



PHDCCI SPECIAL BULLETIN

Vol. XLVII No. 05
May - 2025 ₹ 25

INDIA INC.



of
Progress, Harmony and Development

Voice of Industry and Trade





सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधान मंत्री
Prime Minister

MESSAGE

It is gladdening to learn about the completion of 120 years of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Chamber has a legacy of making significant contributions toward shaping India's economic landscape.

Founded at a time when colonial rule was stifling indigenous economic growth, the Chamber played a substantial role in the nation's freedom movement. Advocating the interests of Indian industries and businesses, it emerged as a voice of entrepreneurs, empowering Indian businesses and promoting self-reliance.

Post-independence, India began its transition into a modern economy. Over the decades, along with the nation, the PHDCCI has embraced innovation and adaptability. Through the promotion of the latest technological advancements and best practices, the Chamber has evolved as a proactive body in fostering an innovative culture.

The Chamber's active involvement with emerging sectors such as digital technologies, sustainability and global trade, is commendable. In the age of digital transformation, the PHDCCI has actively supported businesses and helped them improve their efficiency as well as reach out to new markets. It has helped Indian businesses in creating growth opportunities and foster international partnerships.

As the nation marches ahead confidently to realise the vision of *Viksit Bharat*, the PHDCCI's contribution will continue to be important for the future of innovation, sustainability, and global partnerships.

May the Coffee Table Book that is being published to commemorate the occasion trace the Chamber's evolutionary journey and be widely read.

Best wishes for making the celebration of the completion of 120 years of service to the nation a huge success.

(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi

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07 April, 2025



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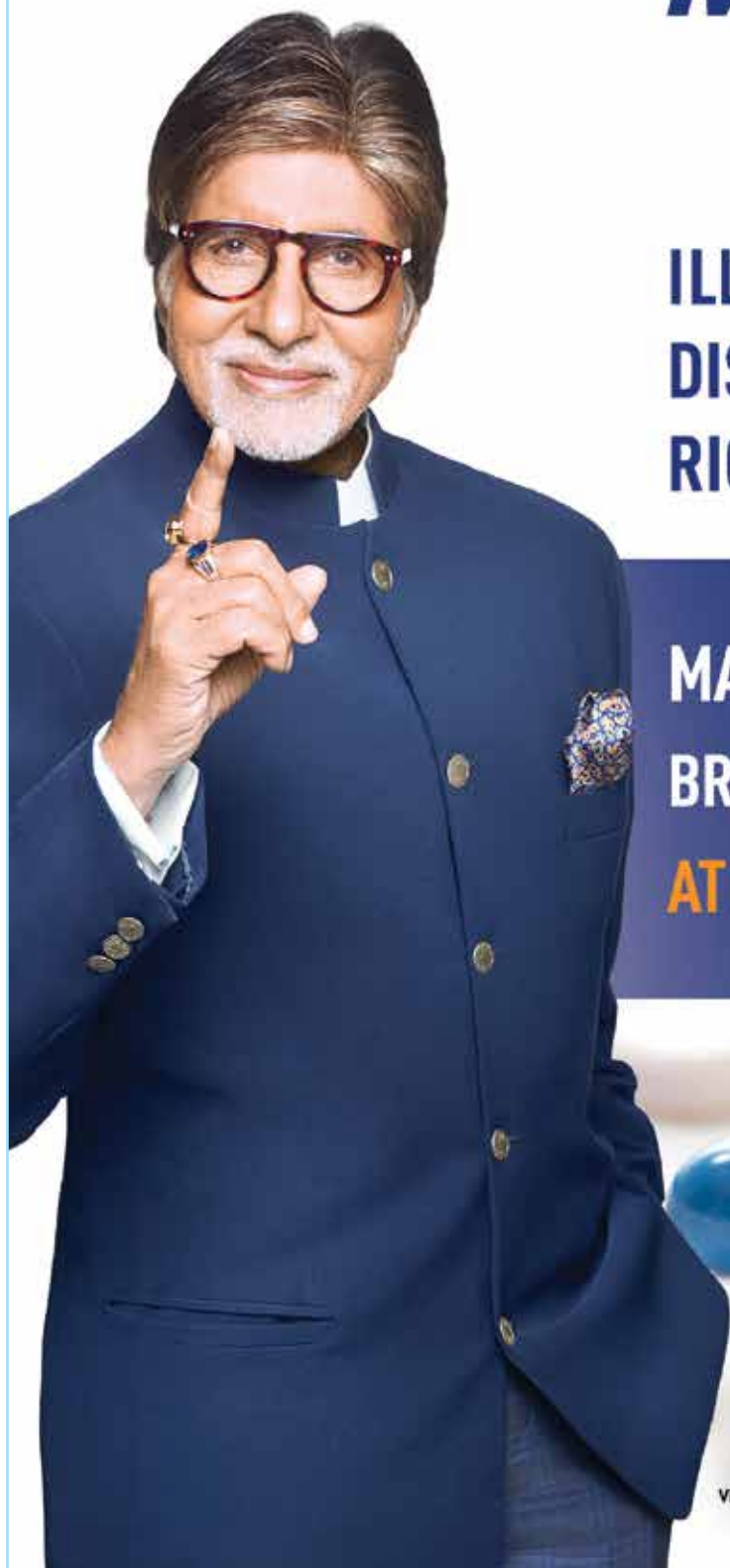
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President's *Message*



HEMANT JAIN
PRESIDENT



A highlight of the Celebration was the launch of our commemorative Coffee Table Book, a curated reflection of our journey, tracing milestones that have shaped both the Chamber and India's economic landscape. More than a historical chronicle, this volume is a tribute to our enduring values and mission. Framed by the VOICE philosophy - Value Creation, Opportunity, Innovation, Collaboration, and Engagement, it reaffirms our commitment to building a Viksit Bharat.

It is with immense pride and heartfelt gratitude that we recently celebrated a momentous milestone of 120 years of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry at a grand ceremony hosted at PHD House, New Delhi. We were deeply honoured by the presence of the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Mr. Om Birla, as the Chief Guest. This historic occasion served as a powerful reminder of our legacy, a tribute to the visionary leaders who laid our foundation, and an inspiration to chart an ambitious path for the future.

For over 120 years, PHDCCI has stood as a pillar of India's economic development championing innovation, resilience, and enterprise. Since our inception in 1905, the Chamber has been intricately woven into India's

growth journey, playing a key role in shaping policy, supporting industry, and fostering inclusive development.

In his keynote address, Hon'ble Speaker, Mr. Om Birla lauded PHDCCI's long standing contribution to national economic progress and its leadership in policy advocacy. He urged Indian industry to embrace emerging technologies such as AI, green energy, and data analytics as transformative tools to build globally competitive enterprises.

We were deeply privileged to receive a message from the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, who stated: "As the nation marches confidently towards the vision of Viksit Bharat, the PHDCCI's contribution will remain vital for the future of innovation, sustainability,

and global partnerships." These inspiring words reinvigorate our commitment and reaffirm our alignment with the national vision for a developed India by 2047.

I must appreciate that our Chamber's rich legacy is defined by generations of exemplary industry leaders who were not only business pioneers but nation-builders. On this special occasion, we had the honour of felicitating our esteemed former Presidents, whose dedication to national interest and industrial progress laid the cornerstone for the Chamber's continued relevance and strength.

A highlight of the celebration was the launch of our commemorative Coffee Table Book, a curated reflection of our journey, tracing milestones that have shaped both the Chamber and India's economic

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

landscape. More than a historical chronicle, this volume is a tribute to our enduring values and mission. Framed by the VOICE philosophy - Value Creation, Opportunity, Innovation, Collaboration, and Engagement, it reaffirms our commitment to building a Viksit Bharat.

The occasion was further enriched by the presence of Delhi's newly elected Chief Minister, Ms. Rekha Gupta, who unveiled a visionary Rs. 4,000 crore infrastructure and urban renewal agenda. She emphasized the importance of robust governance, forward-looking policy, and world-class infrastructure as the three pillars of industrial growth and extended a warm invitation to industry to collaborate in transforming Delhi into a global capital. Her vision is strongly aligned with PHDCCI's commitment to sustainable urban development.

India's economy continues to display resilience and strength, anchored in visionary leadership and bold structural reforms. Despite global uncertainties, India remains the fastest growing economy and is on a clear path to becoming the world's third-largest economy by 2047. Real GDP is projected to grow at 6.5% in FY 2025-26, underpinned by macroeconomic stability. Inflation is expected to remain around 4%, supported by softening global commodity prices. Urban consumption is on the rise, and rural demand remains robust, thanks to healthy monsoon prospects and high reservoir levels.

We observe that investment activity is gaining momentum, backed by strong capacity utilisation, a substantial infrastructure push, and the robust financial health of banks and corporates. The manufacturing sector is displaying renewed vigour, while the services sector continues to be a key driver of growth. These

indicators point to a well-balanced, dynamic growth trajectory.

On the external front, India's economic fundamentals remain sound. Our foreign exchange reserves stand at USD 676.3 billion, covering nearly 11 months of imports demonstrating our resilience amidst global trade disruptions. The Current Account Deficit remains within manageable limits, further reinforcing confidence in our macroeconomic stability.

We welcome the recent landmark agreements between India and the United Kingdom, including the Free Trade Agreement and the Social Security Pact. These milestones mark a new chapter in the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and will significantly boost bilateral trade, investment, and job creation. With Indian exports gaining preferential access and reciprocal benefits for British goods, the agreements are a win-win for businesses on both sides. The Social Security Pact also addresses the long-pending issue of dual social contributions for professionals working overseas.

At PHDCCI, we are proud to support India's expanding global footprint. The India-Ethiopia SME Business Forum & Expo, organized in collaboration with Codetek and supported by the Ethiopian Enterprise Development and Trade Fair Association, showcased our commitment to international partnerships. The presence of H.E. Mr. Fesseha Shawel Gebre, Ambassador of Ethiopia to India, underscored the significance of such collaborations in fostering enterprise and innovation across borders.

We were also honoured to host Mr. Ajay Tamta, Hon'ble Minister of State for Road Transport & Highways at our Capital and Commodity Market Conclave. He commended the pivotal role of capital markets

in financing infrastructure and praised initiatives like GIFT City for redefining India's financial landscape.

Our second edition of "Expression: A Contemporary Indian Art Show" was a celebration of India's rich creative legacy. Inaugurated by acclaimed actor, Mr. Yashpal Sharma, the exhibition spotlighted the evolving paintings by celebrated Indian artists and reaffirmed the Chamber's belief that economic growth and cultural vibrancy go hand in hand.

The Chamber unequivocally condemns the recent attack on civilians in Pahalgam. We extend our deepest condolences to the victims and their families.

We would like to comment here that while tensions with Pakistan are disquieting, we do not foresee a major disruption to India's economic activity. That said, higher defence spending could weigh on India's fiscal strength and slow fiscal consolidation. If the situation remains contained, the broader economic impact is expected to be limited.

As we look to the future, the Chamber remains deeply committed to promoting sustainable, inclusive, and innovation-led growth. Our efforts are guided by the national vision of Amrit Kaal and the aspiration to build a Viksit Bharat by 2047. In the words of Mr. Ratan Tata, "We need to build India into a land of equal opportunity for all. We can be a truly great nation if we set our sights high and deliver to the people the fruits of continued growth, prosperity, and equal opportunity."

Let us continue to build on this proud legacy, with renewed purpose and collective resolve to shape a resilient, prosperous, and self-reliant India.

Hemant Jain

President, PHDCCI



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1970-71

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1971-72

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1986-87

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2009-10



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2010-11

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2023-24

A DEFINING MOMENT IN HISTORY



MR. JAMES CURRIE
(THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT)

The year was 1905, a crisp winter evening in Delhi. Within the walls of a bungalow in the Civil Lines area, five British and three Indian businessmen convened to discuss a common vision: promoting and safeguarding the interests of businesses in undivided Punjab. Their deliberations culminated in the establishment of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce, marking the inception of what would become a cornerstone of trade and industry in the region.

Mr. James Currie of Messrs James Currie &



Chamber's first Office : Delhi & London Bank Building

Co. was appointed the first President. Mr. W. W. White of Allahabad Bank assumed the role of Vice President, while Mr. Arthur A. Legat volunteered as the Honorary Secretary.

Mr. W. Angelo, Agent of the Delhi and London Bank, generously offered office space for the Chamber within his bank premises—now the site of the State Bank of India, Bhagirath Palace, Chandni Chowk.

Historical accounts suggest the Punjab Chamber of Commerce was operational by late 1905. The first Annual Report, covering the fiscal year ending December 31, 1906, documents a thriving organization. Membership was considered a privilege, with new members elected only at Annual or Special General Meetings. By 1906, the Chamber was actively engaged in regulatory affairs.



L-R: Mr. K N Memani; Dr A P J Abdul Kalam, Hon'ble President of India; Dr Raghupati Singhania; Mr. M L Nandrajog



L-R: Dr Raghupati Singhania; Dr Sushma Berlia; Dr Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India; Mr. K N Memani



Mr. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India with Industry Leaders



L-R: Dr Ranjeet Mehta; Dr Mahesh Gupta; Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India; Mr. Sharad Jaipuria; Mr. Alok B. Shriram



L-R: Mr. Sharad Jaipuria; Mr. Ashok Kajaria; Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal; Mr. Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India; Dr D K Aggarwal; Mr. Gopal Jiwarajka; Dr Pradeep Multani



L-R: Mr. Ashok Kajaria; Mr. Saket Dalmia; Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India; Mr. Sanjeev Agrawal; Mr. Gopal Jiwarajka



L-R: Dr Ranjeet Mehta; Mr. Sanjeev Agrawal; Mr. Jagdeep Dhankar, Hon'ble Vice President of India; Mr. Hemant Jain

THE EVOLUTION OF CHAMBER'S LOGO



1971



1971-1980



1980-1983



1983-2002



2002-2005



2005-2006



2006-2008



2008-2013



2013-2018



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2018-2020



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2020-2022



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2022-2024



2024 Onwards



PHDCCI'S LEGACY CELEBRATED WITH VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT @2047

Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Mr. Om Birla, "The long-standing journey of PHDCCI will help us achieve our goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047."

As PHDCCI celebrates 120 years of its illustrious legacy, a grand commemorative evening was held on April 16, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi, graced by Mr. Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Recognizing PHDCCI's pivotal role in India's development journey, the Hon'ble Speaker lauded the Chamber's consistent contributions toward shaping the roadmap towards Viksit Bharat. He also commended Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI for his dynamic leadership and vision.

Reflecting on PHDCCI's enduring impact, Mr. Birla remarked that the Chamber has significantly contributed to the development of India's industry and trade sectors for over a century. Even after



120 years, it continues to be a strong force, committed to empowering Indian industries to become self-reliant through knowledge, technological advancement, and policy advocacy.

Highlighting the need to embrace the future, he emphasized that India must align with global trends in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and green energy. "If we aim to make our industries globally competitive, adopting advanced technologies is imperative," he added. Noting that 25% of technology companies in developed countries are led by Indians and youth, he expressed confidence that PHDCCI can further enhance its leadership in innovation and entrepreneurship.



The celebration also featured a message from the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, who remarked, "As the nation marches confidently towards the vision of Viksit Bharat, PHDCCI's contributions will remain vital to fostering innovation, sustainability, and global partnerships."

PHDCCI President, Mr. Hemant Jain reflected on the Chamber's rich legacy, stating that PHDCCI has been fortunate to have visionary industrialists at its helm — leaders who were not only captains of industry but nation-builders. "Their foresight, courage, and commitment to India's growth have been the bedrock of PHDCCI's success," he said, proudly noting the presence of 18 Former Presidents of the Chamber at the event.

Looking ahead, Mr. Jain emphasized that as India enters its Amrit Kaal, the next 25 years present an extraordinary opportunity — to transform into a US \$30 trillion economy, a global manufacturing hub, and a fully developed nation by 2047.

Mr. Rajeev Juneja, Senior Vice President, PHDCCI, expressed his appreciation to the Hon'ble Speaker and highlighted that over 220 landmark bills, including the Women's Reservation Bill and Digital Data Protection Bill were passed during his tenure — reflecting that the parliament is working with 95% legislative efficiency.

He also reiterated that PHDCCI's 120-year journey symbolizes its steadfast commitment to India's growth — by bridging policy with



progress and tradition with innovation.

The evening also witnessed a special felicitation of the Former Presidents of PHDCCI by the Hon'ble Speaker, in recognition of their invaluable contributions. A Commemorative Coffee Table Book was released on the occasion, to mark the historic milestone-120 glorious years of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Concluding the ceremony, Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI, extended a formal vote-of-thanks and acknowledged the unwavering support of the government in strengthening India's industrial landscape.



DELHI'S CHIEF MINISTER OUTLINES VISION AT PHDCCI'S 120-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Hon'ble CM of Delhi, Ms. Rekha Gupta: "Let's work together to transform Delhi into a world-class capital and set an example for the globe."

Adding to the grandeur of the 120-year celebrations, PHDCCI was honoured to welcome Ms. Rekha Gupta, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi, for her first interaction with the industry post-assuming office on April 16, 2025.

In her address, the Hon'ble Chief Minister shared her bold development agenda, announcing projects worth Rs. 4,000 crore aimed at transforming the capital city into a model of inclusive and sustainable urban growth. She reiterated her vision to make Delhi an epitome of development, driven by infrastructure upgrades, technological innovation, and administrative efficiency.



Praising PHDCCI's legacy, she said, "This Chamber has consistently contributed to India's industrial progress through constructive dialogue and action. As we celebrate its 120-year journey, I urge every member to actively participate in Delhi's development — a golden opportunity to serve the Nation."

Ms. Gupta underlined three key pillars for industrial growth — robust government support, proactive policy frameworks, and modern infrastructure. With these in place, she believes Delhi can become a global business hub with genuine ease of doing business, job creation, and revenue growth.

The Chief Minister also



shared her plans to modernize ISBTs, revamp hospitals, and reform Delhi's education system. "We must plan not just for today, but for the challenges of the future. With our high population density, we need innovative technologies to address urban needs," she asserted.

She assured the industry of the Delhi Government's commitment to act as a strong enabler, partnering with businesses to build a more vibrant and beautiful Delhi.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI, highlighted the Chamber's evolution — from shaping industrial policies in the early 1900s to facilitating global integration during the post-liberalization era, and now championing the cause of MSMEs, Startups, and emerging sectors like digital, commerce, green energy, and advanced manufacturing.

Mr. Rajeev Juneja, Senior Vice President, congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister on her new role and thanked her for attending the PHDCCI event in this capacity for the first time.. "Your presence today marks the beginning of a renewed collaboration between the government and industry. Together, we can build a stronger industrial ecosystem in Delhi and contribute meaningfully to the Viksit Bharat vision," he said.

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, delivered the formal vote-of-thanks, acknowledging the esteemed dignitaries and reaffirming the Chamber's commitment to national growth and transformation.



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LEADERSHIP WITH CHAIRS AND CO-CHAIRS OF STATE CHAPTERS AND EXPERT COMMITTEES OF PHDCCI

16 April 2025 | PHD House, New Delhi



INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH CHAIRS AND CO-CHAIRS OF STATE CHAPTERS AND EXPERT COMMITTEES OF PHDCCI

PHDCCI organized an Interactive Session of Leadership with the Chairs and Co-chairs of State Chapters and Expert Committees of PHDCCI on April 16, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI while welcoming the Chairs & Co-chairs focused on the collaborative approach of State Chapters with the Expert Committees for organizing signature events in the States for engaging the members.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President of PHDCCI in his address emphasized the need for strategic collaboration across Expert Committees and State Chapters for organizing meaningful programmes for the Members to engage them with PHDCCI activities. Leveraging PHDCCI's national presence, he called for regional strengths to be



showcased at the national level. He urged all Committees to transform their Flagship Events into national milestones contributing to Viksit Bharat @2047.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI focussed on the quality Membership growth in the Centre as well as in State Chapters to set

the growth momentum across the country.

About 100 Chairs and Co-chairs of Expert Committees, State Chapters and Task Forces/ Forums interacted and shared their perspectives and grey areas for implementation at the national level.



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Innovation & Excellence At Work



7TH ANNUAL CONVENTION ON THE CAPITAL MARKET & COMMODITY MARKET FINANCIAL MARKETS

PHDCCI organized its 7th Annual Convention on the Capital Market & Commodity Market on the theme 'Financial Markets: Leading the Way to Viksit Bharat' on April 30, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

The Convention was graced by Mr. Ajay Tamta, Hon'ble Minister of State (Road Transport & Highways), Government of India, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Tamta emphasized the significant contribution of Capital Markets and Commodity Markets in financing the economy. He further appreciated the vision of GIFT City under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, where India is setting ambitious goals. He asserted that the combined strength of the Government and industry will make Viksit Bharat a reality.

The Hon'ble Minister also appreciated PHDCCI for its commendable efforts and stated that the Government is working actively towards fulfilling the dream of a developed India as envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the Viksit Bharat@2047 mission.

Mr. Pradeep Ramakrishnan,



Executive Director, IFSCA explained IFSCA's vision as a unified regulator for SEZs, covering verticals like banking (including 64 banks), capital markets, fund management, and even four foreign universities. IFSCA aims to offshore the onshore—making India a hub for global capital and innovation.

Mr. Shekhar Chaudhary, Director (SM) – Financial Market Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, highlighted how fast India has dematerialized securities. Post-pandemic, individual

investor participation has grown significantly. For Viksit Bharat, the Government understands that a major part of investments must be routed through capital markets.

Mr. Pranjal S Jayaswal, General Manager, SEBI elaborated on the role of financial markets and SEBI in building Viksit Bharat, and how to remain resilient against external shocks. SEBI's mandate includes market regulation, development, and investor protection. With better risk management and cost efficiency, market effectiveness improves.



Mr. Ashok Agarwal, Executive Chairman & Founder, Globe Capital Market Ltd., said that the market capitalization now stands at US \$5 trillion, which is double that of bank deposits, indicating why deposits are flowing more into capital markets because of higher returns. On an average, returns in capital markets are 10 times higher than those from bank investments.

Mr. Supriyo Gupta, Regional Head, National Stock Exchange informed that NSE is one of the Indian companies in the global top five. Last year, NSE led the world in IPOs, India has been number one globally in derivatives for the past six years, with 82% of global volume coming from Indian derivatives and the average age of investors is 35.8 years, with 24.8% of them are women.

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI shared that while the Ministry builds physical expressways, the capital markets build financial expressways. He added, India now has the second largest highway network globally.

Mr. Ashok Gautam, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, IIBX Ltd. informed that IFSCA is more of a facilitator than just a regulator. He shared insights on bullion exchange and informed that in 2022, 411 kg of trade occurred, which rose to 7,928 kg the next year. He expressed hope that GIFT City



will continue to drive India towards a robust financial ecosystem.

Panel Discussion: The inaugural session was followed by a panel discussion on 'Multi Asset approach to Wealth Creation' chaired by Dr D K Aggarwal, Former President, PHDCCI and Chairman & Managing Director, SMC Investments and Advisors Limited. Speakers included Mr. Amit Jain, Senior Manager, CDSL; Mr. Abhinav Gupta, Director, ShareIndia Securities Limited, Mr. Amit Goel, Co-Founder & Chief Global Strategist, Pace 360 & Mr. Sudipto Datta, Designated Director, CFO & Compliance Officer, SMIFS Ltd.

Fire-Side Chat: Mr. Gurmeet Chadha, Co-chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI had a fireside chat with Mr. Sailesh Jain, Fund Manager, Tata Mutual Fund; Mr. Kunal Saraogi, SEBI Registered Research Analyst & Investor; Mr. Safir Anand, Senior Partner, Anand & Anand & Mr. Ankit

Agarwal, Director, Globe Capital Market Ltd.

Mr. B.K. Sabharwal, Chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market, PHDCCI moderated the Convention. He said that conventions like these help discuss key national economic indicators. He also announced that PHDCCI and GIFT City will enter a into formal knowledge-sharing agreement in June.

Mr. Narinder Wadhwa, Co-chair, Capital Market and Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI proposed the vote-of-thanks to the esteemed guests for the Inaugural Session & Mr. Ankur Gupta, Co-chair, Capital Market and Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI gave the concluding remarks and proposed the vote-of -thanks for the convention.

The convention was also graced by Mr Saket Dalmia, Former President, PHDCCI.



INDIA - ETHIOPIA SME BUSINESS FORUM & EXPO



The India-Ethiopia SME Business Forum & Expo organized by PHDCCI in collaboration with Codetek Decoding Technology and supported by the Ethiopian Enterprise Development and Trade Fair Association of India was held from April 15-17, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI welcomed the Ambassador H.E. Mr. Fesseha Shawel Gerber and briefed him on the Chamber's wide-ranging initiatives and global collaborations.

Mr Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI presented an overview of the Chamber's international

engagement strategies. He highlighted PHDCCI's pivotal role in promoting MSME development, fostering innovation, and strengthening cross-border trade and cooperation.

H.E. Mr. Fesseha Shawel Gerber appreciated the enthusiastic participation and emphasized the close, cordial, and strategic ties that exist between India and Ethiopia. He spoke about the long-standing historical bonds and the growing bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as trade, technology, healthcare, and education.

Mr. Dalip Chopra and Mr. Akhil Jain, Co-chairs, International Affairs Committee for Africa, PHDCCI, shared the industry's perspective,

highlighting collaboration opportunities between India and African nations in pharmaceuticals, medical technology, and capacity building. Mr. Akhil Jain delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the Ethiopian delegation, event partners, exhibitors, and the PHDCCI team for their valuable contributions and participation.

The Expo was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Fesseha Shawel Gebre, Ambassador of Ethiopia to India, in the presence of esteemed dignitaries and industry leaders. He visited the exhibition area, engaged with each exhibitor, and appreciated the range of innovations and products on display.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President,



PHDCCI, during his visit to the Expo engaged with each exhibitor and commended the diverse range of innovations and products on display, applauding the entrepreneurial spirit demonstrated by both Indian and Ethiopian SMEs.

The exhibition featured participation from 35 companies—20 from Ethiopia and 15 from India—presenting a comprehensive showcase of Ethiopian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across sectors such as agro-processing, textiles, garments and leather, metal works, furniture, and chemical products. The event also included structured business-to-business

meetings and expert-led sessions focused on trade, investment, and entrepreneurship.

The forum brought together key stakeholders from the SME ecosystem, fostering meaningful networking, facilitating the exchange of knowledge, and promoting the establishment of strategic partnerships. Particular emphasis was placed on emerging trends and innovations, with a special focus on advancements within the technology sector.

Over the course of the three-day event, exhibitors actively participated in business-to-business (B2B) meetings, visited local manufacturing units and factories, and engaged in site-

level discussions with Indian industry representatives to explore business collaboration and investment opportunities. These direct interactions enabled deeper insights into manufacturing capabilities, technology exchange prospects, and partnership potential.

India-Ethiopia SME Business Forum & Expo was a great success, strengthening economic ties and fostering collaboration between India and Ethiopia. The event provided valuable networking opportunities, showcased innovation, and paved the way for future partnerships in various sectors.



UNLOCKING THE POWER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION

PHDCCI in collaboration with Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) Limited, organized a conference titled, "The Path to Viksit Bharat: Unlocking the Power of Financial Education" on April 10, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. This event aligned with the Government of India's vision to harness financial education as a cornerstone of inclusive and sustainable growth.

Chief Guest, Prof. (Dr) Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman of industry associations, including National Board of Accreditation, National Assessment and Accreditation Council & National Educational Technology Forum underscored the challenges posed by India's large population. He emphasized that financial inclusion is essential to ensure equitable access to vital services for all citizens.

Dr Sahasrabudhe also pointed out that SDG 4, which focuses on education, is interconnected with all 16 Sustainable Development Goals, both directly and indirectly. He further advocated for using engaging and relatable methods, such as stories and comics, to teach children about financial literacy and inclusion, making these concepts more accessible and impactful.

Guest of Honour, Prof. (Dr) Indrani Bhaduri, Head of the Education Survey Division at NCERT



also emphasized the importance of introducing financial literacy at the school level, as it helps students build sustainable lifestyles from an early age. She advocated for integrating financial literacy into the existing education system, beginning at the preparatory stage, to ensure deeper understanding and long-term impact.

Mr. Dante De Gori, Global CEO of Financial Planning Standards Board Ltd. expressed his gratitude to PHDCCI for their collaboration. He highlighted that FPSB Ltd. offers globally recognized CFP® certification, a mark of excellence in financial planning grounded in rigorous competency requirements and high ethical standards.

He further emphasized that

FPSB is dedicated to empowering CFP® professionals to provide trusted, high-quality financial planning services.

Mr. S.K. Sethi, Founder & CEO of the Insurance Foundation of India, stressed the pressing need to expand financial education across rural India. He emphasized that empowering individuals with financial knowledge is crucial for improving access to essential services such as banking and insurance, ultimately contributing to inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Mr. Krishan Mishra, Chief Executive Officer of FPSB India, emphasized that education is a key driver of both employability and entrepreneurship—crucial

pillars for building a Viksit Bharat. Referencing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), he highlighted education and finance as two fundamental components for sustainable progress. Citing the RBI's December 2024 report, he noted that although 42% of Indians are financially literate, only 4% are financially educated, underscoring the urgent need for focused financial awareness initiatives. He stated that financial planning is not just about managing money but about managing life and navigating it more effectively.

The first panel discussion, titled "The Seeds of Financial Awareness: Higher Education's Role in Building Financial Futures," was moderated by Ms. Amisha Sethi, Head of Policy & Communication at FPSB India. Speakers included: Prof. (Dr) Indira Bhardwaj, Dean, Management, K.R. Mangalam University, Gurgaon; Dr Sandhya Rai, Former Dean, IILM Graduate School of Management, Program Head, Undergraduate Program, School of Management, Bennett University; Dr Rajiv Kishore Dubey, Former Chairman and Managing Director, Canara Bank and Dr Narinder Kumar Bhasin,



Zonal Head, Indian Institute of Banking and Finance. The discussion explored how higher education can play a pivotal role in nurturing financial literacy and shaping financially responsible citizens.

The second panel discussion, centred on the theme "Building Future Skills: Financial Planning for a Thriving, Sustainable Bharat" was moderated by Ms. Shalini S. Sharma, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI. Speakers included: Ms. Suparna Tandon, CEO, NPS Trust; CMA Dr S. K. Gupta, Managing Director, ICAI Registered Valuers Organization; Mr. B. N. Mishra, Senior Advisor, Indian Banks' Association and

Prof. (Dr) Arvind Kumar, Atal Bihari Vajpayee School of Management, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the program, while Mr. Sanjay Ahuja, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI coordinated the conference, ensuring its smooth execution and success.

PHDCCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Financial Planning Standards Board on April 10, 2025. The MoU aims to collaboratively advance financial education in alignment with the Government of India's vision of making financial literacy a key driver of inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

NDTV EMERGING BUSINESS CONCLAVE FELICITATES PHDCCI'S LEADERSHIP

We are pleased to share that Mr. Arshad Shawl, Co-chair, PHDCCI Kashmir, and Chair, Youth Affairs & Sports Committee, PHDCCI, was felicitated on April 28, 2025 at the NDTV Emerging Business Conclave in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Business Growth and Innovation.

This accolade highlights his relentless efforts and leadership in fostering economic development and entrepreneurial excellence.





DECODING EPR CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PACKAGING

PHDCCI hosted a pivotal conference on “Decoding the EPR Challenges, Opportunities & Way Forward” on April 29, 2025, at PHD House, New Delhi. The event convened a diverse group of industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, and key stakeholders to engage in critical discussions surrounding the implementation, challenges, and potential of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) within the packaging sector, with a strong emphasis on fostering sustainable solutions.

Mr. Naveen Seth, DSG, PHDCCI, set the stage by highlighting the transformative potential of EPR frameworks in shaping sustainable waste management and circular economies. He acknowledged the complexities involved in practical application, regulatory hurdles, infrastructure gaps, and stakeholder alignment.

In his welcome address, Mr. Ajit Kumar, Chair of the PHDCCI Packaging Committee and MD of Ajit Industries Pvt. Ltd., underscored the growing significance of EPR in achieving India’s sustainability objectives. While acknowledging challenges such as ambiguous guidelines and infrastructure limitations, he



emphasized the opportunities for capacity building and the development of a transparent EPR ecosystem through collaboration between government and industry.

Mr. Jeevaraj Pillai, Co-chair of the PHDCCI Packaging Committee and Director Sustainability & President Flexible Packaging & New Product Development at Uflex Ltd. in his theme address stated that this conference, as part of an ongoing series, aimed to delve into the intricacies of EPR and clarifying procedural steps within the Indian context.

Ms. Deepti Kapil, Scientist E, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Government of India emphasized the urgent need for EPR given the escalating industrial waste generation. She highlighted the shift from a ‘take, make, dispose’

model towards the transformative path offered by the Mission Circular Economy, inaugurated by Hon’ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi.

Mr. Ajeya Bandyopadhyay, South Asia Lead, Climate Change, International Finance Corporation (IFC), cautioned about the significant value loss projected in the FMCG packaging sector by 2030 if systemic constraints in recovery are not addressed through technological advancements. The conference featured an engaging panel discussion moderated by Ms. Ipsita Roy, Senior Manager, A A Garg & Co., on the theme: “Pathways to a Circular India: A Brand-Led Dialogue.” Esteemed panelists including Mr. Nitin Chitkara, CEO, MMCM, Ms. Snigdha Berry, Senior Manager – Plastics Advocacy & Sustainability, Nestle, Ms. Manjri Gopalan India & Southwest Asia Regional Manager, Market Access, Corporate Affairs, HPE, and Ms. Himani Airan, Deputy Manager, A A Garg & Co. shared their perspectives on EPR obligations for OEMs, challenges in enforcing EPR compliance for packaging, the role of reuse and recycling in the electronics industry, and the importance of brands aligning with circular design principles and fulfilling compliance requirements through certifications and audits.



Rig Veda has emphasized on the importance of Panch Tatva (five elements), Prithvi (Earth), Ap (Water), Tejas (Fire), Vayu (Air), Akash (Ether).

HPCL on its 50th Year of formation celebrates the five essential elements that make up a successful Corporation and a Business, such as a strong brand, loyal customer base, reliable products or services, competent employees, and sound financial management. It also represents connection to nature and paves the way for celebration of Achievement, Stability, Legacy and Transcendence.



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WORKSHOP ON HEALTHIER FOOD REFORMULATIONS

PHDCCI in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences (BCAS), University of Delhi, organized a hands-on workshop on Healthier Food Reformulations on April 29, 2025, at PHD House, New Delhi. The event brought together experts from industry, academia, and policy to deliberate on innovative approaches for reducing salt, sugar, and fat in processed foods, without compromising taste or consumer appeal.

Chief Guest, Mr. Siraj Hussain (IAS), Former Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, shared insights into India's evolving food processing landscape. He emphasized that the country is undergoing a significant transformation in how food is processed and consumed. Highlighting the need to strengthen the entire agri-food value chain, Mr. Hussain noted that contaminants pose a bigger challenge than adulterants in ensuring food safety. He underscored the urgent need to reformulate packaged foods to reduce excessive salt, sugar, and fat—not just to align with global health standards, but to safeguard



the well-being of Indian citizens. "Reformulation must be industry-led, supported by policymakers, and driven by growing consumer awareness. Together, through collaborative efforts, we can shape a healthier future for our nation," he remarked.

Celebrity Chef, Mr. Ajay Chopra, Managing Director of Zion Hospitality, demonstrated how flavor can be preserved even as sodium levels are reduced. He shared his approach using Indori Poha as an example, saying, "As a chef, I'm always exploring ways to enhance everyday dishes without

compromising their authenticity. Just a pinch of monosodium glutamate (MSG) brings the flavors together in perfect harmony. It's time we embrace MSG not just in restaurants, but in home kitchens as well—it's a brilliant way to make simple food truly shine."

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General, PHDCCI, emphasized the broader societal relevance of food reformulation. "We must collectively work to reduce salt, sugar, and fat in processed foods, while retaining taste, texture, and consumer satisfaction," he stated.

Dr. Jamuna Prakash, Food Consultant and Former Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Mysore, highlighted MSG's potential role in health-conscious cooking. "MSG, a well-researched umami seasoning, contains only one-third the sodium of table salt. It enables meaningful sodium reduction without compromising flavor. Blending effortlessly with Indian spices, MSG offers a safe and effective tool for healthier eating when used optimally," she explained.

Prof. Avneesh Mittal, Chairman, IQAC and Principal, BCAS-

DU, expressed pride in BCAS's contributions to applied sciences, particularly food technology.

Experts shared their perspectives on Reimagining Healthier Food Formulations and discussed practical strategies for implementation across the supply chain.

A live Masterclass was also conducted to showcase real-time reformulation techniques. Demonstrators included Chef Mr. Ajay Chopra, Mr. Om Routray (Founder, Indian Culinary Agenda), Mr. Himanshu Chaudhary (Food Technologist, Technical Applications – South Asia), and Ms. Hema Rajwani. They all presented creative methods to reduce



salt, sugar, and fat in commonly consumed foods, while maintaining flavor integrity.

Prof. Eram Rao, who moderated the session, emphasized that food reformulation should be part of a

broader policy toolkit to promote healthy and sustainable diets.

Ms. Mili Dubey, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants.



SESSION ON PERSONAL GUARANTORS TO CORPORATE DEBTORS

A Conference on Personal Guarantors to Corporate Debtors was held on April 26, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The event was organized under the leadership of Mr. GP Madaan, Chair, NCLT & IBC Committee, PHDCCI and

Co-chairs: Ms. Manisha Chaudhary, Mr. Abhishek Anand, Mr. Karan Mehra & Mr. Apoorv Jain.

Mr. Jithesh John, Executive Director, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) & Mr. Avinash Srivastava, Hon'ble Former

Member Technical, NCLT joined the conference as Guests of Honour.

The event witnessed an in-depth discussion on the theme and provided a valuable platform for knowledge exchange.



MEETING WITH EPCS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

A PHDCCI delegation, led by Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, former President, Mr. Nishant Berlia, Chair, International Affairs Committee on Americas, Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General and Mr. Rakesh Shukla, Joint Secretary attended a meeting chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr. Piyush Goyal, with Export Promotion Councils and Industry Associations on April 9, 2025 in New Delhi.

The primary objective of this meeting was to gather inputs from industry stakeholders regarding recent tariff restrictions and non-tariff barriers imposed by the USA on Indian exporters.

PHDCCI representatives expressed their concerns to the Hon'ble Minister about several issues affecting exports, including environmental clearance, patents, licenses, Quality Control Orders, Over Time Regulations and HSN codes necessary for product export.

Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Piyush Goyal emphasized the resilience of India's economy amidst global instability, highlighting a robust growth rate of approximately 6%. The Hon'ble Minister reassured stakeholders that India remains competitive globally, particularly in terms of tariff imposition.



The government is dedicated to securing advantageous bilateral trade agreements and finding solutions for affected sectors. Additionally, he announced the establishment of a helpline where officials from DGFT and Ministry of Commerce will assist industries in navigating the challenges.

In light of these developments,

he urged industry players to leverage Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and diversify export markets beyond traditional partners such as the EU, UK, Gulf countries, New Zealand, and Australia. He reassured that there is no need for panic regarding the U.S. market; instead, we should proactively seek alternative opportunities.



ENHANCING PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE THROUGH GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES (GMP)

PHDCCI with the support of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers organized a National Conference on "Enhancing Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance through Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)" and a session on "Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS)" on April 16, 2025 at Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCl) in Panaji, Goa.

Ms. Shweta S. Desai, Director, FDA and Commissioner Food and Safety, Food and Drugs Control Administration, Goa, Dr Praveen Khullar, President Goa Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing

Association (GPMA) & Executive Director, Vergo Pharma Research Laboratories Private limited, Ms. Pratima Dhond, Vice President, GCCl and Mr. Yeshwant Shinde, Manager, SIDBI graced the inaugural session of the conference. Mr. Dharmendra Kumar Yadav, Under Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Govt. of India welcomed all the dignitaries.

The conference aimed to promote understanding and implementation of GMP principles among pharmaceutical manufacturers, emphasizing the importance of adherence to GMP standards for the safety, efficacy,

and quality of medicinal products and also provided guidance on incorporating GMP requirements into national medicine laws.

A technical session on 'Foundations and Strategies for Effective GMP Implementation' was moderated by Mr. Mahesh Gurnasinghani, Ex. Director, Teva Pharma Goa and Executive Member, GPMA, Dr Girish Shrivastava, Founder & CEO DPAG, Mr. Vishwas Desai, DGM Quality Assurance, Bluecross Labs, Mr. Subhrangshu Choudhary, VP & Head Quality at Centaur Pharma and Mr. Rabindra Mohanty, Technical Head, Indoco Remedies.

INDIA CLIMBS THREE SPOTS TO 130 ON UNDP HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

India has climbed three spots on the Human Development Index (HDI), ranking 130 in 2023, up from 133 in 2022, according to a United Nations Development Programme report. The HDI measures long-term progress in three key dimensions of human development: health, education, and standard of living. India's life expectancy rose from 58.6 years in 1990 to 72 years in 2023—the highest ever recorded—driven by flagship health programmes like the National Rural Health Mission, Ayushman Bharat, Janani Suraksha Yojana, and Poshan Abhiyaan. Average years of schooling in India rose from 8.2 in 1990 to 13 in 2023, driven by reforms like the Right to Education Act, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, and the National Education Policy 2020. The report noted that India's GNI (gross national income) per capita surged over fourfold—from \$2,167.22 in 1990 to \$9,046.76 in 2023 (2021 PPP), with economic growth and social investments, including schemes like MGNREGA, Jan Dhan Yojana, and digital inclusion, helping lift 135 million people out of multidimensional poverty between 2015–16 and 2019–21. With a renewed focus on women-led development, quality education and healthcare for all, India is well positioned to achieve inclusive growth and continued progress on human development.



FUTURE OF TEXTILES: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MAN-MADE FIBRES (MMF)

PHDCCI hosted a pivotal conference on, "The Future of Textiles: Challenges and Opportunities in Man-Made Fibres," at PHD House, New Delhi on April 22, 2025, igniting crucial conversations surrounding the trajectory of this vital sector.

The conference's agenda was set by Mr. Madhu Sudhan Bhageria, Chair of the PHDCCI Textile Committee and CMD of Filatex India Ltd. In his welcome address, he articulated the critical need for a robust and sustainable fibre ecosystem within India. Highlighting the stark global disparity in polyester production, with China commanding a dominant 72% share compared to India's modest 8%, Mr. Bhageria emphasized that India needs to urgently adopt a cohesive and forward-thinking strategy to significantly bolster its MMF capabilities.

Guest of Honour, Mr. Ashok Malhotra, Mission Director of the National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM) in his keynote address underscored the urgent need for India to aggressively accelerate its growth in the MMF sector. He detailed NTTM's proactive

initiatives to cultivate indigenous manufacturing capabilities and explore cutting-edge applications for MMFs, while also acknowledging India's growing prowess in niche export markets. Mr. Malhotra announced that NTTM is currently spearheading 13 R&D projects dedicated to developing indigenous carbon fibre technology, with two projects in advanced stages.

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, President & COO of BMD Private Limited astutely unpacked the evolution of India's textile sector, explored the critical technological advancements and resources necessary for scaling up technical textiles, and spotlighted the immense potential residing within the carbon textile innovation.

Mr. Rajeev Gupta, Joint Managing Director of RSWM Ltd. focused on the escalating global dominance of MMFs and India's significant opportunity to amplify its MMF fibre base to achieve ambitious export targets, stressing the critical alignment of private sector innovation with supportive government schemes.

Mr. Jitender Kumar Gupta, Head – TXD & Scientist – E at the Bureau of

Indian Standards (BIS), illuminated the pivotal role of standardization and the implementation of stringent Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in ensuring the quality and compliance of MMFs and yarns, underscoring the significance of the BIS Standard Mark. Mr. Gupta detailed BIS's proactive role in shaping the future of man-made fabrics, outlining ongoing efforts to elevate quality standards across diverse industries, and elucidated the far-reaching impact of the Manak Manthan initiative.

Many technical experts participated in the conference, wherein they discussed a wide spectrum of topics encompassing the MMF value chain, cutting-edge innovation, and the pressing need for sustainability.

Mr. R.K.Vij, Co-chair of the PHDCCI Textile Committee and Secretary General, Polyester Textiles Apparel Industries Association delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests.

Mr. Naveen Seth, DSG, PHDCCI, delivered the theme address, while Mr. Rakesh Sangrai, Director, PHDCCI moderated both the inaugural and technical sessions.

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REVENUE REQUIREMENTS OF INDIAN ARMY - OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY



PHDCCI organized an Industry Interactive Session on “Revenue Requirements of Indian Army – Opportunities for Indian Defence Industry” on April 21, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The event brought together senior officials from the MGS Branch of the Indian Army, industry leaders, and domain experts to discuss ways to enhance private sector participation in revenue procurement, promote indigenisation, and foster strategic partnerships.

Chief Guest, Lt. Gen. Amardeep Singh Aujla, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, SM, VSM, Master General Sustenance (MGS), Indian Army, emphasized the

need for resilient and tech-enabled supply chains and manufacturing to support the modern Indian Army.

Mr. Rudra Shriram, Chair, PHDCCI Defence & HLS Committee & President, DCM Shriram Industries, delivered the welcome address, while Mr. Vaibhav Gupta, Co-chair, highlighted the opportunities for MSMEs.

Mr. M. K. Gupta, Co-chair delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries. Dr Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI moderated the inaugural session. A dynamic interactive session followed, moderated by Col. K V

Kuber, with key contributions from senior Indian Army officials and industry leaders like Maj. Gen. H P S Hansi, Maj. Gen. S Narang, Brig. Bhupendra Rekhi, Brig. Pradeep Godara, Mr. Arjun Atluri, and Mr. Dhruv Agarwal.

Discussions covered industry perspectives on procurement, future requirements, and strengthening engagement frameworks. The seminar witnessed participation from over 150 representatives from the defence industry, armed forces, and government stakeholders, making it a successful platform for collaboration and dialogue.



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PRE-RIDE MEET UP

PHDCCI organized a Pre-Ride Meet Up on April 27, 2025 in Delhi for the much anticipated PHDCCI Adventure Ride 2.0, which took place on May 9-10, 2025 from Delhi to Lansdowne.

Mr. Arshad Shawl, Chair, Youth Affairs & Sports Committee, PHDCCI extended a warm welcome to the riders and flagged off the Pre-Ride Meet Up. During the Meet, Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI briefed the riders about the importance of this initiative and shared details and route of the main ride from Delhi to Lansdowne.

Over 70 riders from Delhi/ NCR participated in the Pre-Ride Meet Up, showing tremendous enthusiasm for the adventure.

PHDCCI Adventure Ride 2.0 is being supported by the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India.





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CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE PRINTING INKS

The conference on 'Sustainable Printing Inks' held on April 29, 2025 at New Delhi, in alignment with the principles advocated by the United Nations Environment Programme, aimed to encourage the Indian printing and packaging industry to transition towards sustainable inks—especially for export-bound packaging—to meet global standards on low-VOC, recyclable, and eco-responsible materials.

In his welcome address, Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, set the tone of the conference by aligning his remarks with the central theme, "Innovations Driving Eco-Friendly Printing Solutions" and highlighting PHDCCI's ongoing efforts in promoting sustainable industrial practices.

Dr Vishal Chaudhary, Scientist –F, Office of Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India urged the industry to proactively develop and adopt national standards for printing inks.

Dr Sumit Sharma, Programme Officer at UNEP, emphasized the significance of UNEP's sustainability-driven programs and called upon the Indian printing and packaging industry to embrace environmentally responsible solutions in alignment with global



benchmarks. He underlined the urgency of collaborative action to achieve long-term ecological and economic resilience.

Mr. Rajesh Srivastava, Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing- Chemicals Business, Uflex Ltd showcased the latest advancements in sustainable printing ink solutions developed by Uflex to meet the evolving needs of user industries.

Dr Kamakshi Christopher, Head Technology, DIC India elaborated on the various regulatory standards and technical frameworks governing printing inks, emphasizing the need for industry-wide compliance and innovation.

Dr Shilpa Anchawale, Head – Technology, Labels & Packaging, Fujifilm Sericol India, presented innovations in ink development tailored for label and packaging applications.

Ms. Nandini Chowdhury, General Manager – Technology, Huber Group India showcased ink solutions compliant with international sustainability standards.

Ms. Deepti Nagpal, Senior Regulatory Manager, Global Product Compliance provided an overview of regulatory standards in Europe, the US, and other major markets, with a focus on compliance requirements for Indian exporters.

Mr. Sanjeev Bansal, President (Inks & Coatings), Inkofix introduced advanced solutions in offset, gravure, and digital printing inks, sharing strategies to reduce printing costs and improve profitability.

The conference was moderated by Mr. Rakesh Sangrai, Director, PHDCCI.



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ENHANCING PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE THROUGH GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES

A National Conference on "Enhancing Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance through Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)" and a session on "Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS)" was organized by PHDCCI with the support of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers on April 30, 2025 at Kolkata.

GMP awareness initiatives are now been conducted in several cities including Ahmedabad, Pune, Aurangabad, Baddi, and Hyderabad, underlining the pan-India commitment to strengthen manufacturing quality standards.

Ms. Aditi Bhardwaj, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI highlighted the role of academia, industry, and regulators working together towards a common goal — quality.

Prof. (Dr) Samiran Chattopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Techno India University, West Bengal, spoke about the importance of strengthening academia-industry partnerships to create a future-ready pharmaceutical ecosystem.

Dr. Mukti Pada Rana, President, IPA Kolkata, in his impactful remarks, said:

- "What begins on Akshay Tiritiya stays with us — let's choose quality over quantity."
- "Quality is a revolving journey — there's always room for improvement."

Mr. Ashok Kumar, ADC(I), Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, Kolkata, provided a regulatory perspective on evolving quality benchmarks. He spoke about the revised WHO-GMP guidelines and emphasized the need for Indian pharmaceutical manufacturers to upgrade systems and practices in line with these international standards. He also urged the industry to proactively prepare for inspections and audits, and stressed on capacity-building initiatives to support MSMEs in adapting to the updated framework.

The session on RPTUAS Scheme was led by Mr. Yashwant Shinde, Manager, SIDBI, who provided clarity on financing opportunities available to pharma MSMEs for quality upgrades, followed by an engaging Q&A round.

A key highlight of the event was the technical session titled "Foundations and Strategies for Effective GMP Implementation," moderated by Dr Subhash C Mandal, Hon. General Secretary, IPA. The session brought together renowned experts.

Dr Sunil Kaushal CEO, Dusap Pharmaceutical spoke on Gap Analysis in implementing the revised Schedule M, identifying areas where support and systemic alignment are needed. Dr Jayanta Chatterjee from JIS University addressed problems in implementing the revised Schedule M and offering practical approaches to overcome compliance challenges. Mr. P.B. Chakraborty, MD, Mendine Pharmaceuticals shared industry management's perception and expectations from the regulatory landscape as India transitions to updated GMP norms. Lastly, Prof. (Dr) Beduin Mahanti, Dean, Techno India University delved into quality management of pharmaceutical products, stressing the importance of robust systems that ensure safety, efficacy, and global competitiveness.



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NATIONAL IP YATRA PROGRAMME ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

PHDCCI with the support of Development Commissioner, Ministry of MSM, Government of India organized a series of National IP Yatra workshops on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in various cities of India. The workshops aimed to enhance awareness and understanding of IPR among MSMEs, entrepreneurs, start-ups, and businesses in the region.

On the first day, technical sessions focused on topics vital for business growth such as IP registration process, Government Support Programs for MSMEs and how IP can be leveraged for wealth creation and economic development.

On the second day, the technical sessions focused on understanding IP commercialization for MSMEs, SCIPP Scheme (MSME support

for commercialization), licensing and franchising, leveraging IP for funding and investment, joint venture and strategic alliances and enforcement of IPRs.

An IPR Helpdesk was also set up in all cities for the participants to engage in one-to-one interaction with IP experts to resolve their IP related issues.

LEH, MARCH 24-25, 2025

The inaugural session at Leh was graced by Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Chief Secretary/Advisor to the Lt. Governor, UT Ladakh and Hon'ble Executive Councillor, Mr. Ghulam Mehdi, LAHDC Leh.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, delivered the welcome address, urging participants to actively engage in the workshop to gain insights into MSME schemes and IPR registrations. He emphasized that the IP Yatra is a transformative journey to help MSMEs and innovators protect their creations through patents, trademarks, and GIs, assuring full support for Ladakh's start-ups and entrepreneurs from PHDCCI.

Dr Pawan Kotwal, Chief Secretary/Advisor to the Lt. Governor, UT Ladakh stressed the importance of safeguarding Ladakh's traditional arts and local products through Geographical Indications (GI) and patents, encouraging entrepreneurs to leverage indigenous knowledge for economic growth.

Guest of Honour, Mr. Ghulam Mehdi –Executive Councillor LAHDC highlighted Ladakh's rich biodiversity, particularly its herbs



and aromatic plants, and called for timely implementation of government schemes to boost grassroots entrepreneurship.

Dr DP Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI, discussed the vast potential of agriculture based innovations and the need for value addition in local products and latest innovative fertilizer techniques.

Dr Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, emphasized the university's role in fostering innovation and supporting local businesses.

Mr. Jigmet Takpa, Vice President, IMI and Ex Joint Secretary MoEFCC GOI, gave a presentation on opportunities for MSMEs in Renewable Energy. He

also motivated participants to become entrepreneurs and take advantage of various schemes of Ministries.

Dr H.P. Kumar, Former NSIC Chairman & Advisor, PHDCCI, elaborated on PMEGP, PM Rozgar Yojana, and Mudra Yojana, urging entrepreneurs to utilize these schemes.

The first day featured interactive sessions on: Fundamentals of IPR (Patents, Copyrights, Trademarks, GI) Government schemes for MSMEs and the second day covered: Enforcement of IPR & Consequences of Infringement and IP Commercialization for MSMEs.

The valedictory session was graced by Chairman, LAHDC, Mr.

Tashi Gyalson, and Mr. Sanjeev Khairwar, Principal Secretary, Industries, UT Ladakh.

Mr. Bilal Kawoosa, General Convenor, PHDCCI Kashmir, reaffirmed PHDCCI's commitment to Ladakh's economic development. The program was moderated by Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director, PHDCCI.

SHIMLA, MARCH 25-26, 2025

Mr. Ashok Kumar Gautam, Assistant Director (Grade-I), MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India in his keynote address emphasized the importance of IP in strengthening the economy by ensuring that innovations are legally protected. He spoke about the government's ongoing efforts to support MSMEs and entrepreneurs in protecting their intellectual assets. He discussed ways to promote and grow businesses related to Geographical Indications (GI) products in Himachal Pradesh. He mentioned that the Ministry of MSME provides support through various schemes, such as financial assistance for participating in international trade fairs and domestic trade fairs. He also highlighted the potential for growth in various sectors, including Agriculture and horticulture, Hydro power and Tourism and Service enterprises. He also mentioned that around 3 lakh MSMEs are registered on Udyam Portal from the state of Himachal Pradesh and mentioned that the central government and the state government are working together to support the MSMEs.

Mr. Ashok Parth, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME shared the insights of the role of IP on promoting economic growth and highlighted various schemes by the Ministry of MSME. He also shared a detailed presentation of all the important schemes of the Ministry of MSME,



Govt. of India and focused on MSME Support for Commercialization of IP (SCIP) Programme.

Mr. D P Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI, expressed the organization's commitment to advancing awareness of IPR and fostering innovation among MSMEs, Start-ups and other enterprises across the country. He further highlighted that workshops like the two-day national level intellectual property IP yatra program can help MSMEs and startups facilitate their intellectual property rights.

Mr. Narender Bharadwaj, CEO, Colours of India Tours & Travels

and Mr. Vishal Chauhan, Chairman, Sanvi Education Society, were among the key contributors who shared their industry experiences and insights on leveraging IPR for business growth.

Mr. Vasant Chandra, Head-Prosecution, United and United delivered a session covering a detailed overview of IPR, types of IPRs, IP registration procedures, the importance of patent protection, and the role of Government's support in helping MSMEs to safeguard their intellectual property. Recently, the government launched a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library to preserve and safeguard India's traditional knowledge and experiences.

Dr Rajesh K. Jaryal, Assistant Professor (Zoology), Department of Biosciences, Shimla, HP University stressed the importance of sharing knowledge while protecting one's innovation.

JAMMU, MARCH 28-29, 2025

Mr. Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Deputy Chief Minister, J&K, while inaugurating the workshop highlighted the global significance of intellectual property rights with examples from leading brands such as Apple, KFC, and McDonald's. He emphasized how effective IP strategies contribute to global success and encouraged local entrepreneurs, particularly lavender farmers and Basmati rice producers, to register their brands.

Mr. Rakesh Wazir, Chair, Jammu State Chapter, PHDCCI emphasized the critical role of branding, innovation, and intellectual property protection for strengthening business competitiveness in Jammu & Kashmir. He reaffirmed PHDCCI's commitment to supporting entrepreneurs and fostering an ecosystem where businesses can thrive through effective IPR strategies.

Mr. Vikramjit Singh, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, J&K, provided an overview of the government policies aimed at fostering industrial development. He urged businesses to invest in innovation and brand protection, emphasizing that IPR serves as a powerful tool for economic progress.

Mr. Arun Kumar Manhas, Director Industries, Jammu, stressed the importance of IPR awareness among local businesses and highlighted that IP protection is essential for sustainable industrial growth. He encouraged entrepreneurs to leverage government schemes for patenting and trademark registration.

Dr. H.P. Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC, and Advisor, PHDCCI, discussed the strategic importance of IPR in driving industrial growth, particularly for MSMEs.

Mr. G. Velladurai, IEDS, Joint Director, Head of Office, MSME



DFO, Jammu, provided valuable insights into government initiatives supporting SMEs in securing their intellectual property rights.

The Inaugural Session was moderated by Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director, PHDCCI.

This was followed by two Technical sessions conducted by industry experts, aimed at educating participants on the evolving landscape of IPR in India.

Technical session 1 provided an overview of Intellectual Property Rights and their role in shaping advancements in India. Experts enlightened attendees on the significance of patents, trademarks, and copyrights, and how these tools can be effectively leveraged for business growth. The session speakers were Mr. Lalit Mahajan, President, Bari Brahmana Industries Association, Mr. Gaurav Gogia, Principal, United & United, Mr. Ravinder Thakur, President, Small Scale Industry, Udhampur, Mr. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, Head of the Department of Tourism & Hotel Management Central University and Dr Sanjay Bansal, National Board Member, National

Ttraders Welfare Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India. Dr. H.P. Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC, and Advisor, PHDCCI was the session chair.

In the technical second session, Ms. Yasha Mudgal, Principal Secretary, Tourism, J&K was the Chief Guest and Mr. Vikas Gupta, Director Tourism, Jammu was the Guest of Honor. Ms. Mudgal highlighted the importance of promoting Intellectual Property Rights in promoting and scaling small and medium enterprises. She further added the need for sustainable business eco system in J&K. Mr. Gupta highlighted the impact of IPR on the tourism sector, emphasizing that brand protection and intellectual property can play a key role in promoting J&K's tourism industry on a global platform.

Mr. Shyam Lal Kesar, Executive Member, PHDCCI & Chairman, Hotel & Restaurant Association Katra, expressed gratitude to the Deputy Chief Minister, distinguished dignitaries, and industry representatives for their contributions.

JAIPUR, MARCH 28-29, 2025



Chief Guest, Mr. V Saravana Kumar, IAS, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of Rajasthan in his inaugural session, emphasized the importance of IP in strengthening the economy and the need to bridge the gap of lack of awareness on IPRs which still persists among the business units. He further highlighted that the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of Rajasthan has taken up IP issues in a robust manner and disseminating the benefits of IPs to startups, entrepreneurs and MSMEs. He advised that the subject of IP should be included in the course curriculum of schools and colleges so that students are aware of IPs at an early stage. He further apprised that the collaboration between industry and academia is necessary to achieve the robust IP system in India as academia plays an important role in solving business problems by providing innovative solutions to the industry.

Mr. Gaurav Joshi, Joint Director, MSME-DFO Jaipur, Ministry of MSME in his keynote address highlighted various schemes of the Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India to encourage MSMEs in Rajasthan for their growth and scaling up. He highlighted that IP should not be treated like a technical subject rather it is a value addition for MSMEs in their business. He further highlighted the reimbursement limits of trademarks, designs and patents for the MSMEs to encourage them to file more IP applications.

Mr. Digvijay Dhabriya, Chair, Rajasthan State Chapter, PHDCCI, while welcoming the eminent dignitaries, speakers and delegates to the National IP Yatra Programme added that there is an increasing focus and emphasis on promoting IPs across all nations and developing a mechanism to protect IP rights.

Mr D P Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI in his theme address highlighted the role of Intellectual Property Facilitation Centres to assist MSMEs in protecting and managing their IPs. PHDCCI with the support of Ministry of MSME is running 3 IPFCs at New Delhi, Amritsar and Jammu & Kashmir to guide the MSMEs, startups and other stakeholders regarding creation and protection of IP and utilization of IP tools and technologies.

Mr. Jitendra Singh Rathore, Co-chair, Rajasthan State Chapter, PHDCCI in his vote-of-thanks thanked the eminent dignitaries and mentioned that such workshops should be organized on a regular basis to encourage the MSMEs and startups in Rajasthan.

The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Sharwan Sharma, President, Plastic Manufacturers Association Rajasthan and Dr Rohit Jain, Patent & Trademark Attorney, Trade Innovation Services, wherein they shared their experiences about the importance of IPRs.

Dr Rohit Gupta, Patent & Trademark Attorney, Trade

Innovation Services in his address highlighted the subject matter of Geographical Indication (GI) and briefly mentioned the role of GI in nation building.

Mr Rishi Raj Saxena, Mentor, International Business Development & MSME Promotion in his address mentioned the importance of protecting IP rights for businesses and shared some case studies and examples. He further mentioned that patent attracts distributors as well as investors due to the absence of competition and innovators can enjoy monopoly for his/ her innovation.

Adv. Mankaran Singh, Associate, United and United in his technical address stressed upon the significance of selecting an appropriate name for their product. He highlighted the necessity of licensing, which secures ownership rights over the product. Through licensing, businesses can generate revenue by granting production rights to other companies while maintaining control over quality and brand identity. He cited examples of companies that do not manufacture their products but earn through licensing agreements, receiving royalties and other financial benefits while ensuring their brand credibility remains intact.

The session was moderated by Mr R K Gupta, Resident Director, PHDCCI.

PATNA MARCH 28-29, 2025



Mr. Birendra Prasad Yadav, IAS - Special Secretary, Agriculture Department, Govt of Bihar inaugurated the workshop and in his opening remarks, he highlighted the importance of the IP Yatra Program and emphasized on the need for creating and registration of innovations and intellectual property in the country. He stated that our country is catching up in IPR advancement by increasing the number of registrations which would help the Indian economy and Indian brands across the world. He further highlighted that India is a land of young population with tremendous talent and intellectual depth which should be harnessed for its commercial advantage. He urged participants to embrace IPR as a tool for success.

Dr. Jatinder Singh - Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI in his welcome address greeted all the attendees and emphasized the significance of Intellectual Property (IP) protection in today's world. He stated that the IP Yatra program provides a platform for experts, legal professionals, industry leaders, and innovators to explore various aspects of intellectual property from legal frameworks to real-world applications.

Prof. Dr Rana Singh - Director, CIMP, emphasized that research alone is not enough,



its implementation is crucial. He noted that India has published the highest number of research papers globally, with over 400,000 papers, but the key is to ensure their practical applications. Citing Microsoft's revolution in the computer industry, he highlighted that India is currently the global leader in AI applications. He urged entrepreneurs to handle their own packaging and branding rather than outsourcing to ensure that they reap the full benefits of their innovations.

Mr. Sanjeev Verma - Assistant Director, MSME, Patna, Ministry of MSME in his keynote address provided insights into various MSME schemes and financial support available for MSMEs. He further explained in details about various schemes of the Ministry of MSME including PMEGP, MUDRA Loan Scheme, Common Facilitation Centre (CFC) Scheme, ZED Scheme, Lean Scheme and MSME Innovative Scheme. He further apprised the

participants that the Government covers all expenses of MSMEs to gain international recognition, provided their products meet global standards.

Ms. Shwetima Shubha, IP expert, United and United, while addressing the technical session encouraged the young entrepreneurs present in the session of choosing the suitable name for the product. She highlighted the need for licensing, which protects the ownership rights over the product. Through licensing, businesses can generate revenue by giving production rights to other companies while maintaining control over brand identity. She gave examples of companies that do not build their products, but earn through licensing agreements, get royalty and other financial benefits while ensuring that their brand remains credibility.

ANANTNAG, MARCH 27, 2025



The program was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Mr. Ajaz Ahmad Lone - Deputy Director Department of Sericulture Development – Anantnag, Mr. Mudasir Ahmad AHTO, Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Anantnag, Mr. G N Dar President, MEERAS GI Owners of handnotted Carpet.

Mr. Iqbal Fayaz Jan, Deputy Director, PHDCCI Kashmir and Incharge IPFC (Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre-Kashmir Ladakh), highlighted the crucial

role of IPR in business growth, covering key aspects such as: - Trademarks – Protecting brand identity- Copyrights – Safeguarding creative works - Designs – Securing product aesthetics - Patents – Encouraging innovation - Geographical Indications (GI) – Preserving heritage products.

Renowned expert, Mr. Bilal Kawoosa provided valuable insights on how IPR can help preserve Kashmir's rich heritage and culture, emphasizing its role in boosting market credibility

and economic growth for local artisans and entrepreneurs. The participants, including, MSMEs, weavers, handicraft makers, traders, and start-ups of Anantnag showed immense enthusiasm in learning about IPR protection mechanisms. The session also elaborated on: - How MSME schemes can help secure their ideas. - How the IPFC will provide handholding support and guidance to scale their businesses to the next level.

SOLAN, MARCH 28, 2025

The program was graced by Mr. Ashok Kumar Gautam, Assistant Director (Grade-I), MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME, Mr. Ashok Parth, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME, Mr. Shailesh Vatsgotri, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME and Mr. Vasant Chandra, Head-Prosecution, United and United.

Mr. Ashok Kumar Gautam in his keynote address, provided insights into various MSME schemes and financial support available for MSMEs. He mentioned that the Ministry of MSME aims to promote MSMEs and businesses at not just the national level but also on international levels.



Mr. Ashok Parth, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Solan, Ministry of MSME gave an overview of the various schemes of the Ministry of MSME including PMEGP, MUDRA Loan Scheme, Common Facilitation Centre (CFC) Scheme, ZED Scheme, Lean Scheme and MSME Innovative Scheme. He further apprised the participants that the Government covers all expenses of MSMEs to gain

international recognition, provided their products meet global standards.

Mr. Vasant Chandra, Head-Prosecution, United and United in the technical session deliberated on registering IP and its procedures, Patent / Innovation and Government support for MSMEs. The workshop also emphasized the importance of intellectual property (IP) not only for identifying and protecting innovations but also for brand building and marketing.

Mr. Anil Saunkhala, Resident Director, PHDCCI emphasized on the need for creating and registration of innovations and intellectual property in the country.



INDIA-NEPAL PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT 2025

Under the aegis of its India-Nepal Centre and in association with the Sub Himalayan Research Institute, PHDCCI organized the “India-Nepal Partnership Summit 2025: Accelerating Cooperation in Neighbourhood” on April 22, 2025 at Vidya Vihar Institute of Technology, Purnea, Bihar. The Summit explored the multifaceted relationship between India and Nepal, focusing on enhancing border area development and economic cooperation for the Sub Himalayan region.

The Summit was addressed by Prof. Ratneshwar Mishra, Historian; Chairman, Sub Himalayan Research Institute; Prof. Manindra Nath Thakur, Trustee, Sub Himalayan Research Institute; Mr. Atul K Thakur, Secretary, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI, Mr. Bhaskar Koirala, Director & Founder, Nepal Institute of International and Strategic Studies; Mr. Anil Shah, Senior Vice President, Morang Chamber of Industry & Commerce, Biratnagar, Nepal; Mr. Abhishek Choudhary, President (Birgunj Chapter, Nepal), Nepal-India Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Mukesh K Bhattarai “Upadhyay”, President (Biratnagar, Koshi Province, Nepal), Nepal-India Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Dr Raman, Additional Director, Sub Himalayan Research Institute; Mr. Girindra Nath Jha and Mr. Pushya Mitra, Journalists

& Authors; Mr Pravin Narayan Choudhary, Export Head, Asian Thai Foods Pvt. Ltd., Nepal & President, Maithili Association-Nepal, Biratnagar and Mr. Basudev Baral, Member, Koshi Province Tourism Year 2082 (Nepal) & Coordinator, Religious & Cultural Council.

India and Nepal, nestled in the lap of the Himalayas, share an open border extending over 1,850 kilometres, intertwining their destinies through cultural, economic, and geographical threads woven over centuries. The regions of Purnea, Seemanchal, Kosi and Mithilanchal, situated along this permeable border are emblematic of the dynamic interplay between these two nations.

The India-Nepal Partnership Summit 2025 explored the multi-dimensional aspects of India-Nepal bilateral relations. The Summit provided a platform for experts from both nations to address the challenges of cross-border cooperation. At the heart of India-Nepal relations lies the rich tapestry of cultural interconnections that span centuries. Communities on both sides of the border share familial ties, with marriages and social customs weaving a dense network of interpersonal connections. The Summit’s discussions focused on cultural diplomacy initiatives, joint cultural festivals and educational

exchanges that can enhance mutual understanding and respect.

The Himalayan region's shared ecosystems present challenges and opportunities for environmental management. The rivers that originate in the Nepalese Himalayas are lifelines for the regions of Purnea, Seemanchal, Kosi and Mithilanchal supporting agriculture and fisheries and providing critical water resources. The Summit explored the environmental policies that impact these shared resources, examining existing agreements and new frameworks for cooperative ecological governance. The Summit had detailed discussions on sustainable water management practices, joint disaster response strategies and conservation efforts that respect the ecological interdependencies of the region.

The economic ties between India and Nepal are underscored by trade routes that traverse the border regions, bringing goods and services across nations and fostering economic interdependence. The bordering regions of North Bihar to Nepal serve as critical nodes in this economic network, facilitating trade and commerce that support local economies on both sides of the border. The Summit proved to be an important dialogue platform for creating a roadmap of further accelerating economic cooperation between India and Nepal.



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BANARAS LIT FEST 2025

To celebrate the Literature, Art, Culture, Tradition and Music, under the aegis of its State Development Council-India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI partnered as industry partner with the prestigious "Banaras Lit Fest" (BLF) to co-organize its 1st Delhi edition on February 23, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. BLF is India's leading literature festival and it creates a platform to celebrate the best literary, intellectual and developmental paradigms of India.

The 1st Delhi Edition of Banaras Lit Fest was addressed by Amb Mr. Manjeev Singh Puri, Chair, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI (Formerly Ambassador of India to the European Union), Belgium, Luxembourg, Nepal and Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations- India's Lead Climate Change Negotiator); Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI; Mr. Atul K Thakur, Secretary, PHDCCI; Mr. Brijesh Singh, Secretary, Banaras Lit Fest; Mr. Pratap Somvanshi, Managing Editor, Hindustan Hindi Daily & Adviser, Banaras Lit Fest; Mr. Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, Indian Institute of Public Administration; Dr Kazem Samandari, Veteran Economist (Executive Chairman,

L'Opéra; President, KCSH & Associates and Terra Firma International); Gen Ashok Mehta, Author, Columnist & Strategic Analyst; Mr. Ashok Pavadia, Former Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs; Mr. Rasheed Kidwai, Senior Journalist & Author; Ms. Archana Garodua Gupta, Author & Business Leader; Ms. Kadambini Sharma, Senior Journalist; Ms. Akanshya Shah, Senior Journalist; Mr. Rudroneel Ghosh, Senior Journalist; Mr. Pramod Pandey, Senior Journalist & Coordinator, Banaras Lit Fest; Mr. Rajesh Singh, Senior Journalist & Author; Mr. Yugal Joshi, Author; Mr. Gaurinath, Publisher, Antika Prakashan; Mr. Pravin Kumar, Author; Mr. Lalit Kumar, Author & Translator and Prof. Priyamvada, Author, Columnist & Translator. The program also witnessed the semi-classical and fusion musical performance to celebrate the spirit of Banaras by Pt. Ritesh Mishra & Pt. Rajnish Mishra, Banaras Gharana.

Curated and co-hosted by PHDCCI India-Nepal Centre, the Country Partner (Nepal) Session in "Banaras Lit Fest 2025" took place on March 9, 2025 at Hotel Taj Ganges, Varanasi on the theme,

"Back to Look Ahead". Chief Guest of the session was Dr Surendra Thapa, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Nepal in India. In Conversation was Mr. Atul K Thakur, Secretary, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI and Ms. Akanshya Shah, Senior Journalist.

To curate a dedicated session on Nepal's rich literary and cultural tradition and its positive impact in shaping people-to-people relations between India and Nepal, PHDCCI India-Nepal Centre partnered with the BP Koirala India-Nepal Foundation and Embassy of Nepal in India with having Nepal as "Country Partner" for the Banaras Lit Fest 2025 (Main Festival, March 7-9, 2025, Hotel Taj Ganges, Varanasi).

BLF 2025 came out with the bigger and larger assembly of renowned personalities in the several genres of literature, creative fields like literature, art, culture, music, cinema and performing arts—and development sector at large. Essentially, BLF 2025 reassured the world of India's continuing edge as a "Knowledge Economy & Society" and its unwavering commitment for "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".



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EXPRESSION: A CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART SHOW

Bollywood Actor Yashpal Sharma Inaugurates PHDCCI's '2nd Edition Expression' Indian Art Show

Following the astounding success of its debut contemporary Indian art show, PHDCCI organized the 2nd edition of "Expression: A Contemporary Indian Art Show". The three day event from April 30-May 2, 2025 was inaugurated by Mr. Yashpal Sharma, a renowned Bollywood Actor at PHD House, New Delhi.

Actor Mr. Yashpal Sharma in his address congratulated PHDCCI for organizing such a meaningful event to promote artists and their work. He emphasized the importance of working on one's uniqueness and individual talent. He added, while it is good to be inspired, one must not copy others; only by focusing on personal uniqueness and talent can one truly progress. Everyone has a spark within, and one should never consider oneself inferior.

Dr. Sachidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) congratulated the artists to have brought out their creativity to the world. "Every person is creative in some way, but it is the artists who



have the courage to bring their creativity to the outside world". He also took this opportunity to share his thoughts about the possible threats of AI. Our habits are becoming increasingly AI oriented.

Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson, PHD Family Welfare Foundation, helm of PHDCCI's Welfare activities, manages 25 centers across the

country where around 5,000 students are being skilled and also being taught painting and art. She expressed her hope to see those children growing up to become artists and presenting their works here one day.

Ms. Sonali Jain, Co-chair, PHDCCI Education Committee, and Vice Chairperson, Sumermal Jain Educational & Welfare Society expressed that art is the only form of expression that promotes dialogue without conflict. She added that art is the most humane way to build a community where people can relate to their culture and ethos by showcasing their work through this medium.

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI said that he was delighted to welcome Mr. Yashpal Sharma, one of the finest actors of Hindi cinema. He added that the actor's journey from stage to screen is inspiring and full of motivation especially for artists coming from tier 3 and 4 cities.

Ms. Preeti Wadhwa Acclaimed



Singer & Director, Virva International Pvt. Ltd., said that art is a language and a bond between human beings. Behind every piece of art is an artist who is a storyteller.

She emphasized that Expression is a vibrant and thought provoking contemporary Indian art show that celebrates the diverse perspectives and diverse range of paintings of

emerging and established Indian artists.

The second edition saw the participation of over 9 artists from all over the country including



notable names, like Ms. Kalyani, Ms. Abhipsa Pradhan, Ms. Sunita Lamba, Mr. JP Singh, Mr. Kedaram Viswanathan, Mr. Rangroop Ranjeet Singh, Mr. Ramchandra Pokale, Mr. Ramonkar and Ms. Shivraj Singh. Through paintings, sculpture and mixed media, the artists explored themes that resonate with modern India, such as identity, culture, social justice, and the human condition.

On the 2nd day, students from the Indian Institute of Arts and Design visited the Art Exhibition and engaged in interactive sessions with renowned Artist K. Vishwanathan.

Padma Vibhushan Dr. Sonal Mansingh Renowned Classical Dancer and Member of Parliament graced the Closing Ceremony Day of PHDCCI's 'Expression' Art Show on May 2, 2025.

Dr Mansingh, while appreciating the initiative, spoke about the power of classical arts to transcend barriers and connect with the audience on a deeper level. She



lauded PHDCCI for creating a space that not only promotes visual arts but also celebrates the broader spectrum of Indian culture and heritage.

Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson, PHD Family Welfare Foundation discussed that this platform is our commitment to artists and the larger creative community. It's about empowering them, supporting their journeys, and making sure that art continues to thrive and inspire.

Ms. Devika Sahani, International Affairs Committee (Asia Pacific), PHDCCI discussed when art crosses borders through exhibitions, festivals, collaborations, or digital sharing—it builds empathy within the global community. Art creates a common ground where artists from

different nations can recognize each other's humanity as well as share cultural values, traditions, and histories in an emotional way.

Stalwarts like Prof. (Dr) Ramesh C. Gaur, Dean (Administration), Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts and Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar, Director, School of Engineering and Technology, IGNOU also lent their voices in support of nurturing artistic expression.

During the 'Expression' Art Show, the audience was treated to a captivating performance of Bharatanatyam classical dance by the talented disciples of Nritya Kaustabha Cultural Dance Society, founded by the late Padma Vibhushan, Dr. Yamini Krishnamurthy.



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GST COMPLIANCE AND IPO READINESS

PHDCCI's Gujarat Chapter in its knowledge sharing event titled, "Navigating the Future: Enhancing GST Compliance and IPO Readiness for Sustainable Growth" held on April 29, 2025, in Ahmedabad saw the active participation of nearly ten Presidents and Heads of regional trade associations, underlining the collaborative ethos that PHDCCI seeks to foster across Gujarat's industrial and commercial landscape.

Mr. Himanshu Shah, Chair, PHDCCI Gujarat Chapter, in his welcome address, highlighted Gujarat's rapidly evolving industrial ecosystem and PHDCCI's continued commitment to providing robust knowledge platforms for business excellence and sustainable development.

Mr. Shah called upon participants to take advantage of PHDCCI's dynamic network to contribute meaningfully to policy advocacy and regional growth. Mr. Ashish Desai, Former Chair, PHDCCI Gujarat Chapter talked about the value of collective participation and the impact of community-driven industrial progress.

CA Amish Khandhar, Chairman, Gujarat Indirect Taxation Committee, PHDCCI discussed:



Latest updates in GST laws and their implications on business operations; Criticality of proactive tax compliance and Financial and operational alignment strategies for companies aiming to go public.

Mr. Saahil Kinkhabwala, Director – Investment Banking, Monarch Capital Pvt. Ltd., delved into the end-to-end process of IPO preparedness, including: Regulatory and SEBI requirements; Financial restructuring and due diligence and Positioning strategies to attract institutional and retail investors.

Adding a policy dimension to the discussion, Dr M. N. Dave, GM, DIC Ahmedabad, provided an overview of recent government schemes and subsidies targeting MSMEs and startups in Gujarat.

A technical session, moderated by Dr. Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI, brought together an expert panel comprising of CA Rashmin Vaja, CA Amish Khandhar, and Mr. Raviraj Solanki (Asst. Commissioner, GST). The discussions focused on: Common audit and return filing issues; Real-time compliance strategies; Anticipated amendments and their implications and Sector-specific GST challenges.

In recognition of their ongoing contributions to regional industrial growth, Presidents and Heads of leading local trade associations were felicitated during the event.

Mr. Jay S, Resident Manager, PHDCCI Gujarat Chapter, delivered the vote-of-thanks, appreciating the active involvement of dignitaries, speakers, and participants.



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STREE SHAKTI 2025 WOMEN'S LEADERS CONCLAVE

PHDCCI Kashmir Chapter played a pivotal role as the Industry Partner at the 3-day Stree Shakti 2025 Women's Leaders Conclave, which concluded on a high note with an electrifying final day at the SKICC, Srinagar on April 9, 2025. Chief Guest, Dr Farooq Abdullah, Former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir and Patron of the National Conference, announced several concessions for women in J&K on this occasion which significantly added to the impact of the conclave.

Mr. Vicky Shaw, Chairman of PHDCCI Kashmir Chapter played a key role in shaping the conclave, along with Founder and Lead of Stree Shakti, Ms. Rekha Mody. Among the high-profile representatives from the Chamber present at the conclave were Ms. Aruna Oswal, featured as a "Power Woman-Chair of PHDCCI's Women Entrepreneurship Committee; Dr Blossom Kochhar, Co-chair of PHDCCI's Women Entrepreneurship Committee, who emphasised on skilling for women; Mr Vivek Agarwala, Chair, PHDCCI



Industry Affairs & EOD Business Committee and many senior officials from the PHDCCI secretariat.

The interactive session fostered meaningful dialogue among stakeholders, addressing key challenges and exploring solutions to strengthen financial support for MSEs in the region. PHDCCI reiterated its commitment to driving entrepreneurship and economic growth through collaborative initiatives with key institutions like CGTMSE.

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CHINA PLUS ONE (C+1): POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES IN PHARMACEUTICALS & MEDICAL DEVICES SECTOR

PHDCCI in association with PharmaTech Expo & Lab Tech Expo organized a seminar on the theme “China Plus One (C+1): Possibilities and Challenges in Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Sector” on April 11, 2025 at Chandigarh.

Adv. Lokesh Jain, Convener, Regional MSME Committee, PHDCCI, while addressing the delegates mentioned that India has introduced several policy measures, most notably the Production Linked Incentive Scheme and the creation of Medical Devices Parks to promote indigenous manufacturing and attract global manufacturers to set up operations in India. He also shared various schemes & incentives provided by the State & Central Government for Technology upgradation of MSMEs.

Dr Anil Kumar Angrish, Associate Professor, NIPER emphasized the critical need for adopting the China Plus One strategy. Dr Angrish highlighted that India, while being a global leader in generic drugs, remains heavily dependent on China for APIs. “This over-dependence creates vulnerability in our healthcare security. China Plus One is not merely a strategic policy move, it’s an imperative



to safeguard our pharmaceutical autonomy,” he added. He also shed light on the emerging opportunities for India in terms of cost competitiveness, skilled manpower and policy support.

Prof. Anand Sharma, Professor, NIPER provided an overview of the existing government initiatives aimed at strengthening domestic capabilities. He elaborated on key programs such as the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for Bulk Drugs and Medical Devices, and the development of Bulk Drug Parks. He further highlighted the need of focus on effective implementation, robust R&D infrastructure, and sustainable industry-academia partnerships.

A panel discussion on the ‘Roadmap for Becoming Self-Reliant in APIs & Medical Devices’ was addressed by Mr. Punit Bansal, Director & Promoter, Theon Pharmaceuticals; D. G. S. Pandey,

Director, GAMP Technologies Pvt. Ltd.; and Dr D. N. Dikshit, Director, AQEX Pharma Solutions (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. The panellists shared valuable insights on the current landscape, challenges, and opportunities in the sector, including trade realignment strategies, and the need for greater diversification, drawing lessons from international best practices to shape India's path toward self-reliance.

Mr. Supreet Singh, Convener, Regional Pharmaceutical, Health & Wellness Committee, PHDCCI and Founder & CEO Psychocare Health Pvt. Ltd. while moderating the panel discussion emphasized the urgency of building a resilient pharmaceutical ecosystem and applauded the government’s initiatives while calling for more collaborative public-private partnerships to bridge gaps in manufacturing infrastructure and regulatory frameworks.



INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH SENIOR IFS OFFICERS

The UP State Chapter, PHDCCI organized a Members interactive session with Senior IFS Officers on April 23, 2025 at PHD House, Lucknow to discuss the current Industry Scenario & Business opportunity overseas and also to create awareness primarily on Uttar Pradesh's vision towards 'Viksit Bharat'.

The interactive session was attended and participated by more than 10 senior IFS Officers including – Ms. Deepti Ganji, Deputy Chief of

the Mission, E/L, Mexico City, Mr. Ashish Sharma, Deputy Chief of the Mission, E/L, Yangon, Dr Basir Ahmed, Director (MEA), Ms. Sudhi Choudhary, Director (MEA), Mr. Raj Kamal, Consul, CGL- Milan, Mr. Vinay Kumar, Director, (MEA), Mr. Asheesh Gupta, Director (MEA), Mr. Anand Prakash, Director (MEA), Mr. Jai Singh, Director (MEA) and Mr. Shiv Sagar, Counsellor, E/L, Sao Tome.

The delegation discussed various business opportunities

available overseas, particularly in countries such as Myanmar, Brazil, Mexico, Italy (Milan), and Yangon. Key sectors highlighted included agriculture, agro-processing, textiles, infrastructure, fertilizers, and automobiles. The discussion also focused on how the government can support businesses in exploring these international opportunities. Additionally, banking issues related to local currency trade were addressed during the session.

WAVES Summit 2025

From May 1 to May 4, the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit — the first of its kind — was held in Mumbai organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Inaugurated by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on May 1, set the tone with an address that was both poetic and powerful. Calling WAVES a "wave of culture, creativity, film, music, gaming, and storytelling," the Prime Minister urged artists and innovators to seize this moment of transformation: "This is the right time to create in India, and create for the world." The event, brimming with global energy brought together a remarkable gathering — over 10,000 delegates, 1,000 creators, 350 startups, and 300 companies from more than 100 countries — all under one roof, sharing ideas, forging partnerships, and envisioning a future where India is not merely a participant in the global creative economy, but its very heartbeat. WAVES was not just a summit; it was a bold declaration of India's emergence as a global nerve centre of media, entertainment, and digital storytelling. WAVES 2025 was about more than entertainment — it is about narrative sovereignty, about shaping how the world sees India and how India sees itself. It marks the dawn of what the Prime Minister rightly termed the "Orange Economy" — a future in which creativity is not just celebrated but systematically nurtured as a pillar of national development.



A HIGH IMPACT HR SESSION

PHDCCI West Bengal Chapter in association with Techno India Group hosted a high-impact HR Session on April 11, 2025 - where top HR leaders, industry experts and innovators all got together to shape the future of the workforce, the “Next Gen HR.”

Speakers at the inaugural session included Mr. Subhajit Ranajit Chaudhuri, Co-chair WB Chapter PHDCCI, MD, MMD Heavy Machinery (India) Private Limited; Mr. Amitkumar Shrivastava, Global Fujitsu, Distinguished Engineer; Mr. Meghdut Roy Chowdhury, Co-chair of WB Chapter PHDCCI, Chief Innovation Officer at Techno India Group; Mr. Sankar Ghosh, Managing Director - Accenture, Technology Solutions Lead: Growth Markets and Mr. Sanjay Thapa, Co-chair WB Chapter PHDCCI, Founder & MD, SAPE Events and Media Pvt. Ltd.

The Technical Session 1, “NEO-HR Trends,” was moderated by Dr Manas K Mandal, Visiting Professor at IIT- KGP, Adjunct professor NIAS, Ex Scientist and Director-General (LS – DRDO) Speakers included: Mr. Sumit Agarwal, SDG Ambassador for DEI, Icon of the Election Commission of India, MOC Niti Aayog; Mr. Sribesh Beltharia, Senior VP-HR, Shyam Steel, Mr. Sitanath Mukhopadhyay, IEDS, Assistant Director (Grade I)-MSME Dept; Mr. Pankaj Alwani, DGM-Patanjali Foods Limited and Mr. Partha Sarkar, Head of Talent Transformation, Business Unit, TCS.

The session on “Technology Up-gradation in HR & Industry Academia Linkage” was graced by Mr. Bodhisattwa Mukherjee – Ex-Director WTC, Ex-Additional Director ICC; Mr. Santanu Goswami, Director- Trackbee Data

Solutions Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Amitkumar Shrivastava, Global Fujitsu, Distinguished Engineer; Mr. Cyan Mookherjee-Founder/ The Idea Guy | 221 B Baker ST and Mr. Somneel Saha, Founder & CEO Createon Games.

The discussions focused on Latest HR trends and talent acquisition, Talent acquisition, challenges & the way forward, L&D and new methodology, Mental Health & Well-being: building resilient young professionals, Specific Skill sets required for industry-HR training & development to focus on the same, Scouting new talents- HR role, Technology and AI to help HR- going forward, Role of various HR software and applications signifying innovative shifts and re- defining HR practices and Industry Academia Linkage.

MEMBERS’ MEET - AATMANIRBHAR BENGAL

The PHDCCI West Bengal Chapter organized a Members’ Meet on April 5, 2025, themed ‘Aatmanirbhar Bengal’. The session was held under the leadership of Mr. Vinod Dugar, Chair, PHDCCI West Bengal Chapter, along with Mr. Meghdut Roy Chowdhury, Mr. Subhajit Ranajit Chaudhuri, and Mr. Sanjay Thapa, Co-chairs of PHDCCI, West Bengal Chapter.





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Company Secretary & GM (Legal)
Bhansali Engineering Polymers Ltd.

Mr. Achal Mohan Sharma
Director
Corepeelers Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Jitendra Agarwal
Director
Freshcare Industries Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Jayvir Singh Tomar
Managing Director
JM Infra & Enviro Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Jatin Verma
Director
JSV Motors & Constructions Pvt. Ltd.

Mrs. Aruna Vijay Saini
Proprietor
Lakshmi Handloom Industries

Mr. Ramesh Kumar Arora
Proprietor
Medelec Instruments

Mr. Manish Rajora
Designated Partner
Nadi Travel Selections LLP

Mr. Amit Goel
Co- Founder & Chief Global Strategist
Pace Financial Tresor Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Hemant Walia
Proprietor
Panchshila Service Station

Mr. Siddharth Maloo
Director
Perennial Metals Pvt. Ltd.

Ms. Tanu Kaushik
VP- Marketing
Policybazaar for Business
Policybazaar Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Paawan Khanna
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Mr. Aman Singh
Director
Tiger Hunt Security Services Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Suresh Chandra Naithani
Director
Trident Techlabs Ltd.

Mr. Rahul Garg
Authorized Personnel
WSP Consultants India Pvt. Ltd.

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Partner
Aggarwal Pawan & Associates

Dr. Surender Singh Hooda
Advocate on Record
Dr. Surender Singh Hooda

CA Praveen Gupta
Partner
Mamraj & Co.

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ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Mariamma Rajan Iyer
President
Federation of Biscuit Manufacturers of India

Mr. Kuldeep Rajpal
President
Trade Fair Association of India



MEETING WITH HON'BLE UNION MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE



A PHDCCI delegation led by Dr J.P. Gupta, Chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee, along with Mr. Mahendra Kumar Rustagi, Co-chair, Dr. Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Aditya Tripathi, Senior Secretary, and Ms. Vandana Ohlyan met Mr. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change on April 9, 2025 in New Delhi. The delegation extended a formal invitation to the Hon'ble Minister to support the following flagship initiatives of PHDCCI: Green Energy DRIVE 2025, under the theme: "Powering the Drive with CNG & CBG – Drive Green, Breathe Clean, " and the 5th International Climate Summit aimed at accelerating climate change.



MEETING WITH HON'BLE UNION HEALTH MINISTER

Dr. P. N. Arora, Chair, Hospitals, Diagnostics & Wellness Committee, PHDCCI met the Hon'ble Union Health Minister, Mr. J P Nadda to discuss key issues and opportunities in the health sector in the country on April 7, 2025. He also requested the Hon'ble Minister for his gracious presence at the upcoming event on Medical Value Travel "MEDI-EXPLORE Advancing Medical Value Travel in India" to be organized by PHDCCI under the joint aegis of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

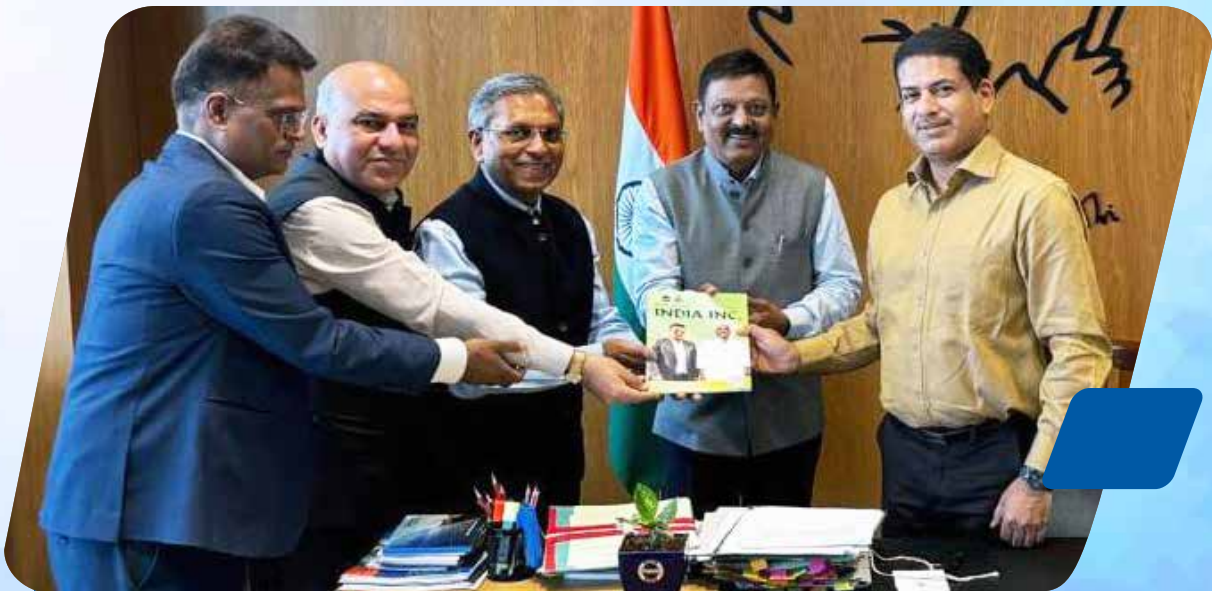


MEETING WITH HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Jigish Doshi, Chair, Solar Energy Committee; Mr. Devansh Jain, Chair, Wind Energy Committee; Mr. Vikram Jain, Co-chair, Sustainability Committee; Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Co-chair, Solar Energy Committee; Dr Jatinder Singh, Dy. Secretary General; Ms. Mili Dubey, Assistant Secretary General; Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Secretary and Mr. Suresh Joshi, Joint Secretary met Mr. Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on April 29, 2025. The delegation briefed him about the activities of the Chamber and raised a few issues impacting Atmanirbhararta and raised the issue of cheap imports of solar components in spite of QCOs in place.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Jigish Doshi, Chair, Solar Energy Committee; Mr. Vikram Jain, Co-chair, Sustainability Committee; Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Co-chair, Solar Energy Committee; Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Secretary and Mr. Suresh Joshi, Joint Secretary met Mr. Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on April 29, 2025. The delegation discussed issues impacting the Solar industry and assured him to work closely with the Ministry for making India Atmanirbhar in Solar Components segment.

MEETING WITH COMMISSIONER (LABOUR), GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Ashish Wig, Chair, HR & IR Committee, along with Mr. Arun Kumar Jha, Secretary, Delhi Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board met Mr. R. N. Sharma, IAS, Commissioner (Labour), Govt. of NCT of Delhi April 15, 2025. The delegation invited the Commissioner (Labour), as Guest of Honour for the conference on Occupational Safety and Health & Conference on Social Security Code.

MEETING WITH MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH



Mr. Anil Kumar Saunkhala, Resident Director and Mr. Rohit Sharma, Assistant Secretary PHDCCI met Mr. Harshwardhan Chauhan, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Parliamentary Affairs and Labour and Employment to the Government Himachal Pradesh on April 7, 2025. The delegation invited the Chief Guest for the upcoming HPITEX'25, scheduled to be held at Mandi.



MEETING WITH HON'BLE CABINET MINISTER-URBAN DEVELOPMENT, URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION, ENERGY, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI delegation of UP State Chapter comprising of Mr. Abhishek Tripathi, Senior Member, Mr. Kaushik Fuloria, Resident Manager and Ms. Riddhi Garg, Resident Officer met with Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Urban Development, Overall Urban Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Energy, Additional Sources of Energy, Government of Uttar Pradesh on April 4, 2025 at Lucknow. The delegation extended an invitation to the Hon'ble Cabinet Minister to be the Chief Guest at the Uttar Pradesh Energy Expo (UPEX) 2025, held in May in Lucknow.

MEETING WITH MR. R K SABOO, FORMER PRESIDENT, PHDCCI



A PHDCCI delegation OF Punjab Chapter comprising of Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, Ms. Rimneet Kaur, Resident Director and Mr. Gurdarshan Aggarwal, Resident Director met Mr. R. K. Saboo, Former President of PHDCCI on April 25, 2025 at his residence. As part of the Chamber's 120th anniversary celebrations, the delegation felicitated Shri R K Saboo for his remarkable contributions and enduring legacy in shaping the vision and progress of the Chamber. A token of gratitude was presented in the form of the Coffee Table Book, unveiled during the 120-year celebrations, commemorating the Chamber's journey and milestones.



MEETING WITH MR ATUL DULLOO, CHIEF SECRETARY



A delegation of PHDCCI Jammu Chapter led by Mr. Rakesh Wazir, Chair met Mr Atul Dulloo, Chief Secretary, J&K to discuss tourism-centric strategies on April 20, 2025.

MEETING WITH CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND



A PHDCCI delegation of Uttarakhand Chapter led by Mr. Hemant Kochhar, Chair along with Mr. Prashant Kala, Executive Director, Bishop Calsons, and the secretariat team met the Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand, Mr. Anand Bardhan on April 4, 2025. The delegation discussed various opportunities of collaboration between Uttarakhand Government and PHDCCI.

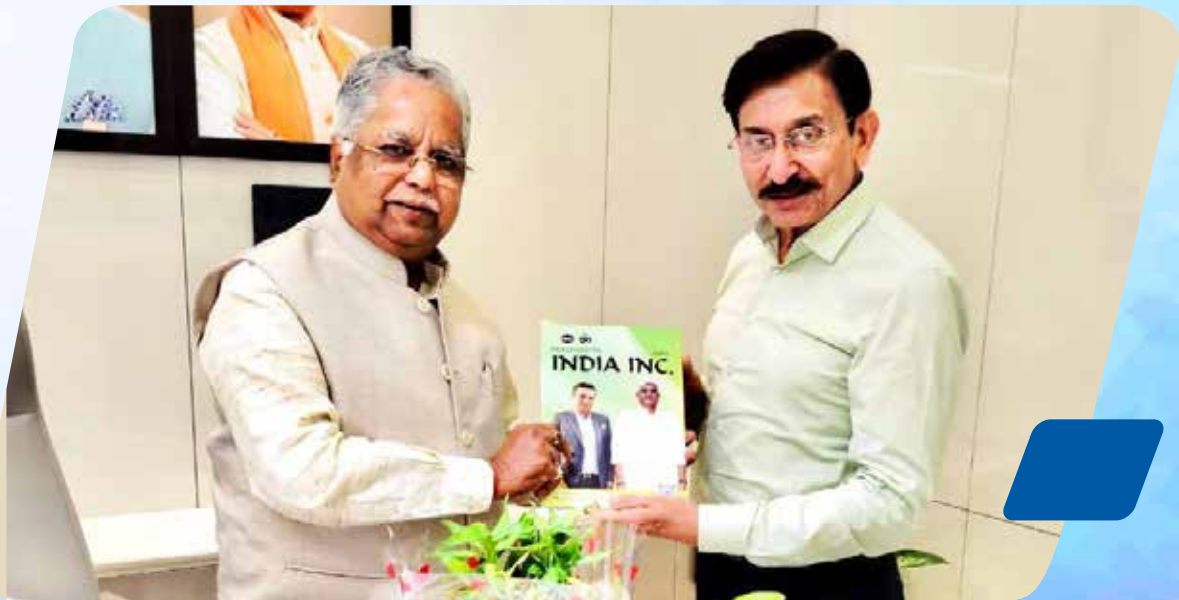


MEETING WITH, SECRETARY, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY, CHANDIGARH



A PHDCCI delegation of Haryana State Chapter comprising of Adv. Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, Mr. Tushar Negi, Resident Officer met Mr. Saurabh Kumar, IFS, Secretary, Science & Technology and Renewable Energy, Chandigarh on March 4, 2025. The delegation extended an invitation to Mr. Saurabh Kumar for his gracious presence for the Inaugural Session of the 3rd Edition of REV Expo 2025. Mr. Saurabh Kumar commended the outstanding efforts of PHDCCI in positioning Chandigarh as a leader in clean and green energy initiatives.

MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN, CHHATTISGARH STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



A PHDCCI delegation of Chhattisgarh Chapter comprising of Mr. Pradeep Tandon, Chair and Mr. Sumit Dubey, Resident Director met Mr. Rajeev Agrawal, Chairman, Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation on April 29, 2025 at Raipur. During the meeting, Mr. Tandon discussed issues related to reducing the processing time of industrial files, highlighting that time is of the essence for industries.



MEETING WITH MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER, CHANDIGARH



A PHDCCI delegation of Haryana State Chapter comprising of Adv Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director and Mr. Tushar Negi, Resident Officer met Mr. Amit Kumar, Municipal Commissioner, Chandigarh on March 4, 2025. The delegation extended an invitation to Mr. Amit Kumar to inaugurate the third edition of REV Expo 2025.

MEETING WITH PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX, SRINAGAR



A PHDCCI delegation of Kashmir Chapter led by Mr. Himayu Wani Co-chair met Mr. Vikram Sahay (IRS)–Principal Commissioner of Income Tax and and Mr. Shakil Ahmad Ganie , Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar on May 1, 2025. The meeting focused on organizing Income Tax & Compliance Outreach Programs along with Taxpayer Help Desks across all districts & business hubs in collaboration with PHDCCI & the Income Tax Department.



VOICE

IS OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE



V Value creation for all stakeholders, ensuring that every action adds tangible benefits to our economy and society.



O Opportunity for all, fostering an inclusive environment where every Member, regardless of scale, has the chance to grow and thrive.



I Innovation as the cornerstone of our initiatives, driving us to continuously evolve, adapt, and lead in a rapidly changing global landscape.



C Collaboration with all stakeholders, including government, businesses, and civil society, to build sustainable solutions and forge strong partnerships.



E Engagement that is meaningful and responsive, ensuring we listen to the voices of our Members and act on their concerns with purpose and urgency.

VOICE OF INDUSTRY & TRADE



MINISTRY OF MICRO
SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
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PHD FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (PHDFWF)



Certificate Distribution programme at PHDFWF-HTWL, Lal Kua Center

PHDFWF donated for medical instruments to Mayawati Charitable Hospital, Chambawat,UK

PHDFWF participated in 'Run for A Girl Child' at JLN Stadium on April 13, with support from Jaquar

FREE SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLE



With support from funding partners, PHDFWF is running **27 skill development centres** in remote and rural areas. **1,620 students** are trained in various skills, empowering them to become self-reliant and support their families.

FREE HEALTH CAMPS FOR NEEDY PEOPLE



PHDFWF delivers vital healthcare services to underserved communities through **11 mobile medical vans**, including specialised eye, dental, and TI project on HIV/AIDs. **183 health camps** were organized across five states, benefiting **7,822 patients** in remote and marginalized areas.

FREE EDUCATION FOR MARGINALISED STUDENTS



PHDFWF is advancing education through free remedial classes at four centres, computer training and English Speaking at **18 centres** across Delhi-NCR, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh. These initiatives aim to enhance learning outcomes and promote digital literacy, underscoring the foundation's commitment to empowering communities through accessible and impactful education.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS





PHDCCI

CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Water Audit



**Impact Assessment
of CSR Projects**



**Environment Social
Governance (ESG)**



**Electrical and Fire Safety
Risk Assessments and
Management**



**Alliance for Water
Stewardship (AWS)**



**Business Responsibility
and Sustainability
Report/auditing (BRSR)**

**GHG Inventory
Preparation
and Verification**



**Occupational Health and
Hygiene**



For More Information Contact:

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Ms. Shipra Shristy
Executive Officer
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PHD RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (PHDRDF)

PHD Rural Development Foundation, the social arm of PHDCCI actively works in the field of Healthcare, Education, Skill Development, Water Conservation, Agriculture and Integrated Village development.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ Total **81 OPDs**, **61 Health Camps** and **02 Awareness** were organized in **Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Haryana** with support from **05** partners namely, Dhampur Sugar Mills Limited, Talwandi Sabo Power Limited, Magadh Sugar Mills, Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd., and Dharpal Satyapal Limited. More than **7,097** patients were treated and provided medical services.
- ❖ **Rotary Club of Delhi Rendezvous**, in partnership with **PHDRDF**, is upgrading **two** Government Schools in Aurangabad village, Hodal, Palwal Haryana. The project will benefit **800** students through roof repairs, a new library and a staff room, classroom flooring, main gate refurbishment, solar plant, and RO installation.
- ❖ **Donaldson India Filter Systems Pvt. Ltd.** is supporting **02** projects benefiting over **50,000** people. First project is to clean and maintain 10 existing wells in Mehrauli area to be used for drinking water for the community. Besides this support, re-establishment of a Primary Health Center, in Bhondsi, Sohna is being implemented.
- ❖ **PHDRDF** partnered with **Padam Singh Bapna Foundation** to establish a computer Lab in Govt. Senior Secondary School in Village **Kaler, Thanagazi, Alwar, Rajasthan**, which will benefit more than **400** students. PHDRDF also collaborated with **APT Research Pvt. Ltd.** to refurbish the school's sanitation facilities, benefiting more than **450** students.
- ❖ **PHDRDF** and **Gulshan Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.** have partnered for "Unnati", upgrading the Govt. Senior Secondary School in **Kaler, Alwar, Rajasthan**. The project includes refurbishing classrooms, desks, benches, Mid-Day Meal kitchen, and installing a drinking water station. Over **450** students will benefit from this initiative.
- ❖ With support from **04** partners, a total **07** check dams and **05** ponds are being established in **Rajasthan, Punjab, Maharashtra** and UP with a water holding capacity of **>1.4 Million Cu Ft.** After the completion of these structures will benefit **2,059** households. **0,831** beneficiaries.

SPECIAL EVENT

Inauguration of Surya Shakt Project

The 'Surya Shakt' Project was inaugurated at Bhora Kalan Community Health Center in Gurugram, Haryana. A **25 kVA** hybrid solar power plant was installed to provide uninterrupted medical services to **40,000**. Supported by IGT Solutions Pvt. Ltd., the project promotes clean energy and reliable healthcare. **Dr Alka Singh**, Chief Medical officer of Gurugram along with **Dr Neelima Nagpal**, Deputy CMO in presence of **Mr Jayant Pradhan**, Sr Vice President- Finance, **Mr Kishori Saran**, GM Finance, **Mr Prem Mishra**, Sr Manager, **Mr Ashish Thakur** - GM Legal and **Mr Shekhar Chandel** - Manager Admin from IGT Solutions were Present. From **PHDRDF**, **Mr Sanjay Chaudhary**, Chief Executive, **Mr Sandeep Kumar**, Sr Manager along with the team were present.



Inauguration of Prayas Project

The 'Prayas' Project was inaugurated in Sonipat, Haryana at Government Primary Schools in Panchi Gujran and Chhoti Garhi, and the Government Health Sub-Center, Panchi Gujran, by **Mr. Sanjay Bhatia**, MD, **Hindustan Tin Works Ltd.** The initiative includes smart classes, RO drinking water stations, new and refurbished toilets, classroom renovations, playground swings, and health center improvements. Uniforms and shoes were distributed to students. Over **80** students and **700** villagers have benefited.



Partners/ Donors

DHAMPUR	VEDANTA power	LBPL	Apt	HINDUSTAN TIN WORKS LIMITED	H corp	Padam Singh Bapna Foundation	Rotary Club of Delhi Premier
Donaldson	DS GROUP	GULSHAN	Anandana	MAGADH	IGT SOLUTIONS	VIDYA SATHI HEALTH SAFETY	Rotary Club of Delhi South Central

IN CONVERSATION WITH NEWSX ON IMPACT OF TRUMP'S TARIFFS

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General of PHDCCI in conversation with Mr. Branji Thomas, NewsX, sharing his insights and perspectives on the Trump tariff war and its broader impact on markets.

Branji Thomas: What immediate impact do you foresee Trump's fresh tariff threats having on key Indian markets such as mobile, pharma, automobiles, textiles, and steel — particularly those with export dependency?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: The immediate impact we have seen is that markets have crashed. Indian exporters, particularly those exporting to the US, are in a dilemma. We are in constant touch with the Indian Government and the industry to understand what they are going through. We are collecting feedback. This will definitely have an immediate negative impact on our exporters because they have pending orders. The US importers, once they supply these orders after April 9 will have to bear 26% higher costs. So they are already approaching our exporters to reduce prices and absorb the increased costs.

This is a situation of great uncertainty. But at the same time,

we strongly feel that in the long run, it is not going to affect us much because opportunities always exist alongside challenges. Our exporters will have to diversify their markets globally. The government is in constant touch with US authorities; negotiations are ongoing. I think the best answer will be through BTAs (bilateral trade agreements). The earlier we negotiate, the better it will be for US-India trade ties.

Branji Thomas: Given the reported US \$15 billion withdrawal by foreign institutional investors from Indian equities so far in 2025, how can India stabilize market sentiment and also maintain investor confidence amid this global trade turbulence?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: You see, this withdrawal by FPIs is only a result of the kind of uncertainties in the market, especially against the backdrop of the US. But India has a very stable political system, a dependable judiciary, we are the world's largest democracy, and one



of the biggest markets in the world with 1.4 billion people.

The world sees a lot of opportunity in India. Whatever withdrawal has happened is temporary. We believe foreign investors will reinvest in the Indian market because ultimately, investments go where the environment is safe and stable, and where there are growth opportunities. India's vision of Viksit Bharat is well known. The whole country is on a transformative journey. India will remain a market with huge opportunities for everyone.

Branji Thomas: Despite the recent sell-offs, some analysts still say India remains one of the least

vulnerable economies in Asia to the US-China tariff escalations. Do you agree with this assessment? Are there other factors contributing to this resilience?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: If you look at the macroeconomic indicators, our inflation is under control, our fiscal deficit is managed, and our current account deficit isn't too high. So, price stability exists. While there is scope to reduce interest rates for the industry, India is growing fast. Even during the pandemic, we remained resilient. We have a huge market, 65 million MSMEs, and more than 50% of our population depends on agriculture.

The government is focused on reviving agriculture and increasing farmer incomes. There's also strong support for MSMEs. Our programs — Make in India, Digital India, digital public infrastructure, work on semiconductors, renewable energy commitments, and infrastructure development — all contribute to making India an attractive and resilient economy. India will definitely come out of these temporary turbulences as a very stable and resilient economy.

Branji Thomas: What strategic measures should the Indian government and RBI consider to shield the stock market and broader economy from spillover effects of the US-China trade tensions?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: I always see opportunities in such global turbulences. When there's a tariff war between the US and China, India becomes a natural alternative destination under the China Plus One strategy.

We have abundant and cheaper labor, a massive domestic market, and favorable policy support from the government. Many companies will look to set up manufacturing units here.

But our states need to come forward. Land is with the states, and their policies must encourage



ease of doing business. State-level reforms are crucial for bringing in investments.

Branji Thomas: Could this ongoing tariff war present opportunities for Indian exporters — especially in sectors where the US is cutting imports from China? How can Indian businesses position themselves to fill that void?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: Yes, if the US is imposing high tariffs on Chinese goods, Indian exporters have a great opportunity to supply to the US. But we must act fast — we need to negotiate bilateral trade agreements with the US.

Our MSMEs and industries need to produce world-class, competitive products. We need to be quality-conscious. As the Prime Minister has emphasized — Zero Defect, Zero Effect — this approach is essential for exporting Indian goods..

This trade war presents a huge opportunity. India can truly benefit and prepare for the next generation of growth that will follow this turbulence.

Branji Thomas: With China now retaliating with counter-tariffs and tightening export controls on strategic minerals, do you foresee any scenario where China might try to partner more with India? How should India respond — diplomatically or economically?

Dr Ranjeet Mehta: The world is changing rapidly. India will always act in the best interest of its citizens. The government is very conscious of that. We've seen how India responded positively during the pandemic. We emerged as the vaccine capital of the world — producing and supplying vaccines globally.

Even amid global challenges, the world looks to invest in India. We must grab this moment, so that Indian manufacturing should now dominate globally. The mantra should be: Make in India, for the world.

And the last word: — we must now move from tariffs to trust.



CONFERENCE FACILITIES

PHD HOUSE, NEW DELHI

PHD House, New Delhi is a prestigious, most conveniently approachable, as located in the heart of South Delhi and suitably equipped venue for corporate and business events. It provides facilities to suit specific requirements, backed-up by excellent infrastructure with 100% power backup such as latest public address system, audio-visual facilities, etc. Our meeting rooms provide a bespoke setting and serene atmosphere that are ideal for exclusive business networking events, conferences, seminars, Board Meetings, Interviews, Annual General Meetings, Academic Discussions, exhibitions, panel discussions, cultural programmes, training programmes, Audio – Video presentations, etc. Our meeting rooms tend to make a difference in the way you do your business.

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 Well designed for conducting Training Programmes/ workshops/Audio-Visual Presentations.
- IRC Room (Capacity : 25)**
 Ideal for Board Meetings and Small Meetings.
- Arbitration Hall (Capacity : 12-15)**
 Arbitration Hall which will enable the members to hold small Conferences, Arbitration hearings for max 12-15 pax at competitive rates.
- The RE Walker & JC Chandiok Library**
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For Conference Facilities, please contact: Ms. Rachna Thakur, E-mail: conf.booking@phdcci.in Tel.: +91 9891890800

ELECTRONIC MEDIA



AUTHORED ARTICLE



How the New MSME Classification Will Empower Indian Enterprises

Finance is the lifeblood of any business, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises. However, access to credit has always been one of the biggest challenges for MSMEs. With the revised classification, more businesses now fall under the MSME umbrella, and they become eligible for schemes such as priority sector lending, collateral-free loans, and interest subvention.



Ranjeet Mehta • ETBFSI

Published On Apr 21, 2025 at 11:00 AM IST

The Union Budget 2025-26 marked a pivotal moment for Indian businesses, particularly for the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sector. By revising the definition and increasing the investment and turnover thresholds, the government has made a decisive shift toward supporting growth, scale, and competitiveness. This move is not just a regulatory update; it is a major step toward unlocking the untapped potential of millions of enterprises that have long been held back by outdated limits.

What's New in the Classification?

The revised MSME classification criteria now allow for significantly higher investment and turnover, giving businesses more space to grow while still enjoying the benefits offered under the MSME framework.

• **Micro Enterprises:** Investment limit increased from ₹1 crore to ₹2.5 crore; turnover limit raised from ₹5 crore to ₹10 crore.

• **Small Enterprises:** Investment cap increased from ₹10 crore to ₹25 crore; turnover limit expanded from ₹50 crore to ₹100 crore.

• **Medium Enterprises:** Investment ceiling raised from ₹50 crore to ₹125 crore; turnover limit extended from ₹250 crore to ₹500 crore.

This change is critical because it reflects the growing needs of Indian enterprises in an evolving global and domestic economic landscape.



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E-mail: phdshimla@phdcci.in

JAMMU

Ground Floor, Maa Vaishno Devi,
Gas Premises, Main Chowk, Channi,
Himmat, Jammu - 180 015
Email: phdjammu@phdcci.in

JHARKHAND

Building Number 174, 1st Floor,
Tara Niketan, Behind Sushila Niketan,
Radium Road, Ranchi - 834 001
Phone: 91-651-2245356
Email: phdranchi@phdcci.in

KASHMIR

245, C-63, Rajbagh Extension,
Srinagar - 190008
Email: phdsrinagar@phdcci.in

MADHYA PRADESH

22, Vaishali Nagar, Near Kamla Nagar,
Police Station Kotra, Bhopal - 462 003
Phone: 91-755-2670247
E-mail: phdbhopal@phdcci.in

MAHARASHTRA

1307-08, 13th Floor,
Parinee Crescenzo Opp. MCA Club,
Avenue 3G Block, BKC, Bandra East,
Mumbai - 400051
Phone: 91-22-61496622
E-mail: phdmh@phdcci.in

NORTH EAST REGION (NER)

(Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya,
Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura)
101, IIE Block, Rajdhani Apartment,
R.G. Baruah Road, Ganeshguri,
Guwahati - 781 006
Phone: +91-361-2303136
E-mail: nerguwahati@phdcci.in

PUNJAB

TMA Complex 2nd Floor, 80, Court Road,
Amritsar (Punjab)-143001
Telephone : 0172-5001900, 5006900
E-mail: rdchd@phdcci.in

CICU Complex, E-648/A,
Near BSNL Exchange,
Phase-5, Focal Point,
Ludhiana - 141010
Telephone : 0172-5001900, 5006900
E-mail: rdchd@phdcci.in

RAJASTHAN

PHD House, Plot No.: G - 68
CO Mansarovar Industrial Area,
Near Galaxy Multiplex,
Jaipur - 302 020
Phone: 0141-2398825
E-mail: phdjaipur@phdcci.in

TAMIL NADU

Refex Building, 67 Buzullah Road,
Parthasarathy Puram, T Nagar,
Chennai - 600017
Phone: 044-4340 5900/950
Email: phdtn@phdcci.in

TELANGANA

105, Surya Towers, First Floor,
Sardar Patel Road,
Secundrabad - 500003
Email: phdgt@phdcci.in

UTTAR PRADESH

PHD House, Plot-B, Phase-II,
Vibhuti Khand, Near Apna Bazar,
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226 010
Phone: 91-522-2728940
E-mail: phdlucknow@phdcci.in

UTTARAKHAND

Shiva Palace, 2nd Floor, 18 & 19,
57/19 Rajpur Road,
Dehradun - 248 001
Phone: 91-135-2754446;
E-mail: phduk@phdcci.in

WEST BENGAL

1st floor, 6/A, Regent Kusum,
Dover Road, Ballygunge,
Kolkata - 700 019
Email : phdwb@phdcci.in



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