that this will further pave way for creating a trust mechanism between the taxpayer and the tax department. He emphasized that while the department expects the taxpayer to file its return in a fair manner, it is equally important that the department as a policy should trust the assessee and not initiate investigation for every income tax return filed by the assessee.

Mr. Ved Jain, Past President, ICAI and ex-member ITAT said that Faceless Assessment scheme is not a very new concept as anticipated by many, infact, summary assessment which was similar to Faceless

Assessment was introduced as early as 1960. He observed that Faceless Assessment should be on a merit basis and if complexity arises or in cases where the assessee is not satisfied with the outcome of the Faceless Assessment Scheme, an option must be provided to have regular assessment. He emphasized that while the introduction of Faceless Assessments is a laudable initiative, but it should not be made mandatory and where assessee has any grievance he must be given an opportunity of video conferencing and/or physical hearing.

Mr. Rohit Jain, Vaish Associates felt that the provisions of the Faceless Assessment and Section 144B are very well drafted. It includes as the fundamental concepts and principals of natural justice and the entire procedure is comprehensively set out. He said that numerous controversies have emerged in a short span of time due to extensions given by the Department due to COVID leading to technical glitches in the system. He explained in detail the working of the National Faceless Assessment Centre on how draft assessment orders and Show Cause Notices are dealt with. He further explained in detail Section 144B and its sub-clauses. He highlighted that the reasonable jurisprudence

has developed on issuances of draft Assessment Orders and issuance of Show Cause Notices (SCN); denial of opportunity of hearing and non-consideration of objections filed in the final assessment orders issued. He also highlighted the various legal remedies available to taxpayers' including filing writ petition in either Delhi High Court or jurisdictional high court.

Mr. Sameer Gogia, Director, Deloitte made a comprehensive presentation on Faceless Appeals Scheme, 2020. He explained in detail the key features of the scheme, its

scope, exclusions etc. He observed that the National Faceless Appeals Centre acts as an interface between Appellant, National Faceless Assessment Center, Assessing officer and Appeal Unit (AU). The Regional Faceless Appeal Centers facilitate conducting appellate proceedings. The main work of Appeal Units is execution of appellate proceedings and review of orders allocated by NFAC. He observed that as per one judgement given by Agra ITAT the National Faceless Appeal Centre is bound by the decision of jurisdictional

High Court, having an over Assessing officer.

Mr. Ashish Ghosh, Co-chairman, Direct Taxes Committee conducted the open house session. Mr. Ravi Bhatia, Co-chairman, Direct Taxes Committee provided the concluding remarks and delivered the vote-of-thanks to the delegates.

The session was attended by around 400 delegates and was followed by an extensive floor participation.

FINANCE MINISTER LAUNCHES NATIONAL MONETISATION PIPELINE

Finance Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman launched the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) on August 23, 2021 that includes the Centre's four-year plan to monetise its brownfield infrastructure assets. The government has planned a Rs 6-trillion pipeline of assets that can be monetised, which include a range of assets put on the block for private sector participation. The NMP will serve as a roadmap for asset monetisation of various brownfield infrastructure assets across sectors including roads, railways, aviation, power, oil & gas and warehousing.

Finance Minister Ms. Sitharaman released the National Monetisation Pipeline book that lays the roadmap for monetisation of such assets. The book has been prepared by Crisil Infrastructure Advisory, an arm of Crisil. The NMP seeks to provide visibility to investors, and will serve as a medium-term roadmap for the Centre's asset monetisation drive.

Union Budget 2021-22, had laid emphasis on asset monetisation to raise innovative and alternative financing for infrastructure. According to the Finance Minister, monetising operating public infrastructure assets is a very important financing option for new infrastructure construction. The government has also developed an asset monetisation dashboard for monitoring real-time progress of NMP. The portal has been prepared as the government tries to provide a one-stop shop to investors keen on taking over assets of government departments and ministries. NITI Aayog has finalised the NMP of potential brownfield infrastructure assets that has been created for a four-year period from financial year 2021-22 to 2024-25.





L-R: Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber; Mr. Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Chairman, PFRDA; Mr. Suranjan Banerjee, Associate Director - Retirement, Willis Towers Watson; Mr. Mono Phukon, General Manager, PFRDA; Ms. Bahroze Kamdin, Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP; Mr. Bijay Murmuria, Co-chairman, BFSI Committee, PHD Chamber; Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist /DSG PHD Chamber; Ms. Monika Shingari, JS, PHD Chamber and Ms. Neeta Prasad, S.A.S, PHD Chamber

WEBINAR ON SECURING RETIREMENT WITH NPS AND INSIGHTS FOR EMPLOYER

With the objective of deliberating in details & sensitizing and creating awareness on the National Pension System to enable all stakeholders avail the benefit of NPS, the Banking, Financial Services and Insurance Committee of PHD Chamber in association with PFRDA organized a webinar on 'Securing Retirement with NPS and Insights for employer' on July 29, 2021.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber observed that it is important to secure one's retirement strategically in order to lead post retirement phase of life in a stress free manner. He emphasized that retirement planning is an essential part of financial planning for leading a comfortable and dignified post retirement life. It is prudent to start

retirement investment early even with small amount each month to build a substantial corpus for a stress free retirement life. He mentioned that the Government of India rolled out the National Pension Scheme in 2004 as part of a social security initiative for all Indian citizens. The NPS scheme allows individuals employed in public and private sectors to invest in low-risk equity funds with good returns.

Mr. Bijay Murmuria, Co-chairman, BFSI Committee, PHD Chamber in his theme address shared that the employees in the unorganized sector are vulnerable after retirement and, India needs to develop a financial system that is accessible to the needs of every kind of employee. He emphasized the need to choose a good, reliable, and long-term pension plan which gives good sustainable

retirement benefits. He also said that improving access and coverage for the unorganized sector are important reforms but are not the only areas where progress is required. A crucial next step will be educating individuals, particularly those in the unorganized sector, about these programs. He stated that the higher degree of enrollment that these programmes see, the better positioned India's population will be to successfully navigate the retirement challenge.

Mr. Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Chairman, PFRDA in his keynote address observed that longevity of life span has increased in India. The life expectancy is around 69 years in India, thus paving the way for retirement planning. It is important to have a stable source of income post one's retirement which could be in

the form of pension. Pension income, he felt, is a must to lead a dignified life. It is important that youngsters should start investing early to gain the benefits of NPS. Investing at the age of 40-50 years will not give as good returns than investing at the age of 24-25 years. He said that stable working population of the country should start investing in pension at an early stage so that they are not a burden to the country and can get a secured future. The social security schemes started by the Government are aimed at people below the poverty line. It is critical for people who have the capacity to save for a secured future. He asserted the need to adopt National Pension Scheme (NPS) for a better lifestyle after retirement that will help to cut inflation and will give an umbrella of benefits for the long term based on one's flexibility of contribution. One of the benefits of NPS is that anyone can contribute according to their budget at the same time avail other schemes too. PFRDA has many superannuation plans which are regulated by IRDA and are many schemes which can be used for tax exemption. He explained that retirement planning is not a one time investment, it a lifetime process and once can add, allocate and change the investment option according to the need. He observed that NPS provides flexibility, and at the same time provides tax exemption too along with other benefits.

Mr. Suranjan Banerjee, Associate Director - Retirement, Willis Towers Watson in his presentation on 'Retirement Benefits Planning' discussed results of a survey undertaken on what are employees in the corporate sector thinking in relation to their own retirement plans - Global Benefits Attitudes Survey 2019; and the employer perspective on how their focus on retirement benefits is

evolving – State of Retirement Pulse Survey 2020. He shared that as per the survey across the globe the value of retirement provision continues to erode and employees find themselves having to work longer and potentially retire on less than current retirees. He observed that 59% of the employees surveyed were saving less than they should for retirement. He highlighted that 3 in 5 companies have already completed or are in the process of completing the implementation of corporate NPS while 3 in 10 of employees are falling behind on their retirement saving. He shared that on an average only 11% of the eligible employees enroll in NPS.

Mr. Mono Phukon, General Manager, PFRDA made a comprehensive presentation about the National Pension System – Product Features and Benefits for Corporates. He explained in detail the features of NPS including – low cost, flexible, transparent, tax efficient; attractive returns among others. He explained that there can be two types of accounts with or without tax benefits. He highlighted the features of both types of accounts along with entry age, accumulation of wealth in each, exit policy, asset allocation and returns being yielded by each. He observed that the National Pension System is better regulated as registered and regulated under PFRDA, transparent as all the transactions done by a subscriber are traceable and are available online 24x7, tax-efficient as tax benefits are given on contribution and on maturity also. Alternative returns as fund managers have given double digit returns over the period of 12 to 13 years and flexible choices are available as a subscriber can select any fund manager as per their requirement.

Ms. Bahroze Kamdin, Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP discussed the Tax incentives for investment in NPS and Changes by the Finance Act 2020 and the rules framed thereunder. She said that NPS is a very beneficial Scheme as it gives the flexibility to choose the fund manager and contribution. She discussed the Income-tax Incentives for retirement planning at the different stages of contribution, accretion, and withdrawal from the fund based on the contribution made by the employer and employee on a monthly and yearly basis. She highlighted the various contributions allowed as deductions. The contribution made by the employer to the employee's account in the fund can be allowed as a deduction for computing income-tax liability.

Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist / DSG, PHD Chamber moderated the session and delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests. He said that retirement is ultimate truth of any employment. He stated that to make the post retirement life happy, healthy, independent and dignified one must start planning for it in early stage of employment. Retirement planning refers to financial strategies of saving, investment, and ultimately the distribution of money meant to sustain oneself during retirement. Retirement planning is ideally a lifelong process. One can start at any time, but it works best if factor it into financial planning from the beginning. That's the best way to ensure a safe, secure—and fun—retirement life.

The session was sponsored by PFRDA.





FOURTH WEBINAR OF PHD CHAMBER ON BORDER TOURISM : MEGHALAYA



PHD Chamber has launched its Border Tourism Webinar Series with a view to explore the tourism potential in the border districts of India and to create awareness about the lesser-known destinations across the country. The fourth webinar in the series held on July 30, 2021 focused on East Khasi Hills district for the promotion of Border Tourism in Meghalaya. The webinar was supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and Meghalaya Tourism.

Delivering the Keynote Address, Mr. Vinod Zutshi (Retd. IAS), Former Secretary – Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, said that Border Tourism has immense potential if promoted and marketed well as it gives an opportunity to see the neighbouring countries without actually crossing the border. Campaigns like 'Dekho Apna Aur Padosi Desh' can be introduced to promote semi international travel. He suggested that a national level seminar should be organized by the Ministry of Tourism with all the 18 Border States and UTs to create awareness and

buzz about this segment, which will help to increase domestic as well as international tourists.

Mr. Zutshi further said that ease of access to zero line; ensuring last mile connectivity; creating economic activities around border towns will be the key drivers for promoting Border Tourism in Meghalaya. There is a huge potential for promoting Monsoon Tourism in the state as Cherrapunji is known for being the wettest place on Earth. Emphasis should also be given on Festivals and the state government should create a mega Tourism Festival on the lines of Hornbill Festival in Nagaland.

Mr. Cyril V. D. Diengdoh (IAS), Director – Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, said that the state has seen a steady growth of tourist arrivals from Bangladesh over the years with 4,300 arrivals in 2014, which went up to 13,000 in 2018. A MoU has been signed between Tour Operators Association of Meghalaya and Bangladesh Tour Operators Association to promote Mountain to Sea Tourism.

He further mentioned that the

Tourism Department is keen to develop 'Experiential Eco Tourism' apart from Adventure Tourism, Rural Tourism and Homestays. In order to enhance the experience of tourists, the state government is following the three fundamentals – right pricing, carrying capacity and zero waste. He also informed that Meghalaya Tourism has come up with a mobile app that provides a one-stop solution to tourists who wish to plan a trip and helps in contactless check-in following the safety protocols.

Ms. Varianarica Syiem (IAS), Director – Border Areas Development Department, Government of Meghalaya, informed that there are 13 border blocks in the state and 435 recognized border villages. In order to ensure ease of movement for the tourists, several projects have been funded under the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) for construction of roads, parking and wayside amenities.

Mr. T. Kabilan (IDAS), Director – North Eastern States, NITI Aayog, informed that the Government is

keen on promoting Homestays in the state as that will aid off-beat, experiential tourism in addition to increasing options for the domestic and international tourists. He further said that Tourism has the greatest potential for generating income and employment opportunities and therefore it should be integrated in a manner that the youth in North-East Indian states do not have to move out for livelihood.

Mr. S. S. Dev Barman, Regional Director, Indiatourism North East, said that the region is endowed with diverse tourist attractions and each state has its own distinct features. Besides having spectacular biodiversity, wildlife, snow-capped Himalayas, tropical forests, shrines of diverse religions and prominent archaeological sites, the Northeast India provides an immense opportunity for Medical Tourism which can attract tourists from the South East Asian countries.

While giving an overview on the East Khasi Hills district, Mr. Alexander S. Mukhim (MCS), Additional Deputy Commissioner, I/c Sohra Civil Sub-Division – East Khasi Hills District, Government of Meghalaya, shared that new tourist sites are being developed in the district and the

government has helped in providing support and assistance in the maintenance of these sites.

Mr. Arijit Purkayastha, Chairman – North East Chapter, Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India, talked about the different aspects of tourism – cultural, natural and spiritual which offers a prospect to promote Experiential Travel in Meghalaya.

Mr. Parambir Singh Sehdev, President, Federation of Shillong Hotels, emphasized the need to improve infrastructure and connectivity in the state which will help to double the number of tourists especially from Bangladesh. He also emphasized on the need for tourism education and skill development in the border areas which will help to generate employment.

In his presidential address, Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI, mentioned that the problem of border districts and tourism development is recognized as an important challenge for local communities along the border. Although institutional environment and security barriers remain the stumbling block for entrepreneurial cooperation; conditions for Border Tourism enhancement can be enabled through the setting up of frameworks for easier cooperation of public,

private and civil actors.

Mr. Anil Parashar, Chairman – Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, said that Meghalaya has some of the thickest primary forests in the country and therefore constitutes one of the most important eco-tourism circuits in India. He further said that air and road connectivity, infrastructural facilities at tourist sites in terms of accommodation, transport, drinking water, sanitation and healthcare, needs to be addressed. However, all efforts to develop tourism infrastructure have to be done carefully, keeping in mind the fragility of the mountain environment.

Mr. Rajan Sehgal, Co-chairman – Tourism Committee, PHDCCI, delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests and mentioned that PHDCCI will come out with a White Paper after each webinar and the recommendations shall be submitted to the relevant Ministries for their immediate action.

The webinar was moderated by Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI, and received participation from senior government officials, tour operators, hoteliers, tour guides, airline professionals, travel associations, students from the travel and hospitality institutes.



PM MODI ADDRESSES WORLD SANSKRIT DAY

World Sanskrit Day, also known as Vishva-Sanskrita-Dinam, is celebrated on Shraavana Poornima, on the day of the full moon during the Shraavana month according to the Hindu calendar. World Sanskrit Day was first celebrated in 1969, all over India with the aim to celebrate the language and spread it all over the world. This year it fell on 22 August 2021, the same as Rakshabandhan.

PM Narendra Modi tweeted in Sanskrit to mark this celebration. He stated, “This language is both ancient and modern, Whether there are the deep philosophies of youthful poetry, Or a Superior vision that is being endowed, Most of them are in the Sanskrit language. Wish you all a Happy Sanskrit Day”

75th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

PHDCCI celebrated 75 years of India's Independence on August 15, 2021 and pledged to contribute significantly towards building a strong and prosperous India. The Flag hoisting ceremony was held at PHD House, New Delhi, in the physical presence of Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHDCCI; Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI and other PHD secretariat and staff members. This was followed by the virtual address by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI.

Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, while honoring the sacrifices of our brave soldiers of the armed forces, paramilitary forces, police personnel and the security forces, expressed his confidence over India entering into the dawn of a new era, rise of new self-confidence and embarking on a journey on the victorious path of a self-reliant India. He also appreciated the hard work and contribution of each PHDCCI employee throughout the tough and trying times of the COVID – 19 pandemic.

Mr. Pradeep Multani congratulated all on the 75th Independence Day and appreciated the government for the plethora of reform measures undertaken for creating a strong, vigorous and dynamic business environment in India. He mentioned that as we enter the 75th year of our Independence, we must strengthen ourselves and adopt a mindset of 'Vocal for Local' and also ensure that we move ahead with the mantra of Make for World' alongside "Make in India".

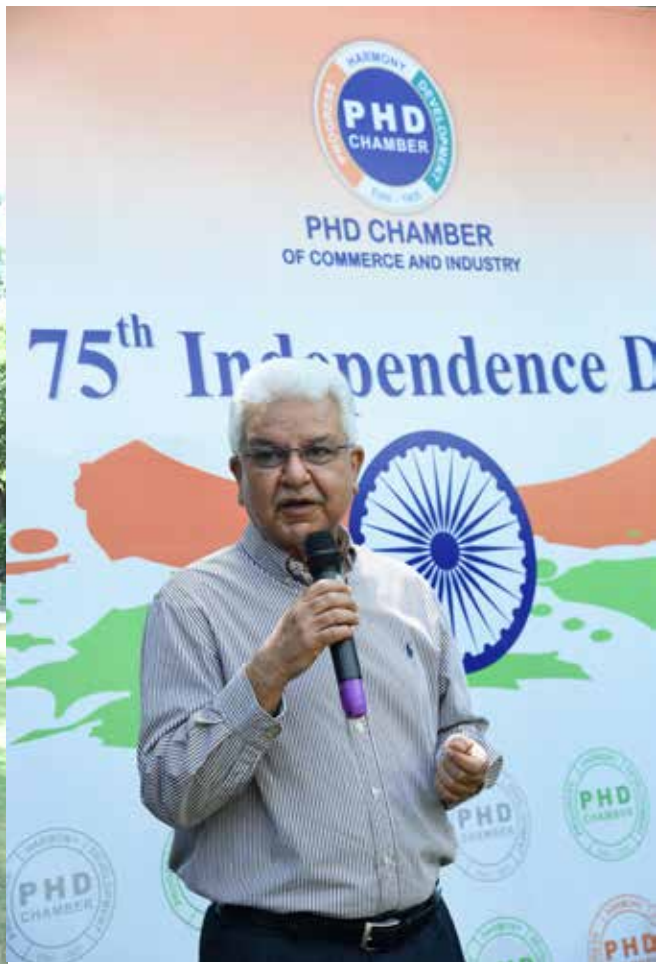
Mr. D K Aggarwal, Immediate Former President, PHDCCI, attended the virtual celebration of Independence Day and congratulated the PHDCCI employees for their tireless contribution and hard work through the pandemic times. He instilled the confidence in making India an economic power with effective reform measures and efficient contributions by the Industry and its people.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal remembered the sacrifices of our freedom fighters who did not abandon the urge for freedom, nor did they lower their guards. While appreciating the government reforms measures during



the times of the pandemic to provide relief to the hardships of the industry and stimulate the economy, appealed for more support by the government for the economy and its industry.





INDIA@75:

75th YEAR OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE AND DEMOCRACY



As the Senior Vice President and Incoming President of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), it is indeed an honour for me to share my vision on India celebrating 75th year in Nation Building. Looking back, we all Indians have a sense of pride in what we have achieved as an independent country and the world's largest democracy. We must celebrate a glorious journey and keep the resolve to continue working together for nation-making and deepening India's footprints across the globe. As a peaceful country and one of the fastest growing economies of the world, India offers a great hope today—and our concerted efforts will further vitalize its prominence in the world order.

In this difficult time, when our priorities are to keep India and the world safe from the severe challenges posed by Covid-19 pandemic and unprecedented operational disruptions, the industry and individuals are determined to work in close tandem with all concerned and help the region to successfully come out of the crisis phase. Let's all endure our resolve to support the collective mission to defeat Covid-19 and continue to be part of the holistic efforts for economic rebounding in India and its neighbourhood. Even when the emerging scenario is full of uncertainties, it is surely a matter of great satisfaction how people are helping each other and the government and industry for playing their roles in mitigating the serious risk and challenges. Moving forward, we are trying our level best to keep India's

inclusive growth momentum on. In the process, we are very much open to engage with the industry fraternity across the world to carry forward the mission of creating "Shared Prosperity" following our national principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

At PHDCCI, we stand with the causes that support the universal interest and serve humanity unswervingly. Here, we look forward to getting inspiration from all corners to overcome the ongoing tough phase and come out stronger to make the region and the world better livable and suited for sustainable economic activities.

The Covid-19 pandemic and a prolonged lockdown has severely impacted the lives, livelihood and economy of the country. To overcome these testing times, Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi has come up with "Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" that aims to foster the local entrepreneurial ecosystem and export potential in India. While relying on self-reliance for realising our own actual potential, the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is not aimed to lessen India's deep engagement with the rest of the world. In fact, the mission is clearly aimed to open the world of opportunities from India. A special and comprehensive economic package of Rs 20 lakh crore that accounts for 10% of India's GDP and other steps taken to bring the economy back on track. Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman further announced structural reforms across various sectors to pave the way for Atmanirbhar Bharat



Mr. Pradeep Multani
Senior Vice President, PHDCCI
and Chairman, Multani
Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Abhiyan.

In this context, PHDCCI aspires to support the Prescient Vision and Mission-in-Progress of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan through strengthening the base of government-industry interface under the robust co-operative federalism framework. The Chamber aims to ensure the best desired outcomes in the crucial thrust areas of economy—spanning across Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors with focus areas: Progressive Farming (Doubling Farmers' Income); Make in India, Make for India and the World; Making India a "Services Hub";

Invest in India; Re-calibrating India's Export Potential; Employable Skilling; Decentralising Entrepreneurship; Boosting MSMEs; Innovation & New Technology and Sustaining India's Soft Power

PHDCCI has a strong edge to work in states with its pan India presence. The Chamber's focus on states' reflects a few noticeable facts. Since India is best seen not as a single economy but as an aggregation of very different state economies, thus no grand dialogue on macro economy is possible without getting in fold the states' which form the core of competitive federalism. Remarkably, many of the crucial structural reforms in the economy are being carried forward by states. Concerning significantly to the Indian economy, the states' have been witnessing major developments in these spheres ranging from social sector to industry and economic growth. In the last seventy-five years, the states' have remarkably contributed in making India a fast developing economy and an aspirational society.

Here, I have some encouraging figures to share. As per an estimate of International Monetary Fund (IMF), the past 26 years have seen the Indian economy grow more than eightfold in dollar terms between 1992 and 2018. A \$293 billion economy 26 years back is a \$2.65 trillion one in 2018. Average incomes have also gone up by a factor of six over the same period—from \$318 to \$1,852. At the cusp of decisive change, if the collaborative efforts of government and industry could continue with the same momentum or increased pace, the next 25 years will end with making India a \$20 trillion economy or even richer where the average Indian citizen would earn \$7,100 or more. As a major policy traction, the NITI Aayog Action Plan to boost agriculture as well as job creation in modern activities is clearly in sync with what has happened over the past two-and-half decades. In year 2017, the NITI Aayog had set a balanced Action Plan for the next three years—with the 'fair and square' aim to provide a sound strategic support for individual policies listed out in Action Plan. To create the roadmap for future progress, the Action Agenda attempts to cover nearly all aspects of the economy. That is on track to attain the goals figured out with "Making New India," keeping the constructive bearing with the government and industry, spearheads a campaign to transform the way India perceives governance and

industrial development agenda.

PHDCCI, a Leading Industry Chamber, keeps a unique focus on public policy matters and works in tandem for fostering government-industry interface in India and supporting a robust eco-system for businesses. Through policy advocacy, dialogues and publications, it pitches for further simplifying the official procedures and making them transparent at decision-making levels with greater interface of technology. Also, it proactively supports India's "Economic Reforms Mission," with bringing the highest echelons of government and industry at one powerful platform where who's who of India makes their presence felt. Since 2014, the economic reforms undertaken at the Centre under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi have been "game-changing". Indeed, many promised economic reforms made a way through in recent years. Noticeably, where the marks were made including, Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), Inflation Control, Fiscal Management, Job Creation, Financial Sector Restructuring, Tax Reforms, Digitisation, Securing Identity with AADHAR, Capacity Building with Energy & Infrastructure, Growth in Services, Revival of Manufacturing and Agri & Allied Sectors; Farm Bill 2020.

This is an era where the performance far exceeds the expectations—and the government-industry collaboration reaching to the next level, for scripting a new chapter for the Indian economy. So, India is already moving on the trajectory which will lead it further to the high and sustained economic growth, and that too, superlatively supported by equity and justice emanated through the grace of its remarkable democracy, positive attributes of federalism and success stories from states. With the latest vision, mission and further goals and policies, the states' are pushing forth the idea of a government which governs, facilitates and encourages the citizens from diverse strata to participate in economic development activities. Such a vision necessitates innovative means to achieve the desired ends. While working for inclusive economic growth, we must also think about sustainability. We should reimagine the world as a better place to live. Among others, I think the following points should keep getting the support from our government and industry in India:

- **Demographic Dividend:** To continue reaping the benefits, our policy on

population control should adjust with the times.

- **Climate Change:** India should continue to inspire with its exceptionally responsible response on UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or Global Goals—and mitigate the risks of climate changes and effectively look at water management and environmental degradation challenges.
- **Channelling youth energy in nation-building:** This shall further strengthen our participatory democracy and economy.
- **Ease of Doing Business:** The industry has been a big beneficiary of EoDB policies of our government, this should stay among the top priorities.
- **Ease of Living:** Another wishful idea that should steer our national plan and action.
- **Security of India Borders:** Considering the existing geostrategic scenario, we must work together as a nation for ensuring national security.
- **Right to Education, Health & Employment:** This should be our mission.
- **Infrastructural Development with focus on States:** As the states' are at the forefront of our development paradigm, the infrastructure development plan should have a focus to reshape our hinterlands as well.
- **Equality of Opportunities in Rural India:** With livelihood creations through localised mode of production, we can retain our youth in villages and small towns. This will help in saving the diversity of our country and bringing prosperity. Also, this will help ease the stress on our big cities.

India has a Prime Minister who is on the mission of making the country achieve its true potential. Under his leadership, the government, industry and each Indian will make it happen. At the cusp of decisive changes, we all must play our part for Atmanirbhar Bharat. We are all fortunate to contribute our level best in "national interest", through our concerted efforts, let's take our country to greater heights. Each and every Indian should get the benefits of the nation's progress. This is our vision on India's 75th year of independence and democracy.



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AWARENESS PROGRAM ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR HEALTHCARE SECTOR

Haryana State Chapter of PHDCCI in association with Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency (HAREDA) organized an Awareness Program on Energy Efficiency for Healthcare sector in Haryana on August 3, 2021 to educate the healthcare industry about the ways and means of Energy Efficiency.

Welcoming the speakers and participants, Mr. Nikhil Sardana, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter PHDCCI said that embracing an energy efficient lifestyle will provide a positive impetus towards transformation of India's energy system for the better. He added that good energy management structure can bring in not only energy efficient culture but also provide substantial reduction in energy expenses of hospitals without compromising on the quality of healthcare facilities for the patients.

Delivering the theme address Dr. Kuldeep Singh Khokhar, President, IMA, Haryana explained that the needs of a Hospital are complex as the safety of staff, patients and visitors is involved and they require extra energy to maintain ventilation and air quality along with thermal comfort. However, energy expenses can be reduced with good energy management without comprising on the quality of services. He stated that if the guidelines of ECBC on energy conservation are observed then hospitals can save approximately 42% energy.

Mr. Akshay Gupta, Director, Passive Design made an elaborate Presentation on Sustainable Buildings. He shared that globally, residential & commercial buildings consume 39% of energy. Out of this, 65% energy is consumed for lighting, ventilation and air conditioning. Therefore, buildings present enormous opportunities for energy efficiency with improved

architecture & design, quality construction material and energy efficient appliances.

Mr. Gupta mentioned that planting trees, adding water features and misters can provide relief to people waiting outside the hospitals. These would also help in reducing the temperature inside the hospital building. Similarly, soft pavements can help in minimizing the heat in the outer areas of a hospital.

Mr. Shiv Batra, ECBC Master Trainer from BEE made a detailed Presentation on Energy Efficiency through HVAC and other equipments used in Hospitals. He said hospitals run 24x7 and use energy for providing thermal comfort, ventilation, air filtration, humidity, etc.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sukhchain Singh, Project Manager, HAREDA shared that LED lights have been installed in 90% of Government Buildings including hospitals in Haryana. He informed that they have provided a financial assistance of Rs. 6.33 lakhs to Civil Hospital, Panchkula for implementing energy efficiency measures. Energy efficiency measures have also been implemented in other Healthcare facilities of Haryana including Civil Hospitals of Karnal and Faridabad.

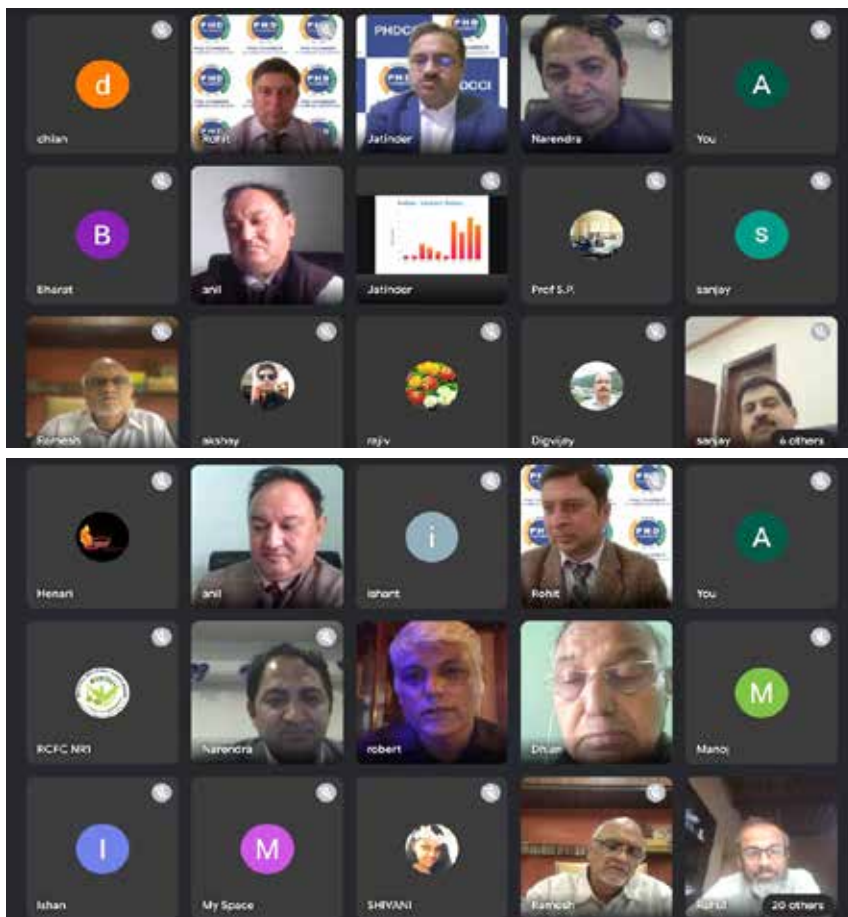
Mr. Sukhchain Singh stated that their book titled 'EC Best Practice Guidebook for Hospitals' will be ready soon and shall be shared with all Government Hospitals of Haryana.

Addressing the Session, the Chief Guest, Dr. Hanif Qureshi, IPS, Director General, HAREDA quoted Prime Minister Modi to say that this is the age of Renewable Energy. He said that the mission of HAREDA is to create awareness about energy conservation and use of renewable energy. He informed that to promote renewable energy, the Government of India has allowed free inter-state transmission of solar power.

He stated that India is a growing country and the use of energy is growing at the rate of 8 – 10% annually. Major part of energy is used for air-conditioning.

Thanking the Chief Guest and other speakers, Mr. Viraj Gadhoke, Convener, Power and Renewable Energy Committee, Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI said that Energy Efficiency is the need of the hour.





INVESTORS SENSITIZATION PROGRAM

The Himachal Pradesh State Chapter of PHD Chamber hosted a series of eight webinars on “Investors Sensitization Program”, “Startup connect with investor workshop” and “Sensitization work shop with State Government Department” from July 19-24, 2021. These Sensitization Programs are aimed at increasing the number of early stage investors in the start-ups ecosystem of the country by sensitizing potential investors, including family businesses, corporate houses, and small entrepreneurs, on potential of start-ups as a lucrative asset class.

The esteemed speakers were Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI; Mr. Robert Lobo, Venture Partner; Mr. Anupam Saronwala, Advisor, Mentor and Angel Investor; Mr. Vivek Dhaiya, Investor, Mentor and Innovator; Mr. Siva Ramamoorthy, Entrepreneur, Corporate Leader, Global Startup Mentor; Mr. Rahul Bagga, Advisor

Incubator, Startups and Innovator and Mr. Anuj Aggarwal, Director at Altruist Technologies Private Ltd.

Mr. Ramesh Kumar Jain, Chair, HP State Chapter, PHDCCI welcomed the speakers and delegates for joining the webinar. He said that investing in your future now by using outside capital to fund your business can pave the way for a financially successful and personally rewarding long-term venture. He also said that Himachal Pradesh being a small State with difficult terrain has immense scope of developing start-ups, entrepreneurs and micro and small enterprises, harnessing the potential in hospitality, handlooms & handicrafts, food processing, value-added agriculture, manufacturing and service sectors.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Director, PHDCCI informed the participants about the various financial schemes, notified by the Central and State Governments for Start-ups.

Mr. Anupam Saronwala, Angel Investor, Advisor discussed about the Basics of Angel Investment and exit options for angel investment. He stated that through innovation and scalable technology, start-ups can generate impactful solutions and thereby act as vehicles for socio- economic development and transformation. He underlined that start-ups and entrepreneurs need to be prepared when pitching their start-up companies to angel investors by anticipating the questions they will receive.

Mr. Siva Ramamoorthy, Entrepreneur, Corporate Leader, Global Startup Mentor said that Startups in India as in many other parts of the world, have received increased attention in recent years. Their numbers are on the rise and they are now being widely recognized as important engines of growth.

Mr. Vivek Dhaiya, Investor, Mentor and Innovator, discussed about successful case studies of angel funded companies. He said that it is necessary to know the successful case studies of angel funded companies as the founders have to start building a business with a sales and delivery team, vendor network, and operational and logistic processes, and build the requisite infrastructure for seamless delivery, which all together should build the revenues. But to get all of this done, the company requires funding. Most entrepreneurs have by this time consumed the “FFF” (family, friends and faith) monies. It is then that they approach early investors, he added.

Mr. Rahul Bagga, Advisor Incubator, Startups and Innovator and Mr. Anuj Aggarwal, Director at Altruist Technologies Private Ltd. had a one-to-one interaction and brainstorming session with the participants - both investors and start-ups. They built the confidence among the start-ups and also discussed the points that need to be studied for angel investors before investing in start-ups. Mr. Rahul Bagga give an insight knowledge of IPR and how a startup can register an IPR.

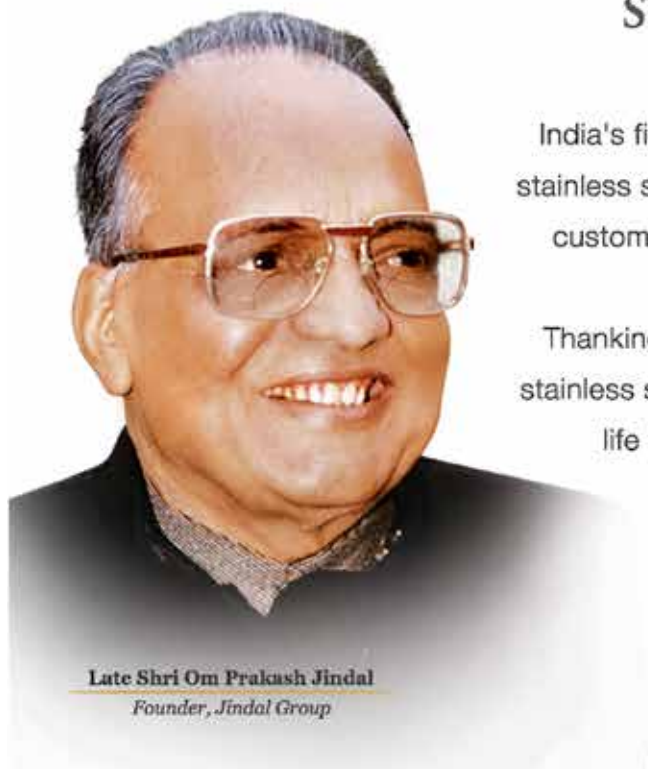
Mr. Narender Bhardwaj, Co-chairman, HP State Chapter, PHD Chamber delivered the vote-of-thanks, to the eminent dignitaries.

The program was moderated by Mr. Anil Kumar Saunkhala, Deputy Resident Director, PHDCCI.



JINDAL STAINLESS

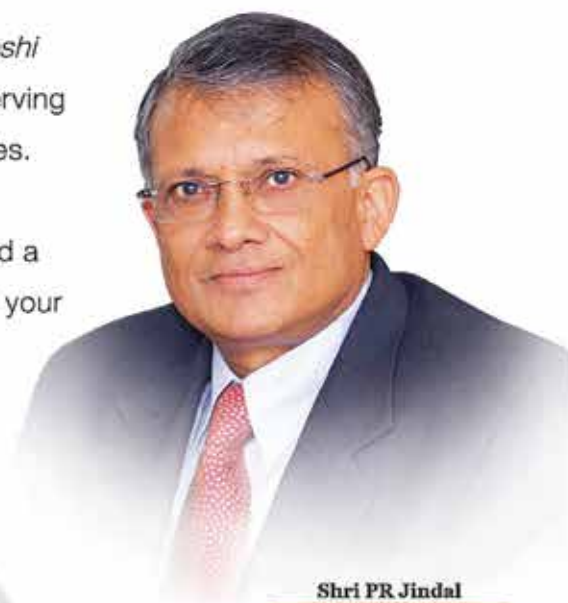
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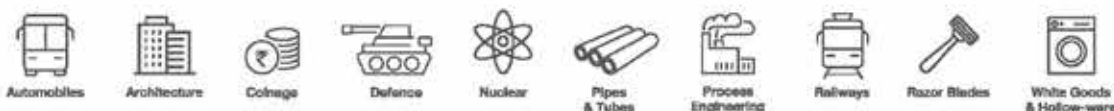
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UNLEASHING MSME POTENTIAL IN JHARKHAND

The MSME Committee and Jharkhand State Chapter of the PHD Chamber organized a Virtual Conference on “Unleashing MSME Potential in Jharkhand” in association with SIDBI & supported by FICCI on July 29, 2021.

Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHDCCI in his welcome address highlighted the challenges faced by MSMEs despite contributing significantly to the economy. Challenges like infrastructure bottlenecks, constraints in technology adoption, high logistics cost and lack of access to credit have been further compounded for the MSMEs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pointed out Mr. Sanyal. To address the liquidity problems, credit support has been announced by the Government through the Aatmanirbhar package. Lastly, he talked about the schemes launched by SIDBI which facilitate

funding for production and services related to supply of oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, oximeters and essential drugs.

Mr. H P Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC & Advisor MSMEs, PHDCCI shared the difficulties and challenges faced by the MSMEs. He talked about the industry perspective of the MSME Sector and briefed about salient features of the Jharkhand Industrial and Investment Policy (JIPP) which is quite favourable for MSMEs’ growth and to attract more investments in the state.

Mr. Mohit Jain, Chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI apprised about PHD Chamber’s MSME Mentoring and Guidance Centre, which has been proactively engaged in providing value added services with complete handholding and mentoring support to the needy MSMEs. He mentioned that PHDCCI recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with

SIDBI to facilitate providing of various credit & other schemes of SIDBI to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country.

Dr (Prof.) Raman Kumar Jha, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Ranchi highlighted about how COVID Pandemic has severely impacted the MSME sector which has further created problems related to credit financing. He said Amity University could join hands with PHDCCI to encourage the growth of small businesses and entrepreneurship in Jharkhand.

Mr. Raj Kumar Singh, Manager, SIDBI Ranchi Branch, Jharkhand gave a presentation on various schemes offered by SIDBI, namely SAFE (SIDBI Assistance to Facilitate Emergency response against Corona Virus), SHWAS (SIDBI assistance to Healthcare Sector in War against Second wave of COVID-19) and AROG (SIDBI Assistance to MSMEs for Recovery & Organic Growth during COVID-19 pandemic) for quick credit delivery.

Mr. Deepak Maroo, Past President, Federation of Jharkhand Chamber of Commerce, Ranchi said that there is a need for a separate Ministry of MSMEs at the state level to spur industrial growth. He said Jharkhand Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy 2021 will help all MSMEs in the State especially the high-priority sectors like textiles & apparel, automobiles, auto-components & electric vehicles, agro-food processing & meat processing, pharmaceuticals and electronics system design & manufacturing (ESDM) to encourage start-ups and small / medium enterprises.

Mr. Vishal Chaudhary, Chairman, Jharkhand State Chapter, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of- thanks to the eminent dignitaries.

The overall program was moderated by Dr Yogesh Srivastav Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI and was well attended by MSMEs, business fraternity, startups and aspiring entrepreneurs.



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ODISHA MINING SUMMIT

The Minerals and Metals Committee of PHDCCI organized the Virtual Odisha Mining Summit on July 28, 2021.

Chief Guest, Ms. Nirupama Kotru, IRS, Joint Secretary & FA, Ministries of Coal and Mines, stated that the Government aims to double production of minerals in the next few years to reduce import dependency by allocating & regulating minerals in a transparent and sustainable manner. She emphasized on balance between economic development and sustainably and informed that some of the goals of the Ministry were incentivizing exploration via private sector participation; ensuring zero waste mining and encouraging sustainable mining. The Ministry of Coal has the vision of a modern, sustainable and competitive coal sector enabling accelerated coal production ensuring energy security and economic growth, she further added.

Mr. V R Sharma, Managing Director, Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. discussed the ease of doing business in Odisha and opined that there was need for more reforms that will help to sustain the industry for the long-

run.

Mr. Ritabrata Ghosh, Assistant Vice President, and Sector Head, Corporate Sector Ratings, ICRA Limited, in his presentation on "Mining Industry in Odisha 'mine'-blowing possibilities", deliberated upon the role of the mining industry in powering Odisha's economic development; mineralogical map of Odisha; key reforms implemented by the Central Government and the Government of Odisha in the mining sector. He emphasized that focusing on infrastructure can lead to growth & accelerated demand; coal gasification will be the new growth driver for the mining sector and Odisha can emerge as a hub for the export of coal by commercial miners.

Mr. Vijay Jhanwar, Managing Director, Vraj Metaliks Pvt. Ltd. mentioned that there is a need to increase the production of iron ore, improve the bidding methodologies, and support merchant mining.

Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, PHDCCI spoke about the rich mineral resources in Odisha, and that availability of huge minerals reserves has opened up immense possibilities for locating mineral-based

industries in the State.

Mr. O P Singh, Director, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. in his presentation spoke about the mining potential of Odisha and future plans of Mahanadi Coalfields. Mr. Swapnil Gupta of PwC, spoke about the roadmap for Odisha for further developing the mining sector in the State.

Mr. Anil K. Chaudhary, Chairman, Minerals & Metals Committee, PHDCCI spoke on the importance of Odisha for the mining sector in terms of procuring the iron ore. She mentioned that there is an increase in exports of iron ore in the country but, there is a lack of raw materials for steel producers in India. He suggested that there is a need to increase production, start early production of newly auctioned mining blocks, and improve the infrastructure and transportation.

Mr. Naveen Jindal, Co-chair, Minerals & Metals Committee, PHDCCI while delivering the vote-of-thanks to the speakers and participants, mentioned that Odisha offers immense possibilities for locating mineral-based industries for manufacture of Steel, Ferro-alloys, Cement, Alumina/Aluminum, Refractories, Thermal Power, etc., along with setting up other auxiliary and ancillary downstream industries. Odisha will indeed be one of the major contributors to Atma Nirbharta in this sector in times to come, he added.



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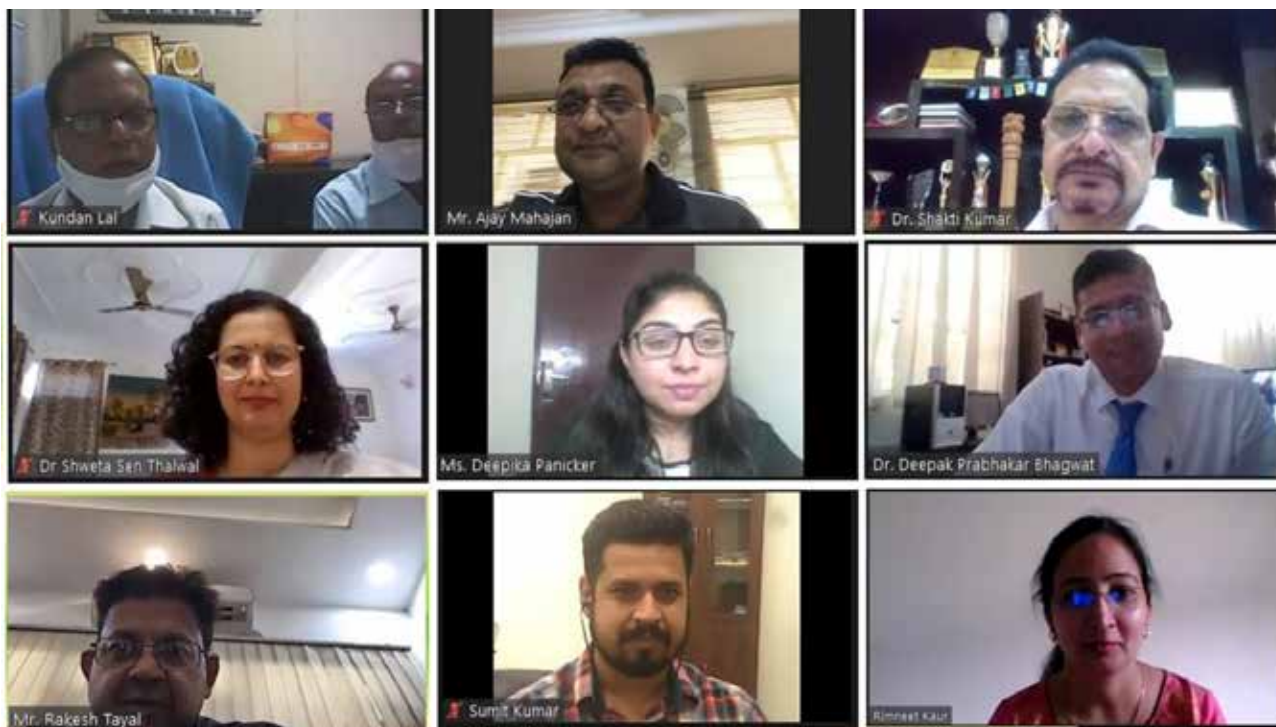


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PATENTS AND THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY



PHD Chamber's IP Facilitation Centre, Amritsar in association with the Ministry of MSMEs and Panipat Institute of Engineering & Technology organized an interactive video conference on 'Patents and the Healthcare Industry' on July 8, 2021.

Welcoming the speakers and participants, Mr. Ajay Mahajan, Convener- Jalandhar Zone, Punjab State Chapter, PHD Chamber & Proprietor, Uma international, Jalandhar said that the objective of the program is to educate students and startups about IPR and facilitate their journey towards entrepreneurship.

Prof. (Dr) Shakti Kumar, Director & Programme Coordinator, Panipat Institute of Engineering & Technology underlined the importance of IPR in the growing AI & Healthcare industry. He said that the emerging technologies including AI have revolutionized the Healthcare Sector and assisted physicians in better clinical decisions, early diagnosis and reduced diagnostic and therapeutic errors.

He underlined that AI and Healthcare present huge opportunities for startups. He said IP is important both for the innovators and national prosperity. He informed that Government of India is also working very closely with educational

institutions to spread awareness about IPR so that IP can be started at a very early stage.

Mr. Rakesh Tayal, Vice Chairman, Panipat Institute of Engineering & Technology informed that their institute has set up a Pharmacy Department which is working on many innovations. He shared that during COVID-19, their institute was the first to develop the PPE kit and get it approved from DRDO and have also developed the oxygen concentrator.

Highlighting the Government support for IPR promotion, Mr. Kundan Lal, Assistant Director, Ministry of MSME Development Institute, Ludhiana informed that the Ministry of MSMEs provides a grant of Rs. 15 lakhs to innovators who want to commercialize their innovations. He added that for domestic patents, a financial support of Rs. 1 lakh and 5 lakhs for international patents is available. For geographical indications the support is Rs. 2 lakhs and for trademarks, Rs. 10,000 grant is given. Mr. Kundan Lal shared that financial support of Rs. 70,000 per program is given to institutions for conducting IPR Awareness programs physically. He added that a grant of Rs. 1 crore is given by the Government of India for setting up an IP Facilitation Centre for

providing IP services to entrepreneurs.

Mr. Kundan Lal informed that PHDCCI has set up an IPFC Centre at Amritsar and the participants can avail their services for registration of their IPs. He added that the entrepreneurs who approach their institute for IPR facilities are referred to IPFC, PHDCCI for providing the necessary assistance. He stated that Udyam Registration is essential for availing benefit of any Government Scheme for IPR. He informed that the deadline for migration to Udyam registration has been extended to December 31, 2021.

Dr Shweta Sen Thalwal, Founder & Head IPR, Integrum IP Mohali in her presentation on 'Process to File Patents & International Aspects' informed that Patents are concerned with the protection of an invention and give the patent owner exclusive rights over it. She informed that in India and UK, patent rights are given to a person who is first to file an application for patent but in US, patent rights are given to the first inventor.

Dr Thalwal informed that the Patent application can be filed in the appropriate Patent Office in India based on the location of the inventor. The inventor can file a provisional application or a complete application. The patent application is published in

18 months. If there is any objection, the applicant has to clear the objections and if the Registry is satisfied with the reply then the Patent is granted. She informed that for filing a Foreign Patent application, Indian Citizens are required to seek prior permission under section 39 of Patents Act.

She informed that Patents are valid for 20 years and are territorial and applicable only in the country where application has been filed but in EU, it is applicable in all the member states of the European Union. Explaining the criteria of patentability, Dr Thalwal mentioned that for patenting, the

innovation should have novelty, commercial utility and inventiveness.

Ms. Deepika Divekar Panicker, Co-Founder, Lawgicon, Pune made a presentation on 'Commercialization of IP & IP Contracts'. She informed that IP increases the business valuation and helps in promoting brand identity. She mentioned that infringement, non-exploitation of IP, under valuation and improper record-keeping are the major challenges in IPR.

Explaining the commercialization of IP, Ms. Panicker explained that IPs can be financially exploited by way of assignment, licensing, technology

transfer, joint venture agreements and through mergers & acquisitions. She mentioned that IP protection should be a priority and should be registered on time. She emphasized that the innovators should observe due diligence while drafting and signing such agreements.

Dr Deepak Prabhakar Bhagwat, Principal Department of Pharmacy, Panipat Institute of Engineering & Technology delivered the vote-of-thanks to the expert speakers and panelists.

GOI NOTIFIES RODTEP SCHEME

The Centre has notified the RoDTEP Scheme Guidelines and Rates (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products). The scheme for zero rating of exports will boost our exports & competitiveness in the global markets. The rates of RoDTEP will cover 8555 tariff lines. The Government is doing its best to support domestic industry and make it more competitive in the international markets. Export centric industries are being reformed and introduced to better mechanisms so as to increase their competitiveness, boost exports, generate employment and contribute to the overall economy. This will go a long way in achieving our vision of building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) is one such reform, based on the globally accepted principle that taxes and duties should not be exported, and taxes and levies borne on the exported products should be either exempted or remitted to exporters. RoDTEP support will be available to eligible exporters at a notified rate as a percentage of Freight On Board (FOB) value. Rebate on certain export products will also be subject to value cap per unit of the exported product. The Scheme is to be implemented by Customs through a simplified IT System. Employment Oriented Sectors like Marine, Agriculture, Leather, Gems & Jewellery etc. are covered under the Scheme. Other sectors like Automobile, Plastics, Electrical / Electronics, Machinery etc. also get support. The entire value chain of textiles also gets covered through RoDTEP & RoSCTL.





WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT - SURVIVAL & GROWTH STRATEGY FOR MSMEs

The Punjab State Chapter of PHD Chamber organized the 3rd Interactive session titled 'Working Capital Management - Survival & Growth Strategy for MSMEs' under the MSME Carnival 2021 series on July 16, 2021.

Session Moderator, Mr. Mukul Bansal, Convener, Punjab Banking & Financial Services Committee, PHDCCI & Chairman, Embee Financial Services Ltd., Chandigarh welcomed

the speakers & participants and stated that the Government supports businesses that are honest and transparent in their operations and are not willful defaulters.

CA Sunil K Pandey, Founding Partner, Arth Vritt Capital, Mumbai made a presentation on Working Capital Management. He said that only those companies grow which manage their finances properly. He mentioned that during COVID-19, companies were

stressed due to delay in receipts from customers, impact on sale, increased level of raw materials and creditors pressure for payment.

Listing the steps to start good Working Capital Management, he underlined that businesses should have a strong finance leader dedicated for the task, set targets and review them on a monthly basis.

Mr. Rakesh Khurana, Senior Manager, National Stock Exchange (NSE) explained that the capital market is a platform for alternate source of funding for MSMEs. He said depending on the credentials of a company, businesses can raise funds varying from Rs. 4 crore to Rs 100 crores on the SME platform.

Explaining the requirements for listing on SME Exchange, Mr. Khurana emphasized that the MSMEs paid-up capital of the company should be less than Rs. 25 crores, it should be working for at least 3 years out of which at least 2 years should have positive profit, the minimum number of prospective allottees should be at least 50 and the minimum application and trading lot size should not be less than Rs. 1,00,000.

Detailing on the procedure for listing, Mr. Khurana explained that the company approaching the Exchange has to first appoint a Merchant Banker. The Merchant Banker would then check the documentation including all the financial documents, material contracts, promoter details, etc. and prepare documentation for the IPO. Once the due-diligence and documentation is completed by the Merchant Banker, the draft prospectus is submitted to the Exchange as per SEBI requirements.

Mr. Khurana added that the Punjab and Haryana Governments provide a subsidy of Rs. 2.5 lakhs to listed companies whereas H.P. Government supports listed companies with a subsidy of Rs. 10 lakhs.

Mr. Ananda Prakash Jha, Associate Director & Branch Head, Care Ratings Ltd. explained that Credit rating is an analysis of the credit risks, management risks, industrial risks and financial risks of a business entity.

Mr. Jha mentioned that a good credit rating helps the business to get bank loan at a lower rate. Credit rating helps the investors and lenders to make better decisions, he added.



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TRANSITION TO NEW LABOUR CODES

The Punjab State Chapter of PHD Chamber moving further with MSME Carnival 2021, organized the fourth in the series, interactive video conference on 'Transition to New Labour Codes: Challenges in Implementation' on July 23, 2021 to acquaint the participants about the changes introduced by the Union Government in Labour Laws.

Welcoming the speakers and participants, Mr. Bharat Singh Mehta, Co-chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI & CEO, HR Synergy appreciated that the Union Government was working tirelessly to simplify the labour laws and 29 existing laws have been consolidated into 4 labour codes. He mentioned that for effective implementation, it is important that the new provisions are understood properly.

Mr. Vikas Bajjal, Senior Consultant, KGS Advisors & Former CHRO and Senior Vice President - HR BATA India

made a presentation to highlight significant changes in the labour codes. He advised all establishments to be ready to implement the new law because non-compliance would entail huge costs as the penalties under various provisions have been increased more than 10 times along with provision of imprisonment. Mr. Bajjal explained that 29 Central Labour Laws have been consolidated into 4 labour codes - Code on Wages 2019, Code on Social Security 2020, Industrial Relations Code 2020 and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code 2020.

He added that occupational safety is one major area where employers need to be serious. Companies will have to provide certain benefits to employees, such as providing free annual health examinations and issuing a letter of appointment to all employees in a prescribed format, provision of canteen and crèche

among others. The Code also defines the employer. He added that the new law brings benefits for employees as well as the employers. He explained that the law has fixed timeline for payouts and final settlement.

He stated that the changes in the law have several benefits for the employers like permission to hire contract labour for non-core and seasonal operations, clear and consistent definition of wages, employee, worker employer, etc,

Mr. Bajjal pointed out that there are still confusions as the new code is not clear as the employer will need to restructure the wage structure and ensure that the carry home salary of the employees does not decrease.

Mr. Narinder Singh, Joint Director Factories, Department of Labour, Government of Punjab informed that the Draft Rules notified by the Punjab Government are divided into 12 chapters containing 150 Rules. Highlighting the salient features of the Rules, he said that the Rules include introduction of a single window mechanism for getting a standard all-India license for contractors, factories and industrial premises for beedi and cigar work, web-based inspection system, social security fund for welfare of unorganized workers, setting up of National and State Advisory Board, maintenance of filing of returns electronically and protection and empowerment of women employees.

It also lays down provision for consent and other conditions relating to safety of women workers during holidays and for work between 7 pm to 6 am. The rules prohibit the hiring of any employees with defective vision and deafness in construction work. There is special provision for safety in Chemical Factories.

Mr. Vikas Kumar, Asst. Labour Commissioner, Department of Labour, Government of Punjab apprised that the Punjab Government has already notified the Draft Labour Rules. He opined that the new Rules would be beneficial for both the employers and employees and shall add to ease of doing business.

Mr. Bharat Singh Mehta, Co-chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the speakers and participants.





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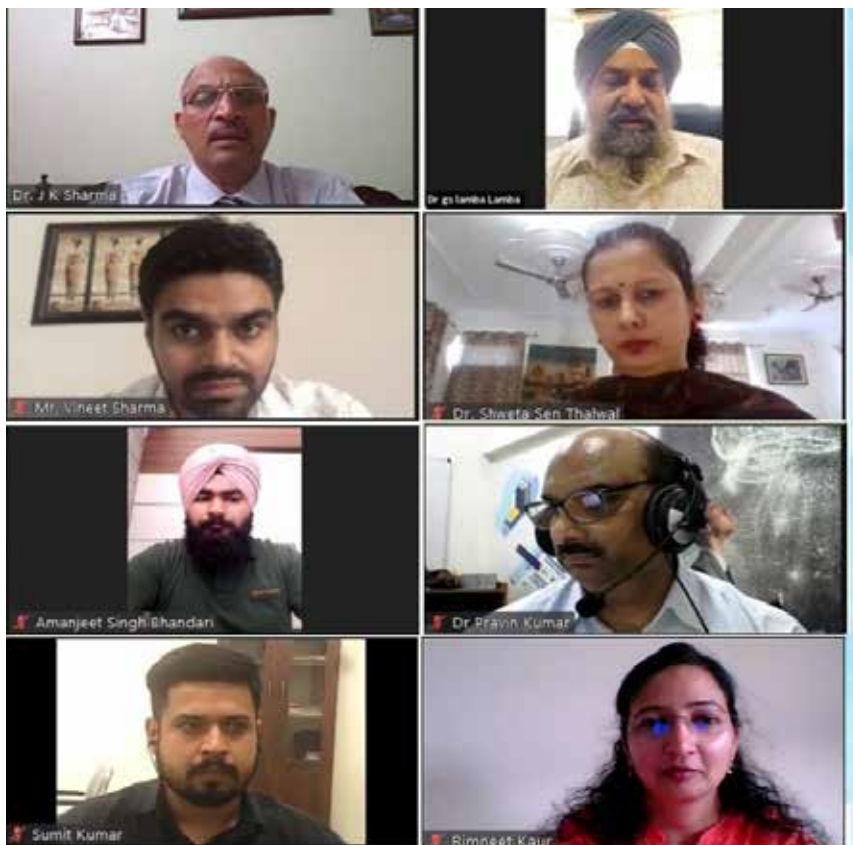


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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: WHAT RESEARCHERS NEED TO KNOW

The PHD Chamber IP Facilitation Centre, Amritsar in association with Ministry of MSMEs, Government of India and Akal University, Bathinda organized a video conference on 'Intellectual Property Rights: What Researchers Need to Know' for faculty members and Start Ups of Akal University, Bathinda on July 30, 2021.

Welcoming the speakers and participants, Session Moderator, Mr. J K Sharma, Co-Convener, Punjab Education Committee, PHDCCI & Director - Research, Industry Interface & Innovation, CT University, Ludhiana informed that PHDCCI has set up an IP Facilitation Centre at Amritsar under the aegis of Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (M/o MSME), Government of India to render IP services to MSMEs and Start-ups in the region. He added that IPFC Amritsar & Chandigarh are providing all IP related services like Trademarks, Patents, Copyrights, Designs and Geographical

Indication, etc. He mentioned that PHDCCI is organizing a series of events to publicize and apprise stakeholders of the services of IPFC for Start-ups and Industry members.

Maj. Gen. (Dr) GS Lamba, VSM, Dean-Academic Affairs, Akal University, Bathinda in his keynote address stated that all academicians should get a thorough knowledge about Intellectual Property Rights to ensure that if any researcher has an innovative idea it does not go in vain. He informed the participants that their university has been promoting a research-friendly environment for their students. He added that the IPR filing process in India is a little lengthy and complex as compared to international filing but it is more full-proof & innovator friendly.

Dr Shweta Sen Thalwal, Founder, Integrum IP, Mohali explained about different types of Intellectual Property Rights and Identification of IP. She

stated that a trademark is name, symbol or design that helps to identify the business and to distinguish its products / services from other businesses.

She added that a brand name is a kind of visiting card that promotes the image of a company and its range of goods and services. She explained that the alphabet R in a circle implies that the company's trademark is registered whereas the words TM in a circle signifies that the company has applied for the trademark.

Dr. Thalwal informed that civil protection is available to safeguard copyrights and they can be protected internationally also. She stated that one cannot freely use the works published on internet.

She mentioned that various remedies are available for protection of Patents but the main responsibility for monitoring, identifying and taking action against the infringer lies with the Patent owner.

Mr. Vineet Sharma, Vice President – Operations, TT Consultants, Chandigarh made a Presentation on 'Building Patents Portfolio Strategically -Internationalizing the Patents'. He stated that IP carries economic value and it is beneficial to protect the IP. He explained that Patent is like an insurance policy and can be useful in case of infringement.

Mr. Sharma mentioned that patenting even small innovative technologies can be economically beneficial. He gave the example of dispensing valve on bottles which has helped the inventor to earn handsomely. He said that big ideas can fetch big money. He informed that the inventors of 'UltraChhatta' – an invention for harvesting both rain water and solar energy, have filed multiple patent applications to protect their invention globally so that they can benefit from their invention in future.

He underlined that it is advisable to have an IP Strategy for any business so that they can analyze which IP is required for their invention; if their business will benefit from multiple IPs like patent, copyrights, trademarks etc.; do they have proper monitoring system against infringement of their IPs; and whether selling or licensing their IP would be more beneficial for their business.



He said while a good IP strategy has helped many brands like IBM to make huge profits but some inventors could not economically exploit their inventions due to wrong IP strategy. He mentioned that Ball Point pen was patented but the IP was sold for a meager amount of \$ 2 million instead of opting for royalty. Similarly, inventions like magnetic strip on cards and match stick were never patented and their inventors could not gain anything.

Mr. Sharma said that non-disclosure of technical specifications of an invention is one of the conditions for Patenting. Therefore, an inventor should not disclose the specifications of his invention before filing the Patent application. In case it is necessary to reveal the specifications, in such circumstances the inventor

must sign a non-disclosure agreement with the investors before conveying the details.

He explained that Patent application for protection of inventions can be filed both domestically as well as internationally. Patents are territorial and separate Patent application has to be filed for every country where the invention is required to be protected.

Explaining about the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) route for international Patenting, Mr. Sharma informed that the PCT has made it possible to seek patent protection for an invention simultaneously in a large number of countries by filing a single "international" patent application instead of filing several separate national or regional patent applications.

He said that after filing a Patent application, the inventor gets 12 months' time to submit the complete specification for his invention. If the application for international Patent is filed under PCT, then the inventor gets over 30 months for filing the complete specifications.

Mr. Amanjeet Singh Bhandari, TPO & Assistant Professor, Akal University, Bathinda delivered the vote-of-thanks to the speakers and participants. He said that awareness about IPR is necessary for both industry as well as the academia.

More than 100 participants including Start-ups, Faculty members, Research scholars and Students of Akal University attended the programme.



PHDCCI CAMPAIGN ON DIGITAL INDIA - INDUSTRY 4.0 WEBINAR- A GROWTH DRIVER FOR MSMEs

The Uttarakhand State Chapter of PHDCCI initiated a Digital India Promotion campaign with a special focus on MSMEs. A webinar on Industry 4.0 in this respect was organized by the state chapter on July 13, 2021 for the industry members of Uttarakhand.

In his welcome address, Mr. Verendra Kalra, Chair, PHDCCI Uttarakhand expressed that the Industry 4.0 wave is characterized by digitisation of manufacturing with smart and autonomous systems. There is an urgent need for a platform where diverse ideas and new forms of communication can be heard,

debated, discussed and key takeaways derived from collective wisdom of multiple stakeholders/participants - academicians, researchers, citizens as consumers/customers, marketers and industry, he added.

Mr. Anil Taneja, Regional Director, PHDCCI Uttarakhand stated that information technology is bringing new opportunities for us to create new values and communicate the same in new and different ways, to the involved stakeholders. The Industry 4.0 campaign initiated by PHDCCI is aimed at fulfilling this urgent need.

The lead trainer, Mr. Sudhir Panditrao, Founder Director of SAN TECHNO Mentors Pvt. Ltd. in his presentation shared the futuristic vision of the i4.0 industry environment.

Mr. Mangesh Wagh, CEO of SAN TECHNO Mentors P Ltd. presented the phases which industry need to go through to adopt to the new i4.0 ecosystem.

Mr. Mukesh Malik, Founder, GK Consulting Firm presented a stack of technology solutions which would enable i4.0 implementation. A Generation Ex-Tech documentation solution for industry in this respect was presented by Mr. Nand Kishore, Founder of Monocle Consulting.

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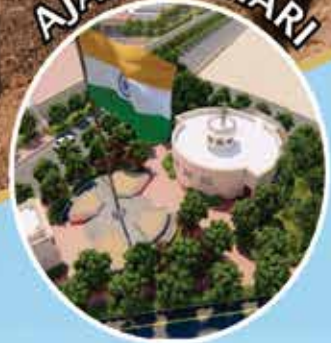
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IMPORTANCE OF IPR IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Uttar Pradesh Chapter of PHD Chamber in collaboration with GCRG Memorial Trust Group of Institutions, Lucknow organized a Virtual Seminar on “Importance of IPR in Entrepreneurship” on August 3, 2021. The key objective of the Session was to create awareness emphasizing on the benefits and importance of IPR and related sub-fields for Entrepreneurs of the State.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Atul Srivastava, Resident Director, UP Chapter, PHDCCI highlighted the importance of IPR in the current era. He said that the term Intellectual property is related to human brain applied for creativity and invention and various efforts in terms of inputs of manpower, time, energy, skill, money, etc. are required to invent or create something new.

Mr. Pratyush Srivastava, Director, Training and Placement, GCRG Memorial Trust Group of Institution, Lucknow informed about the

Institute Innovation Cell (IIC) of GCRG Memorial Trust Group of Institutions which aims to inculcate the culture of Innovation amongst the students with the help of Faculty members. Mr. Srivastava also spoke about the significance of innovation in rural areas; he said that in the context of globalization, innovation is a must for all regions, whether rural or urban and the capacity of regions to support learning and innovation processes is a key source of competitive advantages, a multiplier of economic activity, employment and development.

Dr Mandira Roy, Executive Director, Aumirah IP discussed about the concept of IPR and how to identify & create it. She explained that IPR is a category of property that includes intangible creations of the human intellect. There are many types of intellectual property, and the most well-known types are copyrights, patents, trademarks, and trade secrets. She explained that the main purpose of intellectual property law

is to encourage the creation of a wide variety of intellectual goods.

Mr. Sagar Chaudhary, IP Attorney, Chaudhary & Associates, shed light upon the importance of Intellectual Property Rights in Entrepreneurship and/or any other business. He explained about how a start-up owner can protect its idea of the business by claiming his/her copyright over it so that other competitors cannot copy or claim the same. He stated that IP rights provide protection against a competitor directly copying the idea, this helps the entrepreneur to recover their costs in developing the idea.

Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Asst. Director, MSME-DI, Kanpur, Govt. of India, spoke about the new definition of MSMEs and also about some important Schemes of the Ministry of MSMEs for promoting MSMEs and building awareness on Intellectual Property Rights for MSMEs. The schemes Mr. Kumar highlighted were Champions Portal which addresses the grievances of MSMEs and also helps them with finances, raw materials, labour, permissions, etc.

Mr. Siddharth Mishra, Member, PHDCCI, delivered the vote-of-thanks to the speakers and participants.





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AWARENESS WORKSHOP ON PROMOTION OF HORTICULTURE CROPS



The Uttar Pradesh Chapter of PHDCCI in collaboration with Arthur D Little India Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow organized the First Awareness Workshop on 'Promotion of Horticulture Crops' at Hotel Ilawart, Prayagraj on July 29, 2021. The rationale of the Awareness Workshops is to educate the farmers and other stakeholders with the latest innovations and technological advancements in the field of horticulture so as to improve their crop productivity, enhance farmers' incomes, expand their marketing avenues, backward and forward linkages, qualitative investments and technical assistance to the horticulture growers of the State.

Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Khatri, IAS, District Magistrate, Prayagraj expressed that sustainable horticultural production system with an ecosystem approach is necessary to cope with an increasingly degraded environment and uncertainties resulting from climate change, while taking into consideration social, political, economic and environmental impacts. He stressed that the incorporation of right technology and technical innovations in farming practices not only provides tangible solutions to many issues (like low and degraded

production of horticulture crops) but can also enhance farmers' income to a great extent. He also emphasized on the enormous Export Potential of the State, and said that with more and better horticulture produce, the State can lead to better exports and towards increased farmer's income and State GDP.

Mr. Vijay Bahadur Dwivedi, Joint Director (vegetables), Department of Horticulture, Prayagraj gave an overview of the current Horticulture and vegetables produce of the State. He expressed that commercial vegetable production should always be viewed as a business first and as a farming enterprise secondly. He said that establishing a business based on consumer preferences and demands make for a more successful undertaking in the Horticulture domain.

Mr. Pankaj Shukla, Deputy Director, Department of Horticulture, Prayagraj spoke about vision and mission of the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing, Uttar Pradesh. He said that the Department is making continuous efforts by implementing various benefitting schemes for fruits, vegetables, potato, flowers, spices, medicinal and aromatic plants, betel-vine development along with subsidiary enterprises like bee-

keeping, mushroom production, food processing and cultivation of betel-vine.

Mr. Shailendra Suman, Marketing Incharge, HOFED said that the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing, UP under the Hon'ble Chief Minister is committed to work hand-in-hand with the farmers of the State and will ensure effective and timely processing of the subsidies and incentives to the applicants. He emphasized the need for training to the farmers in order to create awareness among the related stakeholders regarding conservation, protection and export of plant varieties by individuals or groups of FPOs.

Mr. K M Chaudhary, Chief Horticulturist, Prayagraj talked about the advantages of Polyhouse protected cultivation of mushrooms. He informed that Polyhouse farming is a new agricultural technology that reduces dependency on rainfall and makes the best use of land and water resources, as a small amount of light shall not hurt mushrooms; they are best grown in darkness. He also informed the role of greenhouses and modifications in them to block out light and to stabilize the temperature to a favourable level. He shed light on several benefits of mushroom

cultivation like its Nutritional value, Protein content, Medicinal value as consumption of mushrooms slows down the spread and effect of cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS (by boosting immune system).

Dr Shailendra Rajan, Director, CISH, Lucknow spoke about the role of Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow in being a premier institute under ICAR for subtropical fruit crops research with focus on mango, guava, aonla, bael, papaya and some underutilized fruits. He informed that CISH happens to be the major centre for mango research in the country with conservation of the world's richest field gene-bank and the major emphasis is on the collection, evaluation, characterization, conservation and utilization of germplasm, crop improvement through conventional and Foreword Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow.

Dr Hemlata Pant, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, CMP PG College, University of Allahabad deliberated on Zoo horticulture and said that the same encompasses a wide range of activities which requires a diversity of knowledge and skills in gardening, plant identification/selection, landscape development/management, plant/animal interactions, plant toxicity, animal browse production, etc. She also spoke about the various benefits of mushroom cultivation including health, income and employment.

Mr. Anirudh Singh, Expert on Beekeeping spoke about the several benefits of beekeeping and about the advantages of opting the same as a career. He said that Bees are natural pollinators which transfer pollen from one flower to another so that they can grow and reproduce faster and better. He said that bees are not only critical to agriculture and growing food, but

they are equally necessary for wild plants too because as many as 90% of wild plants rely on pollinators like bees to survive and thrive and without bees, many of these plants would just die off.

Mr. Mukesh Singh, Senior Advisor, UP State Chapter, PHDCCI & State Head, Arthur D Little India Pvt. Ltd., Uttar Pradesh welcomed all the dignitaries and said that the State has the natural advantage of diverse agro climatic conditions, which enables production of wide range of horticultural crops, and hence, has great growth and export potential globally. He delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries.

The session was excellently attended and interacted by around 130 participants comprising of potential farmers, horticulturists, FPOs, SHGs, Gram Pradhans, DHOs and other agriculture stakeholders of the State.



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MEETING WITH UNION MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Mr. Saket Dalmia, Vice President, Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, Mr. Rajesh Arora, Chair, PHD Civil Aviation Committee; Mr. Vipin Vohra & Mr. Michael Jain-Co-chair, Civil Aviation Committee & the Secretariat team met Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia on August 5, 2021 at New Delhi. The delegation congratulated him for taking charge as the Union Minister of Civil Aviation and also invited the Hon'ble Minister to grace PHD Chamber's 116 Annual Session.

MEETING WITH UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General and the Secretariat team met and congratulated Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti, on her new appointment as Union Minister of State, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Ministry of Rural Development on August 4, 2021 at her office in New Delhi. The President also shared the copy of the Draft Suggestions submitted by PHDCCI on Legal Metrology Act 2009, and Draft E-Commerce Rules 2021 for consideration. He also invited the Minister for upcoming programs on Farm-2-Fork to be held in August 2021 and Consumer Confidence Conclave scheduled for September 2021.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR RAILWAYS, COAL AND MINES



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, Dr S K Chaudhary, Chair, Mr. Dhruv Aggarwal, Co-chair, Railway Committee and the Secretariat met Mr. Raosaheb Dadarao Dhanve, Minister of State for Railways, Coal and Mines on August 12, 2021 at New Delhi and congratulated him on his new appointment. The President also invited the Minister to grace the 8th PHD Global Rail Convention – 2021 – ‘Future Railway Infrastructure Growth Blueprint’ held in August.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF STATE, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



A PHD Chamber delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Mr. Ajay Poddar, Chair, International Affairs Committee for South East Asia, East Asia & Oceania; Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General and Mr. Naveen Seth, Assistant Secretary General met Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs on August 9, 2021 at his office in New Delhi. Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal invited the Minister for a session to address the members of PHDCCI and requested his support and guidance for the future endeavor of International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division.

Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, suggested that PHDCCI should focus on international engagements in North East states as mandated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, BJP DELHI UNIT



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General and Dr. Yogesh Srivastav, ASG met Mr. Adesh Gupta, President, BJP Delhi Unit and Mr. Ashok Goel, Vice President, BJP Delhi Unit on August 3, 2021 at BJP HQ, New Delhi and discussed various issues of Delhi. Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal shared various CSR initiatives undertaken by PHDCCI and offered 4 oxygen plants at various hospitals of MCD, Delhi.

LUNCHEON MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF CZECH REPUBLIC TO INDIA



H.E. Mr. Milan Hovorka, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India invited the leadership of PHD Chamber for a Luncheon Meeting on July 14, 2021 at the Embassy of Czech Republic, New Delhi. The PHDCCI delegation was led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and was accompanied by Mr. Pradeep Multani, Senior Vice President, Mr. Naveen Seth, ASG, Mr. Niraj, Secretary, International Affairs and Mr. Abhishek Banwara, Joint Secretary. Mr. Milan Dostal, Commercial Economic Counsellor and Mr. Jakub Jaroš, Economic & Commercial Counsellor were also present at the luncheon meeting.

Mr. Aggarwal apprised him about the success of Global Trade and Investment Opportunity Czech event and also handed him the post event report of the GTI Session. His Excellency suggested the Chamber to organize more sector specific activities including B2B meetings and delegations with a focus on MSMEs.

MEETING WITH UGANDA HIGH COMMISSION OFFICIALS



A Ugandan High Commission delegation led by Mr. Kajala Mohammad, Deputy High Commissioner & comprising of Ms. Sophie Birungi, Officer in-charge Commercial Diplomacy, Ms. Jonaitah Among, Officer in-charge of Counselor Affairs & Ms. Preeti Gupta from Accounts Department visited PHD House, Jaipur on July 17 and 19, 2021 for exploring possibilities of organizing a Road Show on 'Investment & Business Opportunities in Uganda' at Jaipur in collaboration with PHD Chamber. Detailed discussions were held with Mr. Digvijay Dhabriya, Chairman, PHDCCI, Rajasthan Chapter and the Secretariat Officials.

VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER WITH THE MEMBERS OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY ON 'LOCAL GOES GLOBAL- MAKE IN INDIA FOR THE WORLD

A PHDCCI delegation, led by Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President and comprising of Chair/Co-chairs of expert committees, Members, along with Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist | DSG, participated in the Virtual meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi on August 6, 2021 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. Mr. Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister was also present along with other senior Government Officials.

The Prime Minister, suggested 4 ways to make India a global champion: 1) increase in manufacturing which is Qualitatively Competitive 2) Minimize the Logistics Cost 3) Work in collaboration 4) Identifying international markets for Indian



products.

Mr. Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister, talked about the abolishment of the retrospective

tax which was hindering FDI. He suggested that innovation and ease of doing business will be helpful to achieve the exports target of US\$ 400 billion.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY TO CM & SECRETARY- TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI Uttar Pradesh Chapter delegation comprising of Mr. Atul Srivastava, Resident Director and the Secretariat team met Mr. Alok Kumar- III, IAS, Secretary to CM & Secretary – Technical & Vocational Education, Govt. Of Uttar Pradesh on July 30, 2021 at his office in Lucknow. The meeting was to invite him as the 'Chief Guest' for the Virtual Conference on "Role of AI and IoT for Empowering the Future".

MEETING WITH IRS, JOINT SECRETARY & FA, MINISTRIES OF COAL & MINES

Dr Yogesh Srivastav, ASG, PHDCCI met Ms. Nirupama Kotru, IRS, Joint Secretary & FA, Ministries of Coal & Mines, Govt of India on July 23, 2021 at her office in New Delhi to invite her to be the Chief Guest for the Virtual Odisha Mining Summit held on July 28, 2021.



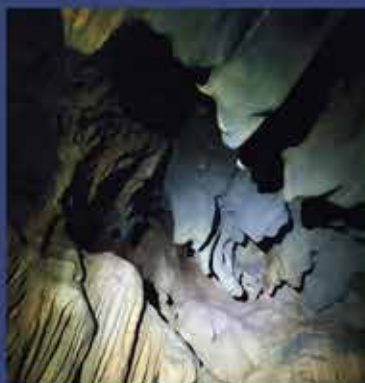
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Trips to Zungki, Tizu and Likhimro rivers, mining locations in Pokphur and adjoining areas, Fakim Wild Life Sanctuary, proposed International Trade Centre at Mimi and Likhimro Hydro Project also holds its own unique rewards for the outdoor lovers. Apples are grown in abundance here and the '**Apple Festival**' has become an annual fixture in Thanamir, a frontier village bordering Myanmar.



PHD FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (PHDFWF)

PHD CHAMBER'S FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION ORGANIZED INAUGURATION OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE SECOND OXYGEN GENERATION PLANT DONATED TO TIRATH RAM SHAH CHARITABLE HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI



PHD Chamber's Family Welfare Foundation organized the inauguration of the installation of the second Oxygen Generation Plant donated to Tirath Ram Shah Charitable Hospital, New Delhi to fight against the possibility of third wave of COVID 19. Mr. Faggan Singh Kulaste, Hon'ble Minister of State of the Ministry of

Steel and Rural Development was the Chief Guest for the program. Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI; Mr. Vijay Bhushan, Chairman, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI; Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson, PHDFWF; Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal, Rotary Club of Delhi South Central; Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General,

PHDCCI; Dr J.P Singh, Director, Tirath Ram Shah Charitable Hospital; Ms. Geeta Rajpal, Trustee, TRSCH, Senior Officials from PHDFWF & PHDCCI among others were present on the occasion. PHDFWF is thankful to all its donors for supporting us in this noble cause.

PHDFWF ORGANIZED HEALTH TALK ON COVID-19– UNDERSTANDING THE DISEASE AND PREPARING FOR FUTURE

PHD Family Welfare Foundation organized a Health Talk on "COVID-19 – Understanding the disease, preparing for future" by Dr Mathew Varghese, Head, Department of Orthopaedics and Former Director, St. Stephen's Hospital, New Delhi on July 10, 2021. Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson, PHDFWF in her welcome address underlined the role of PHDFWF as a frontline worker in the first and second wave of CoVID -19. Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal, President, PHDCCI, expressed his gratitude to Dr Mathew Varghese for giving his valuable time to enlighten about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr Mathew Varghese talked about the COVID-19 disease covering various important issues such as Statistics, Transmission of the virus, Symptoms-both common and uncommon, why some cases become serious, clinical management, ICMR protocol, time based management, statistics on testing and deaths, preventing COVID-19, types of vaccines, delta variants, third wave and children, precautionary measures to be taken, 15 guidelines of the COVID appropriate behaviour and learning opportunities from the pandemic.

Mr. Pradeep Multani, Sr. Vice

President, PHDCCI talked about the fight against the pandemic by the people of the country. He underlined that effective participation from everyone will ensure that the pandemic can be curtailed and it will not overburden the healthcare system. Dr DK Aggarwal, Immediate Former President, PHDCCI, congratulated PHDFWF for giving an opportunity to give his observation on Dr. Mathew's dedication towards COVID management through his research and online videos and also his contribution towards alleviating the living conditions of the polio affected children. Mr. Gopal Jiwarajka,



Former President, PHDCCI, thanked Dr. Varghese and his institution, St. Stephen's Hospital for their humanitarian efforts during the first & second wave. This was followed by a Question Answer session where Mr. Alok B Shrivam, Former President,

PHDCCI; Ms. Promila Girotra, Board Member, PHDFWF among others asked questions related to vaccination and pregnancy, efficacy of various tests in determining antibodies after vaccination as well as preparation for the third wave. Dr Mathews

replied with detailed explanations. Ms. Karuna Shrivam, GB member, WC Committee, PHDFWF was the master of the ceremony of the health talk. Ms. Sangita Dutta Das, Head of the foundation moderated the programme.

PHDFWF SUPPORTING FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR ONLY BREAD EARNER DURING COVID-19



With the financial assistance from members of the Rotary Club of Delhi Premier, SPACE, and other esteemed donors, PHDFWF has identified 45 families in resettlement areas (where PHDFWF has a Skill Development unit) who have lost their only earning member of their families due to COVID or otherwise. In the month of July, 2021, PHDFWF supported 40 families by providing basic food expenses and will continue to support these families for 4 to 6 months while they can learn a skill at FWF centre. Once they are skilled, they will be able to earn a living for their families. This can make them self-independent and earn their livelihood for their future. PHDFWF is looking for more such families to support.

PHDFWF ORGANISED FREE HEALTH CHECK-UP CAMPS FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN IN GOVT. RUN INSTITUTIONS AND SUPPORTING OTHER CHARITY ORPHANAGE HOMES



PHD Family Welfare Foundation in association with Department of Women and Child Development, Govt of NCT Delhi with support from its donors have been supporting 101 children's homes across Delhi and other charity orphanages. In the month of July 2021, through Jaquar Dental & Eye mobile van conducted 12 medical health check-up camps in 12 homes and 658 children were benefitted from these camps. PHDFWF with support from the Rotary Club of Delhi Premier supported 11 non-Government orphanages by providing monthly grocery, other necessary items and nutritional food packets as per their requirements like towels, bedsheets, slippers, t-shirts, sneakers, undergarments, sanitary napkins, masks, playing materials, sanitisers, etc.

PHDFWF DISTRIBUTED DRY & FRESH FOOD TO ARTISITS, MIGRANTS AND THE NEEDY



PHD Family Welfare Foundation with support from its esteemed donors has been distributing dry food packets containing 5kg atta, pulses, sugar, tea leaves, soya chunks, biscuits, soaps, other nutritious dry foods and face masks to artists of the Centre for Indian Classical Dances in Hauz Khas and resettlement colonies of Delhi/NCR. PHDFWF also distributed home-made poori sabji to the migrants and the needy living in resettlement colonies of Delhi, in front of AIIMS & Safdarjung hospital.

HEALTH CARE

PHDFWF- JAQUAR FOUNDATION MOBILE MEDICAL VAN (BHIWADI, RAJASTHAN).



PHDFWF- Jaquar MMV has been serving patients with diagnostic care by taking all necessary precautionary measures. In the month of July, 2021, 854 patients benefitted from 23 camps organized in five adopted villages under the Jaquar Group, Bhiwadi, Rajasthan.

PHDFWF- JAQUAR FOUNDATION MOBILE MEDICAL VAN (GURUGRAM, HARYANA)



In July 2021, PHDFWF-Jaquar mobile van benefited 813 patients by conducting 18 health check-up camps. Free diagnostic facilities, medicines and KN95 masks were also distributed to patients living in the villages of Harchandpur, Alipur, Garhi Bazidpur and Dhaula of Gurugram.

PHDFWF-SMPF MOBILE MEDICAL VAN

PHDFWF-SMPF mobile van has been providing free health care services with free diagnostic facilities, clinical services and distributing free medicines to the underprivileged living in Delhi/NCR. In the month of July, 2021, nine free health check-up camps were organized and 548 patients benefitted from these camps. Regular camps are being organized by taking all the precautionary measures.



PHDFWF- JAQUAR FOUNDATION DENTAL AND EYE MOBILE VAN

PHDFWF-Jaquar Dental & Eye mobile van organized general health check-up camps in Child Care institutes and for street children. The mobile van also distributed nutritional food packets to the underprivileged living in resettlement colonies of Delhi.



PHDFWF- TARGET INTERVENTION PROJECT ON HIV/AIDS

Since 2003, PHDFWF- Target Intervention Project (TI) supported by Delhi State AIDS Control Society (DSACS), Govt. of NCT Delhi has been providing various Health/RCH services to the migrant workers in resettlement areas of Okhla. Project activities like 429-ICTC-CBS, 330-RPR, 396-RMC, 36-PT, 07-STI, 2- DIC, 2- hotspot meetings, 4 review meetings, etc. were conducted in the month of July 2021. A total of 439 patients attended the clinic under the project.

PHDFWF-AAOT MOBILE MEDICAL VAN

In July 2021, PHDFWF-AAOT mobile van conducted 14 health checkup camps in association with Holy Family Hospital and benefited 545 patients living in JJ clusters in Jamia Nagar, Okhla Phase-II, New Delhi.

SKILL & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

PHDFWF-JAQUAR N.L MEHRA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE, AYA NAGAR



Presently, 105 trainees are getting free training on nursing assistant, advance computer education, retail management and beauty culture in Aya Nagar & nearby areas at PHDFWF-NL Mehra Vocational Training Centre. This project is being supported by Jaquar Foundation since August 2020. Exposure visits, awareness sessions and health camps are being conducted routinely.



PHDFWF-KAJARIA CERAMICS SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE, ASSAM

Under this project, rural women are getting free training on hand weaving in Lakhimpur district of Assam. Presently, local beneficiaries are learning the skills to make mekhela chaddar and gamusa. This Centre is being supported by Kajaria Ceramics Ltd. This will help women in earning an extra source of income for them and become self-employed.



L&T HOWDEN PVT. LTD. SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, PALLA



L&T Howden Pvt. Ltd. is supporting PHD Family Welfare Foundation in implementing a skill development project in Palla, Faridabad. Presently, 96 local women and girls are availing training in computer education, beauty culture & tailoring and embroidery under the project. This will help the women and youth in earning a livelihood and become self-empowered.



MG GOYAL GASES SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE, BADLI EXTN, ROHINI

PHDFWF has been implementing a skill development project at Badli Extn., Rohini with the support from Goyal MG Gases. Presently, 87 trainees took various trainings of computer education, tailoring and beauty culture under the project during the month of July 2021.

PHDFWF-JAWAHAR FOUNDATION HEALTH CARE ATTENDANT

With the support of Jawahar Foundation, PHD Family Welfare Foundation is providing training in health care attendant course in Bhilwara, Rajasthan. Presently, more than 30 trainees are getting free training under the project.



HINDUSTAN TIN WORKS SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE, BADARPUR



At the PHDFWF- Hindustan Tin Works skill centre at Lal Kuan, Badarpur, 53 beneficiaries are availing free training in computer education and beauty culture under the project. Exposure visits and other related informational sessions are being conducted on a regular basis.

PHDFWF-JAQUAR SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, MATALWAS



With the extended support of Jaquar Foundation, PHDFWF is running one skill development training centre in Matalwas, Bhiwadi, Rajasthan. Training in beauty culture and tailoring & embroidery courses are being provided to more than 70 rural women and girls living in nearby areas.

PHDFWF - SMPF SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE, DWARKAPURI



PHDFWF-SMPF is running a Skill Development Centre in Dwarkapuri by providing training in tailoring & embroidery, beauty culture & mehendi, mobile repairing and computer education to 74 trainees under the project. Exposure visits, awareness sessions and health camps are being conducted regularly.



L&T PRAYAS SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, FARIDABAD

PHD Family Welfare Foundation with support from Prayas Trust, L&T Faridabad is implementing a skill development project in Surya Vihar, Faridabad. Free training on tailoring & embroidery is being provided to 40 girls and women living in nearby areas.

PHDFWF-JAQUAR SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE, MANDI VILLAGE



PHD FWF has been implementing a skill development project in Mandi Gaon with the support from Jaquar Foundation. This project offers courses in beauty culture, tailoring, mobile repairing, cooking and masala making. More than 110 trainees are currently availing training at the Centre.



PHDFWF-WRG SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, AYA NAGAR

At the Centre, 46 trainees are availing training in tailoring & embroidery and computer education at Aya Nagar Centre supported by Women Rehabilitation Group, USA. Exposure visits, awareness sessions and health camps are being conducted routinely.



PHDFWF-FENA SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTRE

Presently, 45 trainees are getting training on tailoring and embroidery course at the PHDFWF-FENA Skill Development Centre at Okhla.

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PHD RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (PHDRDF)

PHD Rural Development Foundation, social arm of PHD Chamber helps in extending contributions to the community through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. PHDCCI strongly believes in its social responsibility along with the economic development and sustainability and PHDRDF helps in delivering the same. The initiatives are designed to ensure that every corporate donor embodies the principles of CSR as per section VII of Company's Act 2013. In the first quarter of 2021-22, PHDRDF received and is executing 17 projects with support from different donors in the areas of Healthcare & Sanitation, Education, Skill Development, Women Empowerment and Water Harvesting / Conservation and seeks to empower individuals and community at large by providing them with the support they need to affect change in their own environment for social and economic development. The projects executed through this quarter have benefitted more than 20,000 people across different states of Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Haryana and Bihar.

PHDRDF WATER MANAGEMENT

PHDRDF has been constantly working towards recharging of ground water table by establishing rain water harvesting structures and generating awareness among the community in need and technologies of water conservation.

PHDRDF- HINDUSTAN TIN WORKS LIMITED



Image of lock 'n' lock tiles paved around pond and RCC benches



PHDRDF and Hindustan Tin Works Ltd. have partnered together for pond rejuvenation in Bhigan Village, Sonipat, Haryana. A concrete footpath of 360 meters with lock 'n' lock tiles has been paved around the pond and RCC benches have been installed. Furthermore, solar street lights and trees with tree guard are in the process of being planted around the pond with the objective of soil conservation and green cover. The pond is being developed for villagers use, as a park for walk ways and other recreational activities.



PHDRDF - COCA COLA INDIA FOUNDATION



Image of the established check dam receiving water during the monsoon



PHDRDF and Coca Cola India Foundation have partnered together to promote sustainable solutions for water resource management with surface water conservation and ground water recharge, through construction of 07 check dams in water-stressed two blocks of Ranchi district – Kanke and Ratu in Jharkhand. The project will reach out to more than 15,000 people, creating a total water recharge capacity of 292,100 cubic meters. Jharkhand has received good rainfall and water has been filled in the established check dams. This will provide farmers in the area with richer soil for irrigation.

PHDRDF- POLYPLEX CORPORATION LTD. AND DR RAJESH MALHOTRA



Image of Firav Wala check dam has been established & completed

PHDRDF with co-sponsorship of Polyplex Corporation Limited and Dr Rajesh Malhotra based in USA have partnered together for establishment of one water harvesting structure 'Firav wala Check Dam' in Dadhikar, Hajipur, Alwar, Rajasthan with a length of 175 ft. The check dam will have a water holding capacity of 7,35,000 cubic feet and the work towards the check dam has now been completed.

PHDRDF- KAJARIA CERAMICS LIMITED



Image of Thakur Wala Check dam receiving water from the recent monsoon

PHDRDF with Kajaria Ceramics Limited have partnered together for establishment of one water harvesting structure 'Thakur wala Check Dam' in Kaaled Banada Ki Dhani, Samra, Alwar, Rajasthan with a length of 180 ft. The work towards establishment of check dam with water holding capacity of 3,00,000 cubic feet has been completed.

PHDRDF- RADICO NV DISTILLERIES MAHARASHTRA PVT. LTD., SELECT CITY WALK AND MR K S MEHTA & FAMILY



Devra Wala check dam receiving water during the recent monsoon.

PHDRDF with Radico NV Distilleries Maharashtra Pvt. Ltd., Select City Walk and Mr. K S Mehta & Family have partnered together for establishment of one water harvesting structure 'Devra wala Check Dam' in Thanagazi, Alwar, Rajasthan with a length of 320 ft. The check dam will have a water holding capacity of 4,48,000 cubic feet. The establishment work towards the check dam has been completed. This check dam will help in augmentation of the water table and recharge the groundwater.



PHDRDF- PTC INDIA FINANCIAL SERVICE LTD. & PTC FOUNDATION TRUST



Establishment of Aalot Wala & Peel Wala check dam has now been completed

PHDRDF with PTC India Financial Service Ltd. & PTC Foundation Trust have partnered together for establishment of four water harvesting structures & two Gabion

structures 'Aalotwala, Peel Wala, Kund Bawadi Wala, Mandawari Wala & Amar Wala & Lanke Wala' in Rajgarh, Alwar, Rajasthan. The check dam will have a water holding capacity of

21, 67,500 cubic feet and help with augmentation of the water table and recharge the groundwater. The work towards establishment of the Aalot wala and Peel Wala check dam has been completed.

PHDRDF-DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS LTD.

PHDRDF has partnered with Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd. for the year 2021-22 to implement project for "Rain water harvesting" structure to be established at Pushp Niketan School in Dhampur, Uttar Pradesh. Two recharge shafts with depth of 45 m each will be established that will help collect 7,347,000 litres of water which will further help in recharging the ground water table in a year.

PHDRDF HEALTHCARE INTERVENTION AND SANITATION

PHDRDF has been actively conducting free health camps for the low-income population in various geographical locations across the country to increase access to healthcare. A team of a qualified Doctor, ANM, Lab Technician and project coordinator are present for each camp and are responsible for its success. Emphasis is given on generating awareness among the community on sanitation & hygiene, child & maternal health, waterborne diseases, communicable diseases and other geography based medical problems.



PHDRDF- NATIONAL SAFAI KARAMCHARIS FINANCE DEVELOPMENT & CORPORATION



Health camp conducted in Odisha

PHDRDF empanelled with National Safai Karamchari Finance Development & Corporation (NSKFC), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for the year 2021-22 to organize 15 health camps in 4 states (Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar and Gujarat). The camps are being organized with a team of three specialists in each camp. That includes one physician, one eyes specialist and one gynaecologist along with paramedical staff. Facilities like testing of blood pressure, blood sugar, computerised eye testing and medicines will also be provided during the camp. Along with medicines, free spectacles will also be distributed at each location. The health camps were organized on July 30, 2021 and August 01, 2021 at Puri and Khorda districts in Odisha where 315 patients were treated.

PHDRDF - ROTARY CLUB OF ROORKEE



Facilities & equipment provided inside the van



PHDRDF has partnered with Rotary Club of Roorkee, Rotary International, Rotary District grant through THDC, Rishikesh for a project “Mobile Medical Sehat Van” to provide health services to the villagers of 15 villages of Pratapnagar

and Jakhanidhar block of Tehri, Gharwal. The project will reach out to more than 12,000 people in the far flung areas, who are unable to access healthcare easily. Screening, diagnosis and treatment along with medicines will be provided to the patients. The

project will also provide access to super specialist doctors through the process of telemedicine consultations to the patients of NCD including Diabetes, Hypertension, Cardiac problem and oncology.

PHDRDF - HSIL

PHDRDF has partnered with HSIL for a project titled “Mobile Health Services”. In this project, HSIL has provided two Mobile Medical Ambulances to PHDRDF to organize free health camps in nearby areas of Bahadurgarh and Kaharani in Haryana.

The project will provide generic health care services to the people through a well-equipped technology assisted mobile medical van with testing devices like ECG, blood test facilities like haemoglobin, blood sugar and supported by a qualified

medical team consisting of a medical doctor and paramedical staff including lab technician and ANM. Screening, diagnosis and treatment along with medicines will be provided to the patients.



PHDRDF SKILL DEVELOPMENT

PHDRDF has been undertaking skill development programmes with various corporate organizations with an aim to enable the under privileged youth to be economically independent. These programs include training in: stitching & tailoring, beauty culture, computer literacy including tally software, spoken English language, soft skills etc. and training in employable skills such as electrician, welding etc., and bee keeping.

PHDRDF- DONALDSON INDIA FILTER SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED

PHDRDF and Donaldson India Filter Systems Pvt. Ltd. are running a “Skill Development Centre” for the past 5 years in Mohammadpur Gurjar, Sohna block, Gurugram. More than 450 girls have been trained in beauty culture and stitching & tailoring so far. Most of the girls trained at Donaldson Skill Development Center have started earning with the skills they have been taught here. Currently, one batch of 20 candidates in each course have completed their course and one new batch consisting of 20 candidates in both courses has been initiated from this month. During the current financial year, a total of 80 students will be trained in both courses i.e. stitching & tailoring and beauty culture. Besides this, the students are also being provided training on English communication and basic computer skills.



During one of the mobilization activity

PHDRDF- DRI PVT. LTD.

PHDRDF and DRI Pvt. Ltd. have partnered together to provide training in Basic Computer Skills. A batch of 20 students have successfully completed their course in Basic Computer in DRI Udaan Skill Development Center for Computer training in Sidhrawali village of Gurugram. Currently, a new batch has been formed and training is being conducted through online classes. The fourth and last batch of students is undergoing training. More than 75 students have been trained so far under this project.



Girls at The Centre under-going training

PHDRDF – DCM SHRIRAM INDUSTRIES



Production of sanitary napkins at Ranikhet Centre

PHDRDF and DCM Shriram Industries came together for a women empowerment and livelihood generation project through sanitary napkin manufacturing. 'Urmila', a Women Self Help Group with 9 women has been formed in Ranikhet in village Pantkotuli. The women at the Centre have been trained in sanitary napkins manufacturing and are into production of the product independently. The SHG groups have been getting orders from nearby areas and products are being marketed in Delhi NCR for a better reach. Currently, various marketing channels have been established in Uttarakhand, Delhi and Haryana to sell out their output. Production of sanitary napkins has been resumed at Ranikhet Centre and the SHG is approaching towards a self sustainable model.



PHDRDF- BRY- AIR (ASIA) PVT. LTD.

PHDRDF and Bry –Air Asia are continuing their partnership for the second phase of Bry-Air Udaan Skill Development Centre for electrician course in Sidhrawali village, Haryana. In the previous phase, a total of 33 students were trained and out of these around 50 percent students got their livelihood. In the current project, a total of 40 students will be trained in electrician course in Sidhrawali village of Gurugram. A batch of 20 students have successfully completed the course and have been assessed by third party, 'Shiksha Bharati'. All the students have passed the assessment successfully and will soon be awarded with a passing certificate. Job opportunities are being explored for these students while the last batch is undergoing the training.



Student's under-going training at the center

PHDRDF SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

PHDRDF has been actively working towards improving quality and standard of school education and literacy by supporting the existing government schools in different states.

PHDRDF - HSIL

PHDRDF and HSIL have partnered to develop sanitation facility for girl students in five government schools of five villages in Bahadurgarh block, Jhajjar District, Haryana. Seven blocks of toilets; each consisting of toilets and urinals are being refurbished/ reconstructed in schools located in village Rohad, Dehkora, Mandothi, Asaudha and Kulasi. The toilet facility will be complete with ready to use sanitation and water facility and will benefit more than 752 students with access to toilets leading to practice of safe and hygienic



Construction of toilet block under-going in Asaudha School

sanitation. Currently, three new toilets have been constructed and two toilet blocks have been refurbished.

PHDRDF- HINDUSTAN TIN WORKS LIMITED



Construction of girls' toilet under progress



PHDRDF and Hindustan Tin Works Limited have partnered together for construction of new girls toilet and refurbishment of boys toilet

of a Government Upper Primary School in Dhaturi Village, Sonipat, Haryana that is expected to benefit more than 250 students. The establishment of

toilets in school will help promote better health and hygiene practices amongst the students.

PHDRDF VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

PHDRDF has been actively working towards supporting the villagers in rural areas by providing water and toilet facilities in different states.

PHDRDF-HINDUSTAN TIN WORKS LIMITED

PHDRDF and Hindustan Tin Works Limited have partnered together for providing Pucca house facility to a BPL Family resident of village Painta at Madhubani, Bihar. The existing house of the beneficiary consisted of a thatched roof and did not have any provision for a proper kitchen and sanitation facility. As part of the project, the BPL beneficiary has been supported with a proper pucca house including two rooms, kitchen, toilet and a bath-room. Proper plaster,



tilling, electric fitting and water facility will be additionally provided. The project has been completed with all the basic facilities for protection from poor health and natural calamities.

TOASTING FAUX PAS

Krishan Kalra, Former Secretary General, PHD Chamber

This happened during the annual function of our local management association - an incident that had the entire audience in splits - it really turned out to be the high point of the function.

Like everyone else, we had also made the mistake of inviting a minister and sure enough he opted out at the last minute. So, we managed without him, thanks to our President's adept handling and long speech! When it came to giving away the awards, a senior technocrat from the front row was requested to do the honours and he graciously agreed.

There were awards for the best manager, books, articles... everything. While the association secretary read out citations from the podium, Mr. President kept handing over the plaques to the 'chief guest for the event' who, in turn, gave them to the lucky winners.

When the usual applause ended and dear Prez walked upto the podium - without as much as a by your-leave to the venerable bureaucrat - naturally the chief guest also started walking back to his seat. It was then that the President's voice boomed on the mike requesting the chief guest to stay on for a minute. He obliged.

"Men may come and men may go" our chief was at his favourite job again - he comes into his element in front of the mike - quoting Wordsworth (or was it Stevenson?) "Presidents may come and Presidents may go... but today we honour someone who has worked with perhaps every President ..."

The suspense was palpable, many in the hall thought the chief guest was being honoured; and that's exactly what must've crossed his mind too. So when the President added, his voice several decibels lower, "I now request our secretary to receive the award" it didn't register.

Perhaps the gentleman's hearing problem aided and when Prez walked up and handed over the open velvet box with the plaque to the chief guest, he said a gentle thank you, closed the box and started walking to his seat.

The hall was roaring with laughter, while poor secretary was left empty handed and scarlet faced. He almost ran after the honoured guest but someone in the front row restrained him. Thankfully this was the end of the inaugural session and our friend got his trophy in a few minutes - and even the mandatory photograph - but everyone had this

healthy bonus of non-stop laughter for a few minutes.

The incident reminded a friend about something similar - way back in 1968 - in comparison with which our little faux-pas is only an innocent slip.

There was this high powered delegation to USSR, led by the then Secretary, Steel and including, among others, the famous metallurgist Dr. Dastur. One evening, after dinner, the Russians proposed a toast. "To India's best metallurgist" said the toast-master and raised his glass. Before Dr Dastur had a chance to get up, our 'super brahmin' civil servant was on his feet, acknowledged the applause and drank the toast.

The hosts were in a bind. They didn't know what to do. Some quick thinking and a second toast was raised "To India's best steel maker" announced the toast-master this time. He was taking no chances his glass was clearly pointed to the good Doc.

But, you have guessed it right, our worthy leader of the delegation, member of the elite group called the Indian Civil Service, got up once again and accepted the toast!

REFORMS WILL REBOUND ECONOMIC GROWTH TRAJECTORY

Focus on labour intensive manufacturing and exports along with mission mode approach to build health infrastructure would go a long way to re-build high growth trajectory and create immense employment opportunities.

Though, GDP growth in 2020-21 had decelerated to (-) 7.3% due to the daunting impact of pandemic covid-19; India's prospects for a high growth trajectory in the coming quarters are significantly promising on the back of economic reforms undertaken by the government since March 2020. Effective reform measures by the government helped economic growth to recover from the lows of (-) 24% in Q1 2020-21 to (-) 7.5% in Q2 2020-21, 0.4% in Q3 2020-21 and 1.4% in Q4 2020-21. Going ahead, the continued economic reforms would pave the way for a strong GDP growth rebound in 2021-22. Many of the national and international organisations have projected the GDP growth rate in the range of 9.5% to 10% in 2021-22.

The performance of the lead economic indicators during the recent months is also indicating a strong rebound in 2021-22. The growth of manufacturing sector is expected to perform impressively in the current year as exports have shown good recovery in the recent months. The IIP (Index for Industrial Production), the lead indicator of manufacturing growth, has improved from (-) 3.4 % in February 2021 to 24.1% in March 2021 and 134% in April 2021.

The Merchandise exports have shown a high double digit growth since March 2021. Core infrastructure, which is a lead indicator of investments and demand creation in the economy, is also in the double digit growth trajectory. Though low base effect of 2020-21 plays a significant role in the strong rebound of economic indicators on y-o-y basis, reforms push provided during the last many quarters has helped the economy to recover from the lows.



Dr. S P Sharma
Chief Economist,
PHD Chamber

Lead economic indicators during the recent months

S. No.	Indicators	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
1	IIP growth % (Y-o-Y)	(-)0.9	(-)3.4	24.1	134	--
2	Core Infra growth % (Y-o-Y)	1.3	(-)3.8	11.4	56.1	--
3	Merchandise Export Growth % (Y-o-Y)	6	0.7	60	196	69
4	Service Export Growth % (Y-o-Y)	(-)10.1	(-)1.0	12.6	6.7	--
5	GST Collections (Rs Crore)	1,19,847	1,13,143	1,23,902	1,41,384	1,02,709
6	FDI Equity Inflows (US\$ billion)	2.7	2.6	2.9	6.2	--
7	ECBs (US\$ Million)	3,731	2,563	9,236	2,369	--
8	CPI growth % (Y-o-Y)	4.1	5.0	5.5	4.2	6.3
9	WPI growth (Y-o-Y)	2.5	4.8	7.9	10.5	12.9
10	Exchange Rate INR Vs US \$	73	72.7	72.8	74.5	73.2
11	Foreign exchange reserves in (US\$ Billion)	590.1	584.5	579.3	588	598.2
12	Passenger vehicles (units)	303904	308593	290939	261633	88045

Source: compiled from various sources

The thrust of the economic reforms with various fiscal and monetary measures announced since March 2020 was majorly to mitigate the daunting impact of covid-19 on trade, industry and economy. The relief measures provided to MSMEs, NBFCs; reforms for improving ease of doing businesses; ramping up of health and digital educational infrastructure; structural reforms in areas of coal, minerals, defence, airports and aerospace management, power, space sector, atomic energy and civil aviation have created a strong build of manufacturing, services and financial sectors. The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar yojana and direct benefit transfers of various welfare schemes of the government have effectively supported the economy and created resilience to rejuvenate and perform swiftly in the coming quarters.

At this juncture, the continuation of economic reforms in the agriculture

sector would be crucial to strengthen the growth of the sector and create employment opportunities in the food processing sector. The agriculture sector has shown its strong resilience during the difficult year of pandemic COVID-19 with a more than 3% growth in FY 2020-21. High growth in the agriculture economy is a major strength at this juncture to boost our food processing sector which is highly labour intensive and has potential to absorb skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workforce. The strong growth of the agriculture economy has not only supported rural economy in the difficult year but also strong growth of agriculture sector will help demand creation in the economy with increased incomes of the rural people. Agriculture Exports have shown a very promising volume growth during the last five years, increased from US \$ 33.9 in 2016-17 to US \$ 41.3 in 2020-21.

and traditional export destinations. Majorly, facilitations to these sectors would enhance the export volumes and boost economic growth trajectory.

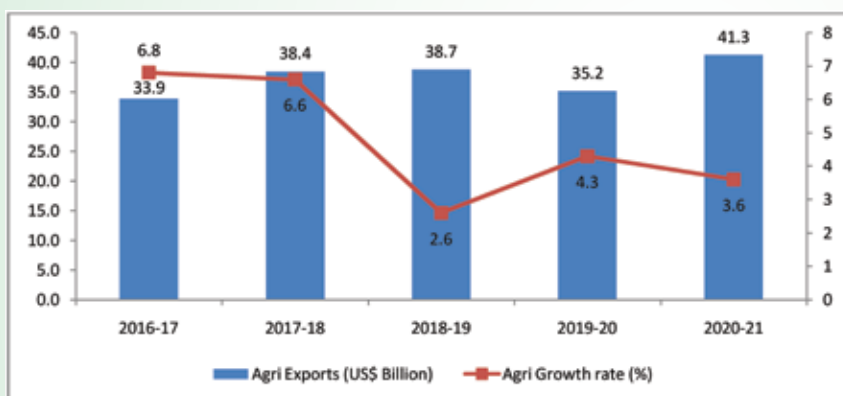
Housing and construction sector can also be a good promising area as the sector has potential to attract foreign investments and to absorb a large chunk of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workforce. Construction sector is the second largest promising sector of the Indian economy which has the potential to grow not only in the short term but also in the medium to long run from years to decades.

Also, the longer term approach for skill development needs to be practically percolated at ground level as strong skill development and re-skilling would help the growing population not only to find better employment opportunities and better standards of living but also enhance competitiveness of our products in the international market and increase the volumes of our merchandise and services exports.

So, going ahead, to strengthen the confidence of trade, industry and people, it becomes crucial to mitigate the impact of health challenges. Health infrastructure needs to be focused and ramped up with a mission mode approach to contain the drastic impacts of pandemic which is hitting the country again and again with new variants. Strong build-up of health infrastructure would go a long way to build the confidence of trade and industry and help economy to perform significantly better in the coming times.

In a nutshell, the economy needs further bold steps to boost the investment environment and to trigger demand growth to the next level. Though lot of reforms have been announced across the sectors and segments, implementation of structural reforms would be crucial for the fruitful outcomes. Strengthening of the domestic economy with more and more reforms in the labour intensive sectors such as textiles, handicrafts, food processing, and housing & construction would mitigate the daunting impact of pandemic COVID-19 and pave the way for a strong and sustainable economic growth trajectory, going forward.

Trends in Agriculture Growth Rate and Agriculture Exports



compiled from various sources

With the improvement in India's ranking on Ease of Doing Business and announcement of major reforms for the MSMEs, the manufacturing sector and manufacturing exports are also expected to perform significantly higher in the 2021-22. At this juncture, the strategy should be focused on labour intensive products which can be produced at the homeland with a support to indigenous production processes to stop the imports which can be produced domestically. Promotion of exports of labour intensive products in the international markets to strengthen the export growth trajectory. This

strategy will give a big push to creation of employment for skilled and semi-skilled and unskilled workforce in the country and revive aggregate demand with increased income and employment levels. The promising labour intensive areas are textile and apparels, leather and leather products along with handlooms & handicrafts and agriculture and food processing.

Promotion of exports of IT and ITES which have also become our major strength during the last few decades would be crucial to increase our volumes vis-a-vis revival of growth in the advanced economies which are our main



INTERNATIONAL

S No.	Name of the MoU	Date of Signing
1	Dubai Exports (DE)	January 29, 2017
2	Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI)	August 10, 2017
3	Management Association of Nepal	August 10, 2017
4	CAB International, United Kingdom	August 21, 2017
5	BALKAN Indian Business Association, Indian Chapter, New Delhi	October 16, 2017
6	Kuwait Chamber of Commerce & Industry	October 23, 2017
7	Indian Chamber of Commerce in Slovak Republic	November 10, 2017
8	Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	November 20, 2017
9	AL HILAL Publishing and Marketing Group, Bahrain	November 21, 2017
10	FICCI (Philippines) Inc.	January 26, 2018
11	Eurasian Peoples' Assembly, Moscow, Russia	February 28, 2018
12	Alborz Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ACCIMA)	March 8, 2018
13	Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA)	March 8, 2018
14	Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU)	March 8, 2018
15	PHD Chamber & Ghana National Chamber of Commerce & Industry	March 12, 2018
16	National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) Organizations of Azerbaijan Republic	March 13, 2018
17	Azerbaijan Export & Investment Promotion Foundation Baku, Azerbaijan	March 13, 2018
18	The Azerbaijan Republic Chamber of Commerce and Industry BAKU, Azerbaijan	March 14, 2018
19	TAIPEI World Trade Centre	April 17, 2018
20	The Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Republic of Moldova	May 7, 2018
21	The Netherlands India Chamber of Commerce and Trade	May 24, 2018
22	Government of Andijan City, Republic of Uzbekistan	May 26, 2018
23	F6S Network Limited, United Kingdom	June 5, 2018
24	Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Nairobi, Kenya (KNCCI)	June 11, 2018
25	Private Sector Federation, Rwanda	July 24, 2018
26	Confederation of Nepalese Industries(CNI)	August 1, 2018
27	India – New Zealand Business Council (INBC)	September 5, 2018
28	Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bulgaria	September 5, 2018
29	Global CEO Club, SEOUL, South Korea	September 7, 2018
30	Association of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Crafts of the Czech Republic	September 7, 2018
31	Bucharest Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Romania	September 19, 2018
32	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Cote D'ivoire	September 21, 2018
33	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Antananarivo, Madagascar	September 28, 2018
34	Chamber of Commerce & Industry Anosy, Madagascar	September 28, 2018
35	VOKA Chamber of Commerce and Industry Flemish-Brabant	February 12, 2019
36	BMB Trade Group LLC, Tashkent, Uzbekistan	April 8, 2019
37	PTAK Warsaw Expo, Poland	May 24, 2019
38	Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)	July 3, 2019
39	Singapore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI)	July 26, 2019
40	India Thai Chamber of Commerce (ITCC)	August 20, 2019
41	ASEAN Trade Promotion Association, Thailand (ATPA)	August 20, 2019
42	Vietnam Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Vietnam (VCCI)	August 22, 2019
43	Indian Business Chamber in Vietnam (INCHAM)	August 22, 2019



INTERNATIONAL

44	PTAK Warsaw Expo, Poland	September 12, 2019
45	Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey, Istanbul, Turkey	September 18, 2019
46	Ceylon Chamber of Commerce	September 26, 2019
47	Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services of the Region of Fez-Meknes (CCISFM), Meknes, Morocco	October 9, 2019
48	Mongolian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ulaanbataar, Mongolia	November 11, 2019
49	INDIA CHAMBER OF PERU	January 1, 2020
50	India China and America (ICA) Institute, USA (ICA)	July 2, 2020
51	India Myanmar Chamber of Commerce	August 17, 2020
52	Mongolia India Business Council (MIBC)	May 7, 2021

DOMESTIC

S No.	Name of the MoU	Date of Signing
1	Gujarat Chamber of Commerce	July 20, 2017
2	Sky Innovation Tech Labs Pvt. Ltd (Signcatch)	July 26, 2017
3	Pawan Hans Limited	October 11, 2017
4	The Federation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry	November 20, 2017
5	Kalinga International Foundation (KIF)	December 15, 2017
6	Indian Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ISHRAE)	December 21, 2017
7	Indian Printing, Packaging and Allied Machinery Manufacturers' Association	January 10, 2018
8	Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce & Industry	February 3, 2018
9	SMERA Rating Limited	February 5, 2018
10	Oriental Bank of Commerce	March 26, 2018
11	Travel Agents Association of India	March 28, 2018
12	Rajasthan State Chapter and Kashmir State Chapter	March 29, 2018
13	Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar Punjab	April 6, 2018
14	Government E- Marketplace	April 18, 2018
15	Technology Development Board (TDB)	April 25, 2018
16	Punjabi University, Patiala	April 25, 2018
17	Indian Yoga Association, New Delhi	April 29, 2018
18	BioNEST at Panjab University	May 10, 2018
19	iSTART, IT Department of the State Govt. of Rajasthan	May 11, 2018
20	Federation of Industry and Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER)	May 15, 2018
21	Engineering Council of India	May 31, 2018
22	International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology (iCreate)	June 5, 2018
23	Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak (Madhya Pradesh)	June 29, 2018
24	The EBG Federation, New Delhi, India	July 12, 2018
25	Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)	July 20, 2018
26	Global Compact Network India	July 20, 2018
27	OFB TECH Pvt. Ltd	July 30, 2018
28	Energy Efficiency Services Ltd	July 31, 2018
29	Southern India Chamber of Commerce And Industry (SICCI)	August 20, 2018
30	Uttar Pradesh Braj Teerth Vikas Parishad (UPBTVP)	August 31, 2018



DOMESTIC

31	BIOAYURVEDA	September 10, 2018
32	Bundelkhand University, Jhansi	September 13, 2018
33	Department of Management Studies, Kashmir University	September 24, 2018
34	Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FKCCI)	December 15, 2018
35	DPSRU Innovation and Incubation Foundation (DIIF)	May 28, 2019
36	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO), Ministry of Commerce	June 10, 2019
37	Spike Advertising Pvt. Ltd.	November 26, 2019
38	National Productivity Council	January 2, 2020
39	New Delhi Institute of Management	January 2, 2020
40	Power2SME	January 7, 2020
41	Centre for Excellence in Automation, Robotics & AI	June 4, 2020
42	Software Technology Park of India (STPI)	June 6, 2020
43	Cycling Federation of India	September 30, 2020
44	National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India	October 1, 2020
45	India Ratings and Research (Fitch Group)	December 30, 2020
46	CSIR-National Environmental Research Institute	January 7, 2021
47	Toy Association of India	January 15, 2021
48	Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)	February 16, 2021
49	Tele Medicine Centre at Indira Gandhi Hospital, New Delhi	July 27, 2021
50	Rotary Club of Delhi Central, BAPIO Training Academy (BTA) and Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services	August 12, 2021
51	School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Apeejay Styta University	August 25, 2021



NEW MEMBERS

PHDCCI NEW MEMBERS JULY 2021

PATRON CATEGORY

Mr. Uddhav Poddar
Director
Bhumika Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.

STAR CATEGORY

Mr. Pradeep Goel
CMD
Prudent ARC Limited

OVERSEAS CATEGORY

Mr. Ashish Saraff
Director
Aretha Capital Partners Ltd.

ORDINARY CATEGORY

Dr Navin Dang
Founder & Partner
Dr Dangs Lab LLP

Mr. Manoj Gupta
Director
Hari Chand Shri Gopal

Mr. Ravinder Sethi
Director
R E Rogers India Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Suvrendu Bose
Director
Silverpiston Support Services Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Pardeep Kumar Nagi
Managing Director
Skylord Exports Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Viraj Gadhoke
Director
Sunbeam Real Ventures Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Syed Arif Nasim
Partner
Swift Engineering Systems

Mr. Yogesh Sahni
Director
Wonder Fibromats Ltd.

ASSOCIATION CATEGORY

Ms. Sucharita Kumari
Pro Vice Chancellor
Apeejay Styta University

Dr (Col) A Garg
Director
Kiet Group of Institutions, Ghaziabad

CONTACT MEMBERSHIP DESK: Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Head, Membership Development Committee
Email: babita@phdcci.in | Website: www.phdcci.in



July 27, 2021, Bharat Samaj News, New Delhi



Sanjay Aggarwal,
President,
PHD Chamber of
Commerce and Industry

“The government should work on demand creation to drive health of MSMEs”

We have opted for ECLGS, as post the first lockdown, we faced a severe cash crunch since there were no dispatches and payments. However, we still had a responsibility to give salaries to all our employees to build an environment of faith so that our team remains in high morale for the company's future growth. With complete lockdown and disrupted cash flow, the scheme aided businesses' survival to work their way back. The way ahead will depend on how the industry manages the challenging growing market. There is a lot of change in the business environment due to the pandemic, and the industry needs to adapt. The government must control the input prices of the base raw material and fuel prices like steel and petroleum. It should also work on demand creation, as only demand can drive the health of MSMEs. Industries today need to increase productivity and innovate the lean business models to take advantage of emerging technologies. The MSMEs must aim and work on becoming completely Aatmanirbhar.

“Repayment period should be extended to seven years with two years moratorium”

The government's ECLGS has proved to help mitigate the liquidity crisis. However, the scheme did not help MSMEs that were not availing the credit limits or were new enterprises and did not have any credit-line from the banking system. While the government has enhanced the size of ECLGS from ₹3.0 lakh crores to 4.5 lakh crores, it has not extended the benefit to those units which were not covered earlier as eligible borrowers. Therefore, now, MSMEs with sanctioned limits that had less utilised/unutilised the total limit until February 29, 2020 should be allowed to avail 20% of their sanctioned limit. Also, MSMEs with no outstanding or hadn't availed credit as of February 29, 2020 should be made eligible under the scheme. Plus, the repayment period of additional credit being granted should be extended to seven years with a moratorium of two years. The government should revive the manufacturing industry by improving the flow of funding to MSMEs by interesting the subvention scheme for them, reducing the margin requirement by banks, restructuring schemes for them approved by RBI & implementing a fund of funds scheme of ₹50,000 crores.

July 27, 2021, Efficient Manufacturing, National

Promoting EV adoption

PHDCCI shares how to make EVs more popular



Sanjay Aggarwal, president, PHDCCI

FE BUREAU

THE ADOPTION of electric vehicles (EVs) has a multifaceted impact—both economically and environmentally. Sanjay Aggarwal, president, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, told FE that EVs can not only help solve India's oil import problem, but also help reduce pollution in Indian cities. "As a signatory of the Paris Climate Accord, India is committed to reduce its emission intensity by 33-35% from the 2005 level by 2030. The EV industry in India is in its infancy, but the FAME-II scheme is expected to provide a major push for early adoption and market creation of both hybrid and electric vehicles by providing subsidies," he said.

Although the EV sector is seeing a spike in sales post lockdown, to have a sustainable growth the following are a few recommendations from Aggarwal:

- Mix of EVs, CNG and hydrogen (for long distance) for cleaner transport;
- Public will only switch to buying EVs if prices of EVs are competitive with the ones running on fossil fuel. The government should ensure this by providing adequate subsidy through the FAME-II scheme;
- Standardisation of the charging stations is essential. The industry should come up with fast charging options to facilitate adoption of EVs;
- PSUs like IOC, OIL, BPCL and HPCL may be instructed by the government to have EV charging stations installed at select pumps. Initial adoption could be supported by promoting home charging;
- Vehicle financing companies should tie-up with EV companies to boost sales;
- India does not have enough reserves of lithium, cobalt and nickel used in batteries of EVs. Hence, ensuring a reliable supply not just of raw materials, but also of the processed functional materials used in the anode and cathode is essential;
- The government should support on multiple levels like on tax cuts/rebates for EV manufacturers, incentives for localisation, low interest financing options for EV buyers, support for R&D;
- Battery and charging technology is rapidly evolving and the associated R&D is expensive, which limits EV-related investments by small/mid-size auto component suppliers. Research institutions and academic institutions like IITs should form a consortium for R&D in EV tech;
- State governments should also come up with EV promotion schemes, like Gujarat and Delhi, to supplement the subsidies given by the central government;
- India, with a large population, has a huge potential EV market, and so investors should keep a long-term perspective.

July 10, 2021,
The Financial Express,
New Delhi

PHDCCI calls for early adoption of pet food standards, lowering GST

Says measures will help the ₹2,700-cr pet food industry

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, July 2

PHDCCI, on Friday, called for an early adoption of standards for pet foods and lowering of GST to 5 per cent to help pet owners and the ₹2,700-crore pet food industry in the country.

PHDCCI president Sanjay Aggarwal, in a letter written to Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, said the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has already drafted the draft "Pet Food for Dogs and Cats - Specification" that was finalised by the Animal Husbandry, Feeds and Equipment Sectional Committee and approved by the Food and Agriculture Division Council.

He called for an early adoption of such standards, after due deliberations, as the pet-food industry in the country is currently very fragmented and lacks uniformity in manufacturing practices, ingredi-



Pre-packaged pet food market is estimated at ₹2,500-2,700 cr

ents, labelling and packaging. Moreover, pet owners are not even aware whether the dog/cat food available in the market will meet the minimum nutritional requirements. There is also no cap on the levels of contaminants.

Consumption of such pet-food may actually be harmful to the health of cat/dog. This leads to a lot of confusion in the minds of pet owners, who then resort to home-cooked food for their pets, greatly hampering the growth of pets and the pet-food industry, he said.

Issue of high GST

He also flagged the issue of high 18 per cent GST on cat and dog foods and stressed the need for clubbing pet

foods along with other animal feed and thus bring down the GST to 5 per cent.

Stating that pet food gained significance over the years because their owners have started paying more attention to their nutrition, Aggarwal said India, where there are 25 million pet dogs and 4.5 million cats, is emerging as a potential market for pet food.

At present, there is not enough capacity of the Indian industry to manufacture and cater to the growing demand—growing at a rate of 20 per cent—of pet food, and there is huge dependency on imported food and ingredients.

The pre-packaged pet food market is estimated at ₹2,500-2,700 crore, but less than 15-18 per cent of this market is catered to domestically, according to industry experts. This indicates the huge potential for investment and employment creation as also by-product utilisation, which will save food loss and prevent pollution from the meat and poultry industry, Aggarwal said.

July 3, 2021, The Hindu Business Line, New Delhi



उद्योग संघ पीएचडीसीआई ने कहा कि खिलौन उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए वैश्विक मानकों को पुरा करने वाले अक्रे गुणवत्ता के खिलौने बनाने और आरएडडी में बड़े पैमाने पर निवेश करने की जरूरत है. पीएचडीसीआई के अध्यक्ष संजय अग्रवाल ने कहा कि भारत को चीन से घटिया और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयात पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण के कड़े मानकों और तकनीकी नियमों को लागू करना चाहिए. अलग-अलग हिस्सों का आयात करने और असेंबलिंग गतिविधियों के बजाय देश में खिलौनों की एक मूल्य श्रृंखला के निर्माण पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया जाना चाहिए.

July 10, 2021, NavBharat, Mumbai



'Passage of key Bills crucial to move forward'

PASSAGE OF KEY Bills such as the Deposit Insurance Bill and amendments in the Limited Liability Partnership Act in the monsoon session of Parliament will be crucial to move forward with continued pace of reforms and facilitate trade and industry, PHDCCI said on Wednesday. President Sanjay Aggarwal said discussions and decisions on these Bills are crucial at this juncture, when there is a need to facilitate trade and industry.

July 22, 2021,
The Financial Express, New Delhi



PHD CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY WATER AUDIT CENTRE

Approved by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)
Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.

WATER AUDIT

Water audit is a useful tool to determine the water use efficiency in Industrial and Commercial Use, Mining and Infrastructure projects by accounting water losses. Through our water audit services, we identify feasible options on reducing water usage, minimizing wastewater generation, and maximizing recovery. Thus, the most important objective of the audit is to provide the water saving solutions on process optimization, qualitative and quantitative monitoring and reducing the water footprint besides conservation of natural resources.

Scope of work of the study includes the following:

- Water system analysis
- Quantification of baseline water mapping
- Monitoring and measurements using pressure and flow meters and various other devices
- Quantification of inefficiencies and leaks
- Quantification of water quality loads and discharges
- Quantification of variability in flows and quality parameters
- Strategies for water treatment and reuse or direct use
- Water balance
- Mapping of Water quality requirement at various user areas

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- Category II:** Automobile, Power, Cement, Sugar, Paint, Airport, Hotels (Large), Pharmaceutical, Distilleries (Alcoholic beverages), Mines
- Category III:** Engineering, Cigarette, Buildings, Food and Food Processing, FMCG, Tyre Manufacturing, Potable Alcohol Blending, Non-Alcoholic Beverages (soft drinks)

For any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Mr. Piyush Sharma

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More information you may please contact :

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