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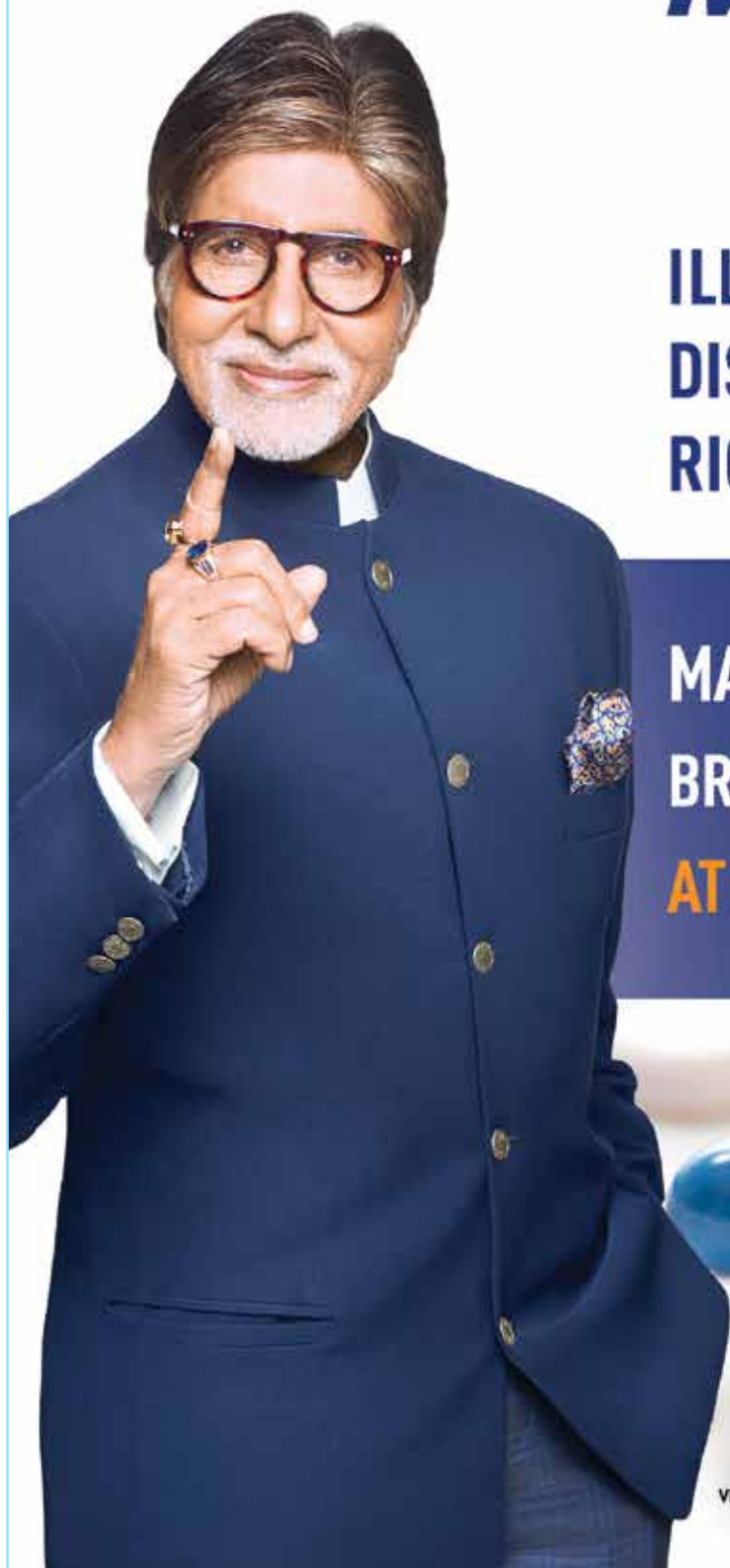
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President's *Message*



HEMANT JAIN
PRESIDENT



The upcoming 120th Annual Session will be a platform to redefine the Chamber's role in shaping India's future. In a world navigating uncertainties, India offers macroeconomic stability, democratic continuity, and developmental ambition. The dream of a fully developed India by 2047 is no longer a distant hope, it is an achievable mission.

"Good governance with good intentions is the hallmark of our government. Implementation with integrity is our core passion."— Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi

It is with great pride and optimism that I address you at a moment when India is firmly advancing on its path of inclusive and sustainable economic transformation. Under the visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, India has reaffirmed its standing as one of the world's most resilient and high-growth economies. In FY 2024-25, our country recorded real GDP growth of 6.5% and nominal growth of 9.8%, with the size of the economy reaching an impressive USD 3.91 trillion. This performance reflects the strength of domestic demand, capital formation, structural reforms, and a prudent policy framework that continues to withstand global headwinds.

Looking to FY 2025-26, despite global uncertainty, India's

economic outlook remains highly positive. Improved consumption trends, healthy balance sheets in the corporate and banking sectors, accommodative financial conditions, and steady public capital expenditure are expected to sustain the growth momentum. Agricultural prospects remain bright, and strong consumer sentiment, bolstered by rising rural incomes, will further contribute to national economic resilience. The continuity of public investment and regulatory reforms is likely to catalyse further gains, reinforcing the foundations of long-term competitiveness and prosperity.

India's industrial and services sectors are performing with confidence. In May 2025, the Manufacturing PMI stood at 57.6,

while the Services PMI registered 58.8, both clear indicators of robust domestic activity. Formal economic indicators, including GST collections and e-way bill generation, demonstrate increased transparency, operational efficiency, and buoyant enterprise activity across both urban and rural markets. The services sector continues to play a central role, while rural demand has been supported by government-backed employment, infrastructure, and welfare programs.

To better understand the ground-level dynamics of industry, the Chamber recently launched its Quarterly SME Market Sentiment Index, drawing insights from over 3,000 SMEs across key manufacturing sectors. The inaugural SME Business Outlook

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Index for Q1 FY 2025-26 stood at 60.3%, reflecting optimism across the small and medium enterprise spectrum. According to the findings, 67% of firms anticipate a rise in business activity, 47% foresee higher employment generation, and over half plan new capital investments. This encouraging sentiment is a result of increased order books, streamlined access to credit, proactive skilling initiatives, and broader technology enablement.

The agricultural sector continues to show signs of strong performance. A record rabi harvest, a favorable monsoon outlook, and the government's decision to raise Minimum Support Prices—up to 9% across key crops—are expected to enhance rural incomes and promote diversification. With a 3% hike in paddy MSP to Rs. 2,369 per quintal, and the implementation of progressive schemes such as the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana and the National Mission on Natural Farming, the sector is undergoing a transformation toward resilience, sustainability, and profitability.

India's financial system has demonstrated remarkable stability. After brief volatility in April, markets rebounded in May, supported by positive monsoon forecasts and easing inflationary pressures. Headline CPI inflation is expected to decline to 3% in May 2025, the lowest in six years, primarily driven by a significant correction in food prices. With core inflation under control, and assuming a benign monsoon, the Reserve Bank of India may be well-positioned to consider rate cuts in FY 2026 potentially by up to 75 basis points, thereby, reinforcing domestic demand and lowering the cost of capital for businesses.

India's external sector has shown extraordinary resilience amidst increasing global protectionism and trade tensions. The imposition of a 26% reciprocal tariff by the United States, currently suspended for 90 days, underlines the importance of timely trade diplomacy. A successful and strategic Indo-US trade agreement could pave the

way for expanded market access, diversified exports, and safeguarded long-term trade interests. Our foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 692.7 billion as of May 23, 2025, enough to cover more than 11 months of imports and 96% of short-term external debt. The rupee remains stable, buoyed by a strong inflow of remittances and robust services exports. Notably, foreign direct investment inflows rose by 14% to reach USD 81.04 billion in FY 2024-25, underscoring international confidence in India's long-term economic prospects.

As India seeks to elevate the share of manufacturing in GDP from the current 13% to 25% over the coming decade, the sector will require a compound annual growth rate of 13.6%. Achieving this vision will necessitate expanded export capacities, deeper integration into global value chains, greater investment in R&D and advanced technologies, enhanced labor efficiency, streamlined logistics, and an enabling trade environment through strengthened FTAs.

On the international engagement front, PHDCCI continues to serve as a trusted economic bridge. We recently hosted senior officials from Uzbekistan and Poland, as well as representatives from the United States. In addition, the Chamber led a high-impact business delegation to Mauritius focused on healthcare, medical tourism, and biotechnology. We also led a Defence industry delegation to Brno, Czech Republic to participate in the International Defence and Security Technology Exhibition. These engagements reflect our commitment to deepening India's economic partnerships and facilitating new trade corridors for Indian businesses.

This year marks a truly historic occasion for PHDCCI, our 120th anniversary. Since 1905, we have evolved from a regional chamber into a national institution of strategic influence. Our legacy is deeply intertwined with India's own transformation, from

supporting the freedom movement to playing a constructive role in industrialization, economic reforms, digital transition, and global integration. We have always stood at the forefront of change, guided by our core guideline of VOICE (Value Creation, Opportunity for All, Innovation, Collaboration, Engagement). From championing MSMEs and nurturing startups to skilling India's youth and advancing technology-led transformation, we are proud contributors to India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.

As we commemorate this milestone, we are also looking ahead. The upcoming 120th Annual Session will be a platform to redefine the Chamber's role in shaping India's future. In a world navigating uncertainties, India offers macroeconomic stability, democratic continuity, and developmental ambition. The dream of a fully developed India by 2047 is no longer a distant hope, it is an achievable mission. Through ongoing reforms, digital public infrastructure, green growth initiatives, and a strong demographic dividend, India is reimagining the development paradigm for emerging economies.

"Patriotism is supporting your country all the time, and your government when it deserves it." Mark Twain. Aptly said, at this decisive juncture, I call upon all stakeholders—industry leaders, policymakers, development partners, and civil society, to unite in advancing India's next phase of growth. Let us harness the power of collaboration, innovation, and shared purpose to build an India that is not only economically empowered, but globally respected and socially inclusive. With collective effort, strategic vision, and unwavering resolve, we can ensure that India continues to lead with confidence, purpose, and pride.

Hemant Jain

President, PHDCCI



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INTERACTION WITH HON'BLE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Hemant Jain, President; Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General; Mr. Sanat Kumar, Chief Economist and Mr. Rakesh Shukla, Joint Secretary, interacted with Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry and senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on May 9, 2025 at New Delhi.

Mr. Hemant Jain lauded the signing of the historic forward-

looking India-UK free trade agreement and presented recommendations to unlock the transformative potential of India.

PHDCCI's major suggestions included linking of the India-UK FTA with the National Manufacturing Mission (NMM), aligning NMM incentives (PLI schemes) with FTA opportunity sectors, launching support schemes to help exporters align with UK's trade norms and prioritising high-potential sectors with tailored technology, finance

and labour frameworks for the UK market.

PHDCCI highlighted that this 'game changer' agreement represents a significant opportunity for small and medium enterprises by enhancing market access, simplifying regulatory environment, improving business mobility, fostering innovation, and generating millions of jobs.

INDIA INVITES BRICS NATIONS TO 12TH COMMUNICATIONS MINISTERS' MEETING TO BE HOSTED BY INDIA IN 2026

At the 11th BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting in Brasília recently, India reaffirmed its commitment to inclusive, sustainable, and future-ready digital development. Represented by Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development, India highlighted its Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) as a global model, citing Aadhaar and UPI as key enablers of digital inclusion and financial transformation. Dr. Sekhar urged greater BRICS cooperation in areas like cybersecurity, data protection, and digital trust, and emphasized India's efforts through initiatives like Sanchar Saathi. He praised the collaborative BRICS spirit, endorsed Brazil's leadership, and invited member nations to the next meeting in India in 2026, promoting the vision of "One Earth, One Family, One Future."



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INTERACTION WITH AMBASSADOR OF UZBEKISTAN TO INDIA

PHDCCI had the honour of hosting H.E. Mr. Sardor Mirzayusupovich Rustambaev, Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to India on May 21, 2025 at New Delhi.

In his address, H.E. Mr. Rustambaev highlighted Uzbekistan's strong economic performance, noting a real GDP growth of 6.5% in 2024, consistent with the nation's growth trajectory over the past decade. Emphasizing the historical and strategic relationship between Uzbekistan and India, His Excellency stated that India remains among Uzbekistan's top ten trading partners, with bilateral trade reaching USD 471.36 million during FY 2024-25.

Key Indian exports to Uzbekistan include pharmaceutical products, mechanical equipment,

vehicle parts, services, frozen buffalo meat, optical instruments and mobile phones. India imports a variety of goods from Uzbekistan such as fruits and vegetable products, fertilizers, juice products and extracts, lubricants, and services.

Ambassador Rustambaev also underscored the promising potential for collaboration in the education sector, noting that four Indian universities have already established campuses in Uzbekistan.

The Ambassador extended a cordial invitation to PHDCCI members to participate in the 4th Tashkent International Investment Forum, scheduled to be held from June 10-12, 2025 in Tashkent. The Forum is a premier platform for bringing together global

investors to explore Uzbekistan's diverse investment landscape, spanning sectors such as energy, infrastructure, agriculture, tourism, mining, and the digital economy. Since its inception in 2022, the Forum has become a key initiative in Uzbekistan's vision for sustainable development and global partnerships.

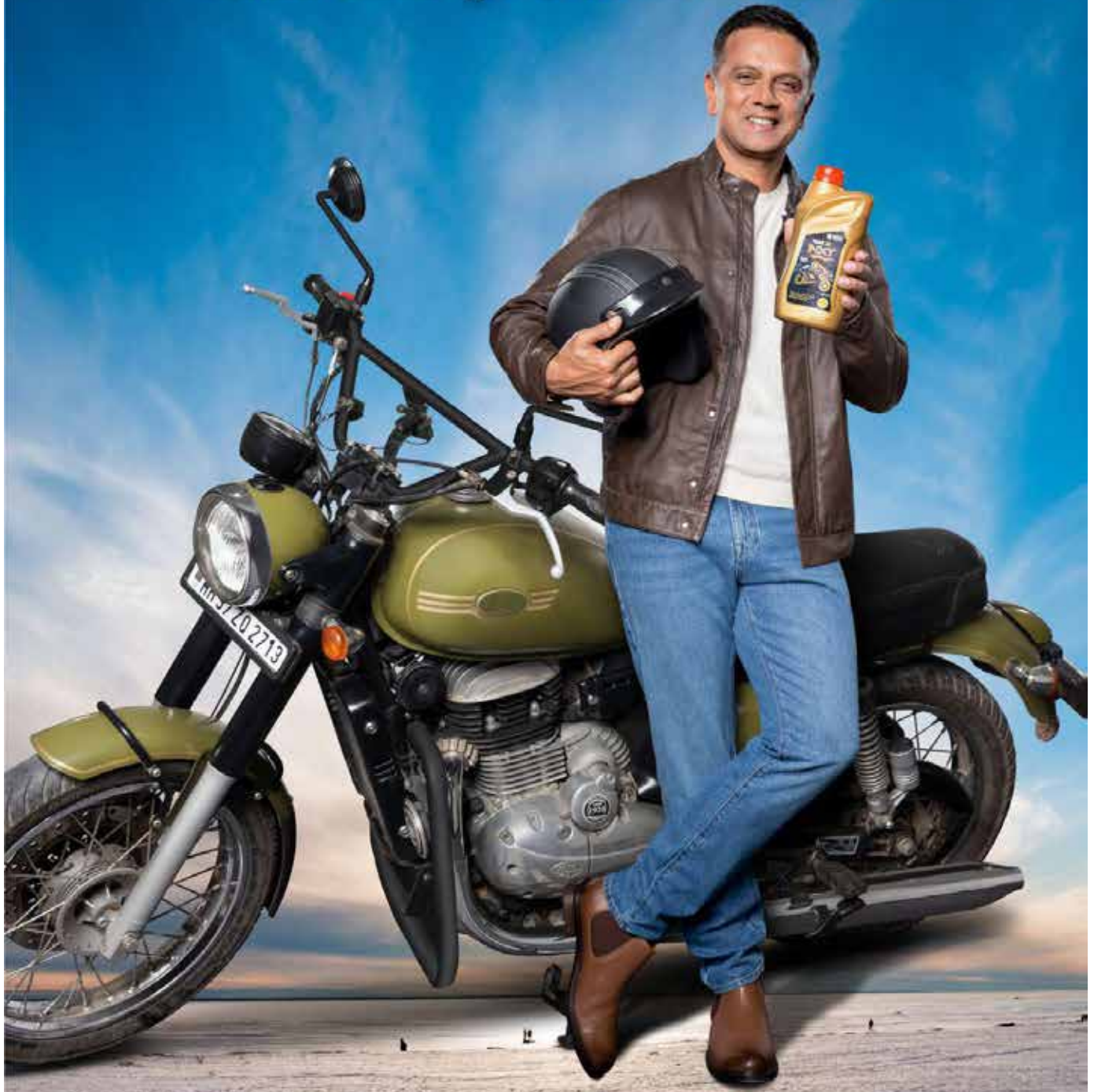
Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI, expressed sincere appreciation to the Ambassador for his valuable insights and reaffirmed the Chamber's commitment to strengthening bilateral economic ties.

The interaction marked a significant step forward in enhancing India-Uzbekistan economic cooperation and exploring new avenues for trade and investment.



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INDIA-US BILATERAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

PHDCCI organised a conference on "India-US Bilateral Trade and Economic Relations: Reformulating Existing Trade and Investment and Leveraging its Potential" on May 28, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Mr. Sohag Sen, Deputy Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry highlighted the significant transformations occurring in global trade and investment since 2016. He explained that the earlier model of globalization, which focused mainly on maximizing returns on equity for companies, was no longer sufficient. Today, trade relationships must also consider trust between countries, political dynamics, and the interests of both consumers and producers.

He also emphasized the deep interconnection between technology, trade, and investment, noting that the trust established in one area tends to build confidence in others, creating complex global partnerships.

India, with its long history as a trading nation exporting textiles, spices, handicrafts, and metals,



is pursuing a dual approach. The government is focused on domestic reforms and sectoral growth in textiles, food processing, and semiconductors, alongside active participation in global markets.

Ms. Xiaobing Feng, Acting Deputy Senior Commercial Officer, U.S. Commercial Service, in her address, expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to speak and engage with the audience. She noted the potential and excitement surrounding the ongoing collaboration and expressed hope that the relationship between the two countries will lead to significant prosperity.

Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi, Vice Chancellor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, in his address, reflected on the evolving economic relationship between India and the United States in the context of global trade dynamics. He stated the unprecedented nature of current global challenges, noting that the US and India have historically viewed their economic partnership as complementary rather than competitive.

Mr. Joshi highlighted India's impressive economic growth, pointing out that India's economy, valued at over US\$4.1 trillion, has surpassed that of Japan. He

stressed India's status as the world's oldest democracy and underscored its increasing integration into the global economy—India's share in global goods and services is now 2.3%, up from just 0.6% in 1970. This reflects a growing openness and participation in international trade, second only to the UK.

Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal, Senior Managing Committee Member, PHDCCI, began his address by emphasizing the strong potential of India as a collaborative partner for the United States in trade and manufacturing. He highlighted that India is not just a country to

do business with but a nation that believes in growing together with its global partners. He stressed that India stands ready to contribute meaningfully to the global supply chain, especially in collaboration with the US.

Mr. Vishal Dhingra, Co-chair, Foreign Trade and Investment Committee, PHDCCI, in his address, reflected on the evolving trade landscape and said that although the current times may seem uncertain or challenging, they offer a powerful opportunity to reset, re-evaluate, and move forward with renewed purpose.

He noted that the United States, as one of the world's largest markets and a long-standing champion of democracy since World War II, has played a vital role in shaping global economic systems. India, with its strong democratic foundation and vast population, continues to align with these values and remains committed to global cooperation.

Dr. Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI moderated the session and introduced the theme of the conference.

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PHDCCI'S ADVENTURE RIDE 2.0 FROM NEW DELHI TO LANSDOWNE, UTTARAKHAND

The Youth Affairs & Sports Committee of PHDCCI organized the Ceremonial Flag Off of the PHDCCI Adventure Ride 2.0 on May 9, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The primary objective of this event was to promote adventure sports and tourism in Uttarakhand while also raising awareness about road safety amongst the riding community.

The event supported by the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways began its journey on May 9 and concluded on May 10, 2025, from Delhi to Lansdowne, Uttarakhand. Participants had the unique opportunity to experience off roading at the iconic Bheem Pakora, adding to the thrill and adventure of the ride.

Mr. Vijender Gupta, Hon'ble Speaker of the Delhi Legislative Assembly graced the occasion

as Chief Guest. He highlighted that this ride was not just a thrilling adventure but also carried an important message for environmental conservation and road safety. His words resonated with the purpose of the ride to raise awareness about environmental sustainability, especially with the tree plantation initiatives planned along the route.

Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, spoke about the current geopolitical landscape and how such initiatives symbolize our collective resilience and patriotism. PHDCCI's Adventure Ride 2.0 stood as a beacon of unity, with enthusiastic participation from our youth, representing the indomitable spirit of Young India.

Mr. Remus Dcruz, Head of Sports Marketing and Communities, Apollo

Tyres Ltd., expressed his thoughts on the initiative, stating that these rides bring together micro-communities of auto enthusiasts and are perfectly aligned with our philosophy of 'going the distance'.

The event culminated in a prize distribution ceremony in Lansdowne, graced by Ms. Shalini Maurya, SDM Lansdowne. Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI expressed his heartfelt appreciation to all partners and riders for their enthusiastic participation and valuable contribution to this significant initiative.

The PHDCCI Adventure Ride 2.0 presented by Apollo Tyres and powered by Red Chief was the second edition of this exciting ride themed, "Bike Ka Junoon, Devbhoomi Ka Sukoon".



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REASSESSMENT UNDER SECTIONS 147-148 OF INCOME TAX ACT, 1961

A seminar on 'Reassessment under sections 147-148 of Income Tax Act, 1961 (Physical & Virtual)' was held on May 2, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Mr. Mukul Bagla, Chair, Direct Taxes Committee, PHDCCI said that the entire method of Section 148 has changed in recent years. 10 years was shortened to 5 years. Sections 147 and 148 empower tax authorities to reopen cases, but this power must be exercised with caution. Only fresh, tangible material—not mere suspicion—can justify reopening.

Mr. G S Pannu, Former Vice President, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) said that Reassessment must be used sparingly — backed by fresh material, clear reasoning, and strict adherence to procedure. It is not a tool to routinely revisit completed assessments. The integrity of the process matters just as much as the outcome.

Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Co-chair of the Direct Taxes Committee, PHDCCI said that Reassessment is not a routine exercise — it must be founded on new, tangible



information and a clear application of mind. Sections 147–148 require strict adherence to procedures, fairness to assesses, and a rational link between the material and belief.

Mr Suyash Raj Nahata, Co-chair Direct Tax Committee, PHDCCI stated that Reassessment regime under Sections 147 and 148 has undergone a major overhaul. Today, it's not just about substance — it's equally about procedure. Notices, timelines, approvals, reasons — every link must align with legal requirements. If one link breaks, the whole chain collapses. Reassessment is not just a departmental tool; it is a legal process that must be respected.

Mr. Rohit Jain Partner at Vaish Associates addressed the complexities around Section 147.

Mr. Gagan Kumar Advocate at Krishnomics Legal said that the Reassessment under the Income Tax Act has long been a contentious subject. With frequent legislative amendments, the complexities surrounding it have only deepened. Adding to the challenge are the divergent judgments delivered by various High Courts, often reflecting conflicting interpretations of the law.

Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the session.



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A SEMINAR ON TAXATION ISSUES IN BUSINESS RESTRUCTURING

A seminar on 'Taxation Issues in Business Restructuring' (Hybrid mode) was held on May 27, 2025 at New Delhi.

Mr. Mukul Bagla, Chair Direct Taxes Committee, PHDCCI, while welcoming the Chief Guest, Mr. Ved Jain, Past President ICAI, Founder and Mentor and other delegates said that in today's ever-evolving business climate, corporate strategies increasingly rely on consultation efficiencies and informed decision-making. With the growing trend of demergers, acquisitions, and revival of sick companies, it is clear that unlocking value across different undertakings is a priority. As multinational corporations invest even in niche sectors like healthcare, it becomes essential to understand the tax implications, commercial factors, and financial dynamics that influence such strategic moves.

Mr. Ved Jain, Past President ICAI, Founder and Mentor, Ved Jain & Associates gave an overview of the taxation issues in business restructuring. He said that when undertaking business restructuring, the key question is: what will be the tax efficiency? The three primary costs- GST, income tax, and other levies—must be carefully considered. Restructuring



is seen more as a transformation rather than a transfer; however, when it does result in a transfer, tax liabilities inevitably come into play.

Dr Rakesh Gupta, Co-chair, Direct Taxes Committee, PHDCCI shared his expertise through iconic professional poetry, blending insight with artistic expression. Ms. Pallavi Dinodia, Co-chair, Direct Tax Committee, PHDCCI said that Business Restructuring involves reorganizing a company's operations, structure, or finances to improve performance and adaptability. Mr Suyash Raj Nahata, Co-chair, Direct Tax Committee, PHDCCI said that once the merger order is passed, several post-order compliances should be followed to avoid future notices and ensure a smooth transition. In case of a merger, the PAN and TAN of the merging company must be surrendered to avoid unwanted notices from the Income Tax Department. Also under the Income

Tax Compliance – Section 170, returns should be filed appropriately so that credit entitlements can be claimed post-merger.

Mr Sameer Gogia, Executive Director, Deloitte, Global Business Tax said that from a practical perspective, while considering certificates or asset valuations, controversies often arise. It becomes especially relevant during asset transfers, where Article 281 of the Income Tax Act comes into play—particularly in cases involving immovable assets like land. In such scenarios, obtaining a 281 clearance from the Tax Department is necessary to ensure compliance and avoid future disputes.

Ms. Poonita Harsh Kundra, Partner, Vaish Associates Advocates delved into the intricacies of demergers, shedding light on tax considerations that lie at the heart of every successful restructuring deal.

The session witnessed the presence of the former President of PHDCCI, Mr. Suman Jyoti Khaitan and few MCM members whose participation added great value to the seminar. Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the session, while Ms. Minakshi Srivastava, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI coordinated the conference.



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BLENDING AI FOR EFFECTIVE ESG & COMPLIANCE: ATTAINING EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY & CSR REPORTING

The seminar on 'Blending AI for Effective ESG & Compliance: Attaining Excellence in Sustainability & CSR Reporting' held on May 2, 2025 was the Second Edition of Knowledge Series on Corporate Affairs being curated by the Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI for FY 2025-26.

Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjay Shorey, Director General of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Corporate Affairs said that the Ministry has begun using AI to send income tax incentive notices. The MCA21 platform has been upgraded with machine based systems, marking the Ministry's entry into the AI era. He added, today ESG finds a mention in Section 135 of the Companies Act.

He added that the term ESG was first introduced through the Voluntary Disclosure Guidelines in 2010, and today it is even being taught in schools. He further discussed about the inter-linkage between CSR and ESG and highlighted that while AI holds



immense promise for the future, it also has its limitations. The basic difference is that the human mind combines AI with creativity, while AI lacks creativity. However, AI is equally important in today's time as individuals and businesses must evolve with the changing times.

Mr. Sameet Gambhir, Chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI emphasized that ESG and Sustainability have become essential in today's scenario. He said that companies should not be judged solely on financial parameters, but non-financial indicators must also be considered.

He urged the Government to explore ways to blend law compliance, AI and sustainability for a more effective future.

Mr. Manish Gupta, Former President, The ICSI emphasized that ESG is particularly important for company secretaries, as they are required to comply with the related norms. He emphasised that integrating AI into compliance framework is the need of the hour. He added that ICSI has already begun installing green building initiatives, and each building is now solar-equipped. He stressed that if ESG can be strengthened with

transparency, fairness, and AI, it will lead to a truly futuristic approach.

The first panel discussion on 'Transparency & Accountability in ESG & Sustainability Reporting' was chaired by Mr. Deepak Jain, ESG & Sustainability Specialist & Chairman – ESG Committee – DMA. Mr. Ashish Kumar Pandey, General Counsel & Company Secretary, Luminous Power Technologies (P) Ltd.; Ms. Manisha Rakhecha, Co-chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI & Ms. Raka Roy, Partner, Galadari Advocates & Consultants, UAE shared their views on the Best

Practices in ESG & Sustainability; Regulatory Compliances and Challenges & Innovating for a Greener Tomorrow: Global vis-à-vis Indian scenario.

The second panel discussion on 'Blending AI For Effective ESG Compliance and Alignment of ESG with Business Goals to achieve Sustainability' was chaired by Ms. Anubha Agarwal, Managing Counsel International – United Airlines. Other speakers included Dr Neera Sharma, Group General Counsel & CEO, Sistema Smart Technologies Ltd.; Dr Supriya Sharma

(Ambassador), Sustainability & Transformation Strategist; Dr Shruti Sharma, Associate Professor, TERI School of Advance Studies and Ms. Vidhi Thukral, Chief Manager – ESG, Axis Max Life Insurance.

Mr. Rishi Kapoor and Mr. Sandeep Dinodia, Co-chairs, Corporate Affairs Committee PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries.

Mr. Mohit Luthra, ASG, PHDCCI provided the opening remarks, while Ms. Monika Shingari, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the session.

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ENERGY TRANSITION: SAFETY, TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDS IN THE HYDROGEN ECONOMY

A workshop on "Energy Transition: Safety, Technology and Standards in the Hydrogen Economy" was organized on May 22, 2025 at New Delhi in order to provide participants the safety implications, technological advancements, and operational challenges involved in the global shift towards sustainable energy systems.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI in his welcome address apprised the participants about the opportunities and challenges in the hydrogen ecosystem. He highlighted on the safety aspects of hydrogen by mentioning about the tool – FLameACceleration Simulator (FLACS) which is a commercial Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software used extensively for explosion modelling and atmospheric dispersion modelling within the field of industrial safety and risk assessment.

Dr J P Gupta, Chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI in his theme address mentioned that if proper precaution



and safety measures are taken then hydrogen can be widely accepted as a safer and most efficient fuel. He further highlighted that establishing a centre of excellence in hydrogen in every state is very important to promote and disseminate information related to hydrogen, particularly the safety aspect involved. He also mentioned that data analytics supported by AI can give significant progress in the times to come making India 'Viksit Bharat'.

Prof. (Dr) Chitra Rajagopal, PSA Fellow & Former DS and DG (R&M), DRDO stressed on the safety aspect of hydrogen so that accidents are

minimized. She highlighted that we need well-defined standards and accreditations in hydrogen for having a holistic approach. She pointed out the physical properties of hydrogen and stressed on training personnel and public at large. She mentioned the risk assessment techniques and scientific computing for hydrogen and also briefed the participants about the Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India, which is a foundational step towards creating a robust framework for certifying green hydrogen production and ensuring transparency, traceability, and market credibility.

Mr. Vijay Goel, Executive Director, NTPC Limited, in his presentation on hydrogen economy with safety aspects shared the global hydrogen consumption by industry in which ammonia production sector is leading at 55%, followed by 25% in petroleum refining and 10% each in methanol production and others. He highlighted the challenges of hydrogen namely high cost, lack of standards and infrastructure. He further shared that hydrogen is the most abundant material and has high energy density by mass. He also shared about NTPC's contribution in National Green Hydrogen Mission by initiating Green Hydrogen Hub in Pudumadaka in Andhra Pradesh which is estimated at Rs. 1.85 lakh crores. He also briefed about the properties of hydrogen, green hydrogen economy, storage of hydrogen and safety aspects with safety controls.

Mr. Geirmund Vislie, SVP Global Consulting – Gexcon Norway

addressed the workshop from Norway and gave an overview of process safety and shared various types of tests to show which one is safe for hydrogen venting system.

Dr. R K Malhotra, President, Hydrogen Association of India in his address mentioned the cost challenge associated with hydrogen production, storage and delivery. He mentioned about coal gasification which is a process where coal reacts with oxygen and steam at high temperatures to produce synthesis gas (syngas), a mixture of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen (H₂). He mentioned that this syngas can then be further processed to produce hydrogen, often through a water-gas shift reaction to convert CO into more H₂. The resulting hydrogen can be purified and used for various applications, including fuel cells and industrial processes. He further stressed in developing proper infrastructure for hydrogen because if infrastructure is fully

developed then accepting it across sectors will not be a challenge.

The Technical Session was chaired by Dr J S Sharma, Co-chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI. Eminent experts including Dr Anuja Anand, Director, NABL; Dr Arti Bhatt, Scientist - G, Centre for Fire Explosive and Environment Safety, DRDO, Ministry of Defence; Mr. Himadri, Director, Deloitte; Prof. (Dr) Prashant S. Kulkarni, Director, School of Energy and Environmental Systems, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology; Dr Venugopal, Jt. CCE PESO (retd.); Mr. Tapan Bera, General Manager (Alternate Energy), IOCL and Dr Kalpana Yeole, Empanelled Expert, Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd. shared their valuable insights during the workshop.

Mr. Umesh Sahdev Co-chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants.

PHDCCI SIGNS MOU WITH CHUNGCHEONGNAM-DO ECONOMIC PROMOTION AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA

PHDCCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Chungcheongnam-do Economic Promotion Agency (CEPA), South Korea based in India on May 14, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The objective of the MoU is to help CEPA (India) in identifying Indian Companies to collaborate with South Korean companies based in Chungcheongnam-do province with a focus on sectors like Cosmetics, Industrial, Chemicals, Foods, Automobiles & Parts, Steel/metal, Electrical, Medical, Home Appliances, etc. PHDCCI and CEPA (India) will work together to engage the relevant industries for future collaboration.

The MoU was signed between Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI and Mr. Seungchang Ha, Managing Director, New Delhi Business Centre of CEPA (India).





VALUATION UNDER CUSTOMS & GST LAW & RECENT JUDICIAL DEVELOPMENTS

A seminar on “Valuation under Customs & GST Law & Recent Judicial Developments” was held on May 6, 2025 at New Delhi.

Mr. Pramod Kumar Rai, Chair, Indirect Tax Committee, PHDCCI in his theme presentation highlighted issues including Customs Valuation with reference to Royalty. He described the Advolverum duty on transaction value, Section 14(1), Advolverum duty on Tariff value, Section 14(2), Reference price based duty, Anti-dumping/ Safeguards/Countervailing duties and Mix of value based duty and specific rate.

Mr. Sandeep Garg, Co-chair, Indirect Tax Committee, PHDCCI

gave an overview on Corporate & Personal Guarantees. He also described its purpose, legal framework, GST lens on corporate guarantee and described why corporate guarantee is taxable.

Mr. Pawan Arora, Co-chair, Indirect Tax Committee, PHDCCI in his presentation narrated the judicial developments in the Real Estate & Works Contract Act under GST. He enumerated RERA court cases of real estate with the buyer and the builder. He also discussed the applicability of GST on houses under construction and its implications.

Ms. Shweta Walecha, Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan,

deliberated on GST implications on various Sales Promotion Schemes such as discounts, incentives, free gifts, etc.

Ms. Nidhi Nupur, Partner, BDO India, explained Valuation for Cross Charge & Related Party Transactions.

Ms. Soumya Panda, Founder, SKP delivered a presentation on Valuation under Customs and its legal background and framework.

Mr. Prakash Sinha, Founder, Finjuris gave the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants.

DR JITENDRA SINGH DESCRIBED INDIA AS THE EMERGING GLOBAL BIOTECH DESTINATION

Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions described India as the emerging global biotech destination and said, this is the most appropriate venue for such deliberations at a time when India has much to contribute to the world community. Dr Singh reaffirmed that under the Modi Government, India's bioeconomy has seen an exponential rise — from \$10 billion in 2014 to \$165.7 billion in 2024, with a target to achieve \$300 billion by 2030. Dr Singh highlighted India's remarkable progress in the biotechnology sector. He noted that India now ranks 12th globally in biotechnology and holds the 3rd position in the Asia-Pacific region. The country has emerged as the largest vaccine producer in the world and is home to the 3rd largest startup ecosystem globally. A testament to this growth is the exponential rise in biotech startups, which have surged from just 50 in 2014 to over 10,000 in 2024. India is now poised to lead the next wave of industrial revolution with sustainable biotech-driven manufacturing practices.

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ENHANCING PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE THROUGH GMP

PHDCCI in association with the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and the Association of Industries, Madhya Pradesh, organized a conference on Enhancing Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance through Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and a special session on the Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS) on May 7, 2025 in Indore.

This initiative was aimed at ensuring consistent production and control of medicinal products that meet the highest quality standards, thereby promoting better compliance and capacity building, especially among MSMEs and regional pharmaceutical units.

The inaugural session saw meaningful deliberations from key stakeholders:

- Mr. Tarun Vyas, Secretary, Association of Industries Madhya Pradesh, emphasized the need for government support to

enable MSMEs to compete with multinational corporations in implementing GMP. He pointed out the gap in technological access and manpower that hampers smaller players.

- Dr G.N. Darwhekar, Director, Acropolis Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research congratulated enforcement bodies for their vigilance and highlighted that while Indore is home to more than 70 certified companies, MSMEs often face significant hurdles in certification due to costs, infrastructure issues and lack of skilled workforce.
- Mr. Gaurav Kumar, Deputy Drug Controller, CDSCO (Indore), spoke about regulatory expectations and encouraged manufacturers to invest in systems that ensure consistency, safety, and efficacy of their products.
- Dr Darshan Katariya, President, MPSDMA and MD, Vindas

Chemical Industries Pvt. Ltd., advocated for collaborative knowledge-sharing between industry veterans and young entrepreneurs to build a stronger compliance culture.

- Mr. Yashwant Shinde, Manager, SIDBI in his presentation explained how MSMEs can access financial support for upgrading their manufacturing facilities to meet GMP norms.

Speakers for technical session included- Dr Nidhi Dube, Professor, School of Pharmacy, DAVV, Mr. Ajay Singh Dassundi, Secretary MPSDMA/Vice President IDMA, MD, Zenith Drugs Ltd., Mr. Pares Chawla, Managing Director, Alpa Laboratories Ltd., Mr Prashant Singh, MD, Schon Pharmaceuticals Limited, Mr Lalit Kakani, MD, Samkem (Pharmaceutical Manufacturer) and Dr Sapna Malviya, Professor & Head of Institute, Modern Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Indore, ZED Consultant, QCI.

SYMPOSIUM ON AN ASPIRING NEPAL: HOW TO BE BENEFITTED WITH ECONOMIC REFORMS?

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AN ASPIRING NEPAL: HOW TO BENEFIT FROM ECONOMIC REFORMS?

In collaboration with the Banking, Finance and Insurance Institute of Nepal and under the aegis of its India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI organized a high-level symposium titled “An Aspiring Nepal: How to Benefit from Economic Reforms?” on May 9, 2025 at Hotel Radisson, Kathmandu. The symposium was supported by the Embassy of India in Nepal, Nepal SBI Bank Ltd., Varun Beverages Ltd., and Visa.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr Binod Atreya, Managing Director, BFIN, setting the tone for the program. Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister in his keynote address offered insights into India’s reform journey and outlined actionable lessons relevant to Nepal. Mr. Binod Chaudhary, Member of the House of Representatives of Nepal, President Emeritus, Confederation of Nepalese Industries, Kathmandu & Chairman, Chaudhary Group underscored the critical role of the private sector in advancing effective economic reforms.

Dr Prakash Kumar Shrestha, Member, National Planning Commission (Nepal) and Mr.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Provided insights into the potential benefits of economic reforms for Nepal’s growth and development.
- Discussed strategies for leveraging economic reforms to promote sustainability, prosperity, and job creation in Nepal.
- Fostered collaboration and knowledge-sharing between Nepal and neighboring countries, particularly India, to maximize the impact of reforms.
- Engaged policymakers, economists, and industry leaders to discuss actionable steps for Nepal to align with regional economic trends.
- Raised awareness about the role of economic reforms in shaping Nepal’s future and the importance of inclusive growth for all citizens.

Prasanna Shrivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India in Nepal, both reaffirmed India’s support for Nepal’s developmental aspirations. Other distinguished

speakers included Mr. Chandra Prasad Dhakal, President, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Guru Prasad Paudel, Executive Director, Nepal Rastra Bank; Mr. Upendra Prasad Poudel, President, Confederation of Banks and Financial Institutions of Nepal; Mr Ram Kumar Tiwari, MD & CEO, Nepal SBI Bank Ltd. and Mr. Anand Jha, Head of Government Engagement: India & South Asia, Visa Inc. The panel discussion, moderated by Mr. Atul K Thakur, Secretary, India-Nepal Centre (PHDCCI), explored key themes on policy innovation, financial sector transformation and sustainable bilateral and regional economic growth.

Bringing together policymakers, economists, and industry leaders, the symposium provided valuable insights into strengthening bilateral economic ties. It served as a strategic forum to deliberate on practical economic reforms vital to Nepal’s long-term growth and self-reliance. This impactful initiative marked a significant step forward in enriching economic dialogue, reinforcing regional cooperation, and shaping a reform-oriented path toward a more prosperous Nepal.



INTERACTION WITH HEAD OF MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND TO INDIA

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI warmly welcomed the diplomats from the Republic of Poland on May 8, 2025 to the Chamber. Dr Mehta highlighted the Chamber's strategic role in driving business growth, fostering innovation, and strengthening trade relations between India and Poland. He emphasized potential areas of collaboration, including green technology, sustainability, food processing, and artificial intelligence. He also conveyed PHDCCI's keen interest in formalizing the partnership with relevant agencies in Poland and expressed readiness to collaborate across multiple sectors to advance mutual development

and cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI provided a comprehensive overview of PHDCCI's pivotal role in promoting trade and industry, with special emphasis on participation of PHDCCI in various exhibitions in Warsaw in the past. He emphasized on identifying opportunities to enhance bilateral trade, investment, and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

H.E. Mr. Piotr Świtalski, Head of Mission, Embassy of Poland was keen on exploring possibilities between India and Poland in trade

and investment. He urged Indian companies to invest in Poland and strengthen bilateral cooperation. He emphasized Poland's strategic location in Europe, stable economic environment, and its openness to international collaboration. He also highlighted key sectors such as green technology, infrastructure, and IT services, where both nations could benefit from mutual partnerships. He further reiterated that the Polish business community is keen to invest in India as India provides them with ample opportunities in the manufacturing sector. He was confident that such initiatives would not only deepen commercial engagement but also foster long-term diplomatic relations.

INDIA'S TOURISM SECTOR POISED FOR REMARKABLE GROWTH

The Indian tourism sector is expected to double in size to USD 523 billion from the current USD 256 billion in the next 10 years. And will be providing jobs to 63 million people. Tourism represents about seven per cent of the Indian economy. The travel and tourism sector employs high-end people like engineers, AI experts, technology, experts, financial and marketing experts.



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ROUNDTABLE ON SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENT IN THE MATTER OF KALYANI TRANSCO VS, BHUSHAN POWER & STEEL & ORS

The NCLT & IBC Committee of PHDCCI organized a roundtable on 'Supreme Court Judgement in the matter of Kalyani Transco versus Bhushan Power & Steel & Ors' on May 16,

2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

The roundtable featured insights from distinguished speakers, Mr. GP Madaan, Chair, NCLT & IBC Committee, Mr. Abhishek Anand, and Mr. Karan

Mehra, Co-chairs, NCLT & IBC Committee, PHDCCI. The case has significant implications for interpreting financial transactions under the IBC.

ESG ASSESSMENT FOR BUSINESSES: DRIVING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

PHDCCI Centre for Sustainability & Carbon Market Forum in collaboration with CRIF & Synesgy organized a webinar on 'ESG Assessment for Businesses: Driving Sustainable Growth' on May 15, 2025.

The session was moderated by Mr. Mithilesh Kumar, Senior Secretary & Head – Carbon Market Forum & Centre for Sustainability and Mr. Mohit Kumar, Senior Assistant Secretary, PHDCCI.

Mr. Manav Oswal, AVP, ESG – CRIF India delivered an insightful presentation on the definition and components of ESG, importance

of ESG in today's business landscape, and its significance in both global and Indian contexts.

Ms. Maryna Anikieieva, Senior BD Consultant – CRIF SpA provided an overview on conducting ESG assessments and shared a step-by-step guide, key methodologies, and introduced Synesgy – a global digital platform for ESG evaluation – showcasing its role in enabling structured and



scalable ESG assessments.

The webinar highlighted the growing importance of ESG in driving sustainable business growth.



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MUSIC AND IP: EMPOWERING THE INDIAN MUSIC INDUSTRY

A seminar on 'Music and IP: Empowering the Indian Music Industry' held on May 7, 2025 at New Delhi was organized to celebrate the World IP Day and bring together artists, producers, policymakers, legal experts and digital innovators to explore how Intellectual Property Rights can empower and protect the rapidly growing music industry in India.

Vidushi Sumitra Guha (Padma Shri and SNA Awardee), Eminent Vocalist of Kirana Gharana & Founder President of Sumadhur Hansadhwani Trust in her inaugural address mentioned that music is the most powerful human expression. She further apprised the importance of protecting the original work of artists through intellectual property rights.

Dr Unnat P. Pandit, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, RoC&GI-DPIIT, MoCI in the theme address, highlighted the importance of protecting the work of artists and commercializing their efforts. He mentioned that IP rights (like copyright grant creators) have the exclusive right to control the use and distribution of their music and earn royalties for the authorized use of their work.

Dr Sunil Kumar Newar, Joint Director, O/o DC (MSME), Ministry of MSME in his presentation on MSME Champion Scheme with a special



focus on the MSME Innovative Scheme covered components like incubation, design and IPR.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI stated that IP makes a country progressive and contributes to its economic development. He highlighted that pirated work should be discouraged and proper protection should be ensured through intellectual property rights as IP helps rightfully to recognize and reward the original creators.

Mr. Vinod Karwa, Chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI stated that the Indian music industry is experiencing significant growth, fueled by a large and engaging youth population, who are showcasing their talents at both national and global platforms.

Dr H P Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC and Advisor, PHDCCI in his keynote address briefly explained the relationship between music and IP which shares a harmonious

relationship between creativity and legality. He further explained that since music industry is booming in India and piracy is rampant, therefore protection should be given utmost importance.

D. Blossom Kochhar, Founder and Chairperson, Blossom Kochhar Group of Companies and Co-chair, WCD&E Committee, PHDCCI highlighted that music is a valuable asset and we should ensure to give due protection to the original creators. She further apprised the participants that it is very important for musicians and producers to understand intellectual property in order to ensure that their work is protected as it enables musicians to earn money from their own work through royalties. She also shared some case studies and examples of eminent artists who have preserved their music for career growth in this field.

Mr. D P Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI gave the



formal vote-of- thanks to all the dignitaries, artists and participants for celebrating the occasion of the World IP Day together.

The inaugural session was followed by a panel discussion on 'Unlocking IP for Indian Music.' It covered topics like basics of copyright in lyrics, music, sound recording and license; how to register music rights in India; protecting music on YouTube, Instagram, Spotify, etc. and the

importance of licensing and royalty collection.

The session was chaired by Dr H P Kumar and the dignitaries who shared their views during the session were Dr. Blossom Kochhar; Mr. Gaurav Gogia, Principal Associate, United and United; Dr. Chitra Sharma, AD (Programme Unit), Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Prof. Partho Datta, Chairperson, School

Committee and Programmes Committee, Delhi Music Society and Professor, JNU and Dr. Ruma Chakraborty, Head, Department of Music, Tecnia Institute of Art & Design, New Delhi.

The Panel Discussion was further followed by Live Music Performance by Artists from Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

INTERACTIVE SESSION ON DIGITAL WELLNESS

Mr. Bala Kishore Batchu, Vice President, Better Living and Digital Wellness Coach delivered an insightful session on the significance of digital literacy in today's tech-driven world and emphasized how digital wellness is becoming a critical component of overall well-being on May 27, 2025.

The session witnessed insightful discussions on how the overuse of digital devices, particularly smartphones, is impacting attention, mental well-being, and lifestyle habits. Mr. Bala Kishore Batchu introduced the concept of 3 Ms — Mind, Mobile, and Meditation. He further explained the concept of #Brain Switch# which means the mind gets diverted from a particular focused task to another distraction, which not only wastes time to switch back but also burns a lot of energy.

He emphasized the growing need for digital literacy in



today's hyper-connected world. A 15-question survey helped participants reflect on their mobile dependency. Referring to Netflix CEO's quote "Our biggest competitor is sleep", he highlighted how digital platforms are now competing with basic human needs.

He encouraged: having saving screen-free meals; Practicing digital fasts and setting strict app limits, like 5 minutes for Instagram.

He recommended that the youth should take Brahma Kumaris' Structured Digital Wellness Program (focusing on attention, brain, mind, and addiction). He pointed out that D.Y. Patil College is implementing a Digital Wellness as a formal course.

The session concluded on a powerful note: "Mobile mera hai, main mobile ka nahi."



INTERACTION WITH CEO, INDO BRAZILIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

A delegation from the Indo Brazilian Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Brazil comprising of Mr. Paulo Azevedo, CEO and Mr. Gustavo Ramos, COO met Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI on May 26, 2025.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI underscored the Chamber's dedication to deepening collaboration through active business-to-business engagements, strategic policy dialogues, and well-structured initiatives such as trade missions and institutional partnerships.

Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI outlined PHDCCI's renewed focus on strengthening economic ties with Latin America, particularly Brazil. He highlighted the ongoing efforts to boost trade and investment through targeted industry engagement and long-term partnerships. As part of this strategy, PHDCCI plans to lead an

outbound delegation to Brazil in 2025.

Mr. Seth also emphasized the importance of the MoU between PHDCCI and the Indo Brazilian Chamber of Commerce & Industry, noting its role in deepening cooperation in sectors like electric vehicles, tyres, steel, and pharmaceuticals. Mr. Seth reaffirmed the Chamber's commitment to supporting Indian businesses in Brazil, with plans for regular delegations to key regions such as São Paulo and Goiás.

Mr. Paulo Azevedo, CEO, Indo Brazilian Chamber of Commerce & Industry, emphasized the Chamber's crucial role in facilitating connections between the business and government sectors of Brazil and India. He reiterated their strong commitment to supporting Indian companies entering the Brazilian market, providing assistance in areas such as logistics management, tax compliance, certification processes and collaborations. Mr. Azevedo

shared plans to organize outbound delegations from India every three to four months and to welcome inbound delegations, with a focus on important regions like São Paulo and Goiás.

Mr. Gustavo Ramos, COO, Indo Brazilian Chamber of Commerce & Industry, expressed his strong commitment to reinforcing the enduring partnership between Brazil and India, highlighting growing opportunities for collaboration across key sectors such as renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, automotives, and infrastructure. Highlighting the trade relationship, Mr. Ramos said that bilateral trade between India and Brazil had reached approximately USD 15 billion in 2024, reflecting a steady growth rate of around 36% annually over the past five years. Key exports from India to Brazil include pharmaceuticals, machinery, and automotive components, while Brazil primarily exports soybeans, iron ore, and crude oil to India.



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BUSINESS DELEGATION TO MAURITIUS

The International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division of PHDCCI mounted a business delegation to Mauritius from May 15-17, 2025. Led by Mr Dalip Chopra, Co-chair, International Affairs Committee for Africa, PHDCCI, he was accompanied by Dr. Davy Jindal, AVP, Growth & Strategy, CK Birla Hospitals and Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI.

The delegation met H.E. Mr. Anil Kumar Bachoo, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Government of Mauritius on May 16, 2025. The discussions focused on the following issues:

- The CK Birla Group of Hospitals, India is interested in operations and managing the National Cancer Centre of Mauritius on a long-term basis which includes placing Oncologists, BMT Specialists, Pathologists, Radiologists and support staff. A detailed discussion is underway to finalize a structured cooperation between CK Birla Hospitals and the National Cancer Centre of Mauritius.
- Empanelment of Centre for Excellence in different

specialisations from all states of India where there are direct flights to India from Mauritius.

The delegation met H.E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, High Commissioner of India to Mauritius on May 17, 2025, at the High Commission of India, Mauritius. Mr. Ranjan Kumar, First Secretary (Economic), High Commission of India, Mauritius, Mr. Shardhanand Beeharry, President, Hindu Business Chamber, Commerce, Industry & Professionals (HBCCIP) and other key officials were also present.

H.E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, High Commissioner of India to Mauritius commended PHDCCI for organizing the visit and highlighted the expanding scope for collaboration between India and Mauritius, particularly in healthcare, pharmaceutical manufacturing, medical tourism, and biotechnology. He emphasized the importance of joint research initiatives, capacity building, and healthcare infrastructure development to enhance medical accessibility and innovation in both nations.

Mr. Dalip Chopra, Co-chair, International Affairs Committee for Africa, PHDCCI, conveyed his appreciation to the High Commissioner for the warm welcome and highlighted that it was the third visit of PHDCCI members to Mauritius which itself was a testimony of the opportunities for the industry of both the nations especially related to the Healthcare and Wellness sector. He acknowledged Mauritius' strategic role as a bridge to the African market, offering Indian businesses a platform to establish and strengthen their regional presence.

Dr. Davy Jindal, AVP, Growth & Strategy, CK Birla Hospitals informed His Excellency that his visit to Mauritius was for the possible cooperation with National Cancer Centre of Mauritius. He acknowledged the support of PHDCCI and HBCCIP in coordinating with the Ministry of Health, Government of Mauritius for a detailed discussion in organizing the Operations and Management of National Cancer Centre on a long-term basis.

Mr. Naveen Seth, while thanking his Excellency said that PHDCCI will coordinate with the Office of High Commissioner to encourage Indian Companies to explore business opportunities in Mauritius regularly.



ENHANCING PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE THROUGH GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES (GMP)

PHDCCI in collaboration with the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers organized a National Conference on “Enhancing Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance through Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)” and a special session on Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS) on May 30, 2025 at KIIT, Bhubaneswar.

Dr. Sruti Ranjan Mishra, President, IPA Odisha, emphasized the importance of elevating India’s role in global pharmaceutical compliance.

Dr. Biswaranjan Behera, Principal & Professor, KIIT, underlined the need to entrench GMP values into pharmaceutical

education to ensure long-term quality assurance.

Ms. Mamina Patnaik, Drugs Controller, Directorate of Drugs Control, Odisha, focused on collaborative regulatory mechanisms and stronger enforcement systems.

Mr. Yashwant Shinde, Manger, SIDBI gave a presentation on the RPTUAS scheme, covering its structure, incentives, and pathways for MSME support.

Ms. Aditi Bhardwaj, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI, delivered the opening remarks and welcomed all dignitaries, setting the context for the day’s proceedings, while Mr. Amit Patwal, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests.

A thematic technical session on “Foundations and Strategies for Effective GMP Implementation” was moderated by Dr. Bhabani Shankar Nayak, Associate Professor, KIIT School of Pharmacy. Experts included: Dr. Ch. Niranjana Patra, Vice Principal, Roland Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Mr. Subrat Kumar Tripathy, Manager, Quality Assurance, Sapigen Biologix Pvt. Ltd.; Dr. Prafulla Nandi, Co-Founder & Director, PharmAdvis Solutions LLP and Prof. Sushant Kumar Panda, Principal, Royal College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The discussion explored core GMP principles, including quality assurance, process validation, documentation, and industry challenges such as resource constraints and compliance complexities.



INDIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY DELEGATION TO INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY EXPO AT CZECH

The PHDCCI Defence & HLS Committee organized an Indian Defence Industry Delegation to International Defence and Security Technology Exhibition (IDET) in Brno, Czech Republic, May 28-30, 2025. The delegation was chaired by H.E. Mr. Raveesh Kumar, Indian Ambassador to Prague. He was accompanied by Mr. Abhijit Chakraborty, Minister Counselor and Col. Vijayant Singh, Indian Defence Attache to Prague. Ms. Eva Kopecka, Head-Economic & Commercial Section, Embassy of Czech Republic in India and BG Martin Bulka, Czech Defence Attache to India also participated in the expo.

The Ambassador, while welcoming the dignitaries spoke on the potential opportunities of collaboration between India and the Czech Republic in the defence sector. He stressed on the



partnership of defence companies of both the countries and also on opening up Centres of Excellence in the defence and security sector for joint development of technologies.

Dr. Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI appreciated the support of the Indian Embassy in Prague for facilitating the interaction and B2B meetings for the Indian companies. He said that the strength of Czech engineering and innovation and Indian manufacturing prowess and skilled workforce could be a winning factor for both the countries.

The companies present at the interaction included Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. (BEML), Zen Technologies Ltd., Idea Forge, Mahindra Defence, Golden Precision, Parsons Engineering, India Optel Ltd. among others.

The Indian delegation participated in key business meetings with leading Czech defence companies including Czech Group, KNDS, Excalibur Group, and STV Group, exploring opportunities for collaboration and joint initiatives.

A major highlight of the day was the inauguration of the India Pavilion by H.E. Mr. Raveesh Kumar, Ambassador of India to the Czech Republic, in the presence of senior representatives from the Czech Embassy, Indian industry delegates, and Czech counterparts. The Ambassador emphasized the potential of deeper cooperation between Czech innovation and Indian manufacturing excellence.



NATIONAL POLICY FOR WEEDS MANAGEMENT FOR FARMERS' WELFARE

The Industry Round Table Meet, themed “National Policy for Weeds Management: Essential for Farmers' income and Food Security” held on May 29, 2025 at New Delhi was graced by Dr. P. K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

Dr. P.K Singh highlighted, “The One Health policy must be adopted holistically. Schemes like RKBY need to be strengthened. The focus on seed variety must be prioritised followed by irrigation especially in areas where just a 10–15% increase can boost summer crop yields.”

“Globally, herbicide resistance is on the rise. It's time we focus on early detection, resistance monitoring, and revive a dedicated Herbicide Resistance Action Committee to guide policy and practice effectively,” said Dr. J.S Mishra, Director, Directorate of Weed Research (Jabalpur) ICAR.

Dr. R.K. Malik, Member, Governing Council, KAKV underlined the importance of effective weed management and emphasised how it needs proper monitoring, strong market intelligence, and platforms for demonstration and learning.

This roundtable delved into deep deliberations to solve the problems of inadequate weed control methods that are causing crop losses throughout the seasons. Various Industry members from companies like, PI Industries, MAHYCO, Crystal Crop Protection Ltd, Bayer Crop Sciences, Sumitomo Chemicals, Savannah Seeds, Parijat Industries and FMC provided their expert insights.

Ms. Mili Dubey, ASG, PHDCCI proposed the formal vote-of-thanks to the delegates.

President of India Inaugurated National Literary Conference at Rashtrapati Bhavan

In a landmark event held recently at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi, the Sahitya Akademi, under the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with Rashtrapati Bhavan, hosted a Literary Conference on “How Much has Literature Changed?” The event brought together a distinguished gathering of writers, poets, and literary thinkers from across India and was inaugurated by the President of India, Ms. Droupadi Murmu. The President in her inaugural address, expressed her lifelong respect and admiration for writers, noting it was a cherished desire of hers to host them at Rashtrapati Bhavan. She recalled ‘Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das’ lines in Odia, which she later interpreted as “Wherever I am on the soil of this nation, I am as grateful as I would be on the premises of Jagannath Puri Yatra”. She drew parallels from literature, citing the story of Sita-Rama from Valmiki Ramayana as a unifying force in society. She shared how Fakir Mohan Senapati’s story “Rewati” had a profound impact on her life. She called Pratibha Ray’s novel Draupadi as a great example of a classic rooted in human sensibilities. She said that literature does change with time but there are certain elements like compassion and sensibility which do not change.



Social Media Graffiti

Vijender Gupta @Gupta_vijender

आज PHDCCI द्वारा आयोजित 'Adventure Ride 2.0' कार्यक्रम में भाग लेने वाले सभी लोगों को धन्यवाद। यह एक बेहतरीन अवसर था।

आज की यात्रा में हमने बहुत सारे अच्छे दोस्तों को मिलाने का मौका पाया। सभी ने बहुत ही अच्छे तरीके से अपना योगदान दिया।

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Vijendra Gupta, Speaker Delhi Legislative Assembly with 166.8 K followers mentioned us in a tweet

ANI @ANI

#WATCH | Delhi: Hemant Jain, president of PHDCCI, says, "This is an excellent step in the right direction...It is a welcome step...There will be bigger investments from India to India. This is a positive stand and I thank the government for taking this step..."

ANI with 8.9 M followers mentioned us in a tweet

IANS @ians_india

Delhi: On PHDCCI organized the Adventure Ride 2.0, Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta says, "This adventure ride is a message in itself, and I wholeheartedly congratulate the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry for organizing it, along with all the bikers and riders participating today. This is a matter deeply connected to the environment, and the journey beginning here today heading all the way to Uttarakhand is a remarkable example of teamwork and team spirit..."

IANS with 131.9K followers mentioned us in a tweet

Fortune India @FortuneIndia

#WATCH | "With the BTA, U.S. tariffs like the 26% duty (now suspended) will be eliminated, boosting access for Indian exporters and MSMEs to a major economy. Key sectors like leather, textiles, and agriculture will benefit. Collaborations in green tech, energy, and military co-production will drive trade and create jobs, benefiting both nations," says Dr. @drjainmofa, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI.

Fortune India with 12.3K followers Tagged us in a tweet



Social Media Graffiti



Delhi: CEO & Secretary General PHDCCI, Ranjeet Mehta says, "Today, at the press conference organized by PHDCCI, we launched the SME Market Sentiment Index, which is very important for India's SME sector. This index includes companies with turnovers ranging from ₹5 crore to ₹500 crore in the SME sector. We identified three main challenges for SMEs: Easy access to financing, access to technology and integrating it into manufacturing and production, market access for the products they make..."



IANS with 131.9K followers mentioned us in a tweet



UFlex Limited
@ufxltd

Mr. Sameer Gombli, Sr. Vice President - Legal, UFlex Limited, delivered the keynote address at the seminar on "Blending AI for effective ESG & Compliance: Attributing excellence in sustainability & CSR reporting" organized by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, recently, that witnessed the attendance of government officials and industry leaders.

In his address, he talked about how ESG is a key risk management strategy that can provide insights into the culture and commitment of an organisation towards sustainability and the role AI can play in enhancing ESG compliance. He also highlighted UFlex's "Waste to Wealth" initiative and its "6Rs" approach: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Return, as part of its "Project Plastic Rx" sustainability initiative.



UFLEX Limited with 11.7K followers mentioned us in a tweet



Ethiopian Embassy New Delhi, India
@EmbassyDelhi

Ethio-India Business Expo 2025 Launched in New Delhi Ambassador @ShawelShawel officially opened along with PHDCCI Deputy Secretary General Naveen Seth, the Ethio-India SME Business Forum and Expo...

Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia -
Ethio-India Business Expo 2025 Launched in New Delhi
https://www.ethiopianembassydelhi.org/ethio-india-business-expo-2025-launched-in-new-delhi



Ethiopian Embassy, New Delhi, India with 2.5K followers mentioned us in a tweet



NICDC
@nicdc01

Shri Rajat Kumar Saini, [@CFO_NICDC](#), met with Ms. Daria Blackman and Ms. Sofia Bagolin from India Brazil Chamber of Commerce (IBCC) to strengthen India-Brazil economic ties.



NICDC with 6.5K followers mentioned us in a tweet



INTERACTIVE SESSION ON SME IPOs

The Chandigarh Chapter of PHDCCI in collaboration with Regional NCLT & Corporate Affairs Committee organized an interactive session on SME IPOs on May 17, 2025 at PHD House, Chandigarh.

Mr. Suvrat Khanna, Co-chair, Chandigarh Chapter, PHDCCI spoke on awareness of capital fund raising options available for Small Scale and Medium Enterprises.

CS(Adv). Rahul Jogi, Convenor Regional NCLT & Corporate Affairs, PHDCCI in his theme address shed light on the opportunities and challenges that lie in the path of SME listings.

CS Shikhar Goel, Regional Council Member, ICSI explained the regulatory frameworks related to initial public offerings.

Mr. Amit Kumar, CEO, MSME and Growbizfund narrated the key



steps to unlock valuation of SME Businesses, planning and preparing for IPOs listing, generating long terms value of business and upgrading from tax optimization to wealth optimization.

Adv. Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI proposed the vote-of- thanks to all

the speakers and delegates for their valuable participation.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI mentioned MSMEs are the backbone of the country and MSMEs must find out new avenues of raising funds and expand their businesses to the next level.

THE ROLE OF COOPERATION IN BUILDING VIKSIT BHARAT

The United Nations has decided to celebrate 2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives. Under the leadership of Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, the concept of Sahkar se Samridhhi and the Role of Cooperation in a Viksit Bharat were presented to the nation in 2021. The Cooperative sector cannot be strengthened until the benefits of recent reforms reach Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and farmers. The Modi government will establish PACS in every panchayat across the country by 2029. A policy will soon be introduced for the settlement of "PACS under liquidation" and for the creation of new PACS.



INTERACTION WITH HON'BLE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Rajeev Talwar, Former President along with Mr. Sameer Gupta, MCM Member, Retd. Major General Ashok Narula (AVSM), and Mr. Iqbal Fayaz Jan, Deputy Director met Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan, New Delhi on May 30, 2025.

The meeting focused on key developmental projects, investment opportunities, and collaborative initiatives to bolster economic growth in the Union Territory of J&K. Mr. Rajeev Talwar highlighted PHDCCI's commitment to supporting Jammu & Kashmir's industrial

and infrastructural advancement. The delegation commended the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor for his visionary leadership in ensuring peace, progress, and prosperity in the region.

The delegation particularly appreciated Mr. Manoj Sinha's proactive role in "Operation Sindoor", lauding his efforts in reinforcing security and stability in Jammu & Kashmir. They praised his unwavering dedication to fostering a conducive environment for development and investment.

Additionally, the PHDCCI delegation met with Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary

to the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board. Discussions centered on the preparedness for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra, ensuring safe and seamless pilgrimage arrangements. The delegation also deliberated on infrastructure projects for the shrine board and enhancing facilities for devotees.

Reaffirming their support, the PHDCCI delegation pledged full cooperation to the J&K administration and armed forces in initiatives promoting sustainable growth, employment generation, and industrial development.

"Within the mind are all the resources required for successful living. Ideas are present in the consciousness, which when released and given scope to grow and take shape, can lead to successful events".

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

PHDCCI KASHMIR APPLAUDS GOVERNMENT'S SWIFT ACTION IN SINDOOR OPERATION: CALLS FOR ECONOMIC REVIVAL MEASURES- POST PAHALGAM ATTACK

PHDCCI Kashmir Chapter applauded the government's swift action in Sindoor Operation and requested for Economic Revival Measures Post Pahalgam Attack on May 17, 2025.

The members acknowledged that while such decisive security actions are crucial for long-term stability, the immediate aftermath has resulted in significant economic repercussions for Kashmir's vital tourism and handicrafts sectors.

PHDCCI resolved to seek urgent government intervention for the following issues:

- Financial restructuring and *loan moratoriums* for affected businesses;
- Special relief packages for tourism and allied industries;



- Promoting new-age businesses in IT, financial services and education sectors;
- Strengthening core sectors like horticulture and agribusiness that form the backbone of J&K's GDP and
- Enhancing skill development initiatives to prepare local entrepreneurs for emerging

opportunities.

"While we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the nation in combating terrorism, we must also safeguard our economic progress. The business community fully supports the government's efforts to bring everlasting stability to the region," said Mr. Himayu Wani, Co-chairman of PHDCCI Kashmir Chapter.

PHDCCI AND J&K BANK DISCUSS URGENT RELIEF MEASURES FOR BUSINESSES

A PHDCCI Kashmir State Chapter delegation led by Mr. Javaid Anim, Co-chairman, Mr. Bilal Ahmad Kawoosa, CA Anil Sharma and Deputy Director Iqbal Fayaz Jan met Mr. Amitava Chatterjee, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, J&K Bank at Srinagar on May 20, 2025. The meeting centered on urgent measures to revive Jammu & Kashmir's tourism sector and allied industries, which have been severely impacted by the recent Pahalgam terrorist attack. The PHDCCI underscored the need for immediate banking interventions to prevent business insolvencies and sustain livelihoods. Mr. Amitava Chatterjee said while the Bank has escalated the matter to the Reserve Bank of India and the Government of India for systemic support, the Bank was proactively developing and looking for in-house framework under existing banking regulations to address the crisis.



GST COMPLIANCE MEETING WITH PHDCCI KASHMIR STRENGTHENS TAXPAYER DEPARTMENT PARTNERSHIP

In a significant step towards fostering a more transparent and efficient tax administration, the Jammu & Kashmir State Taxes Department held a productive GST compliance and grievance redressal meeting with a delegation from the PHDCCI Kashmir, led by Co-chairman, Mr. Himayu Wani along with EC members Madeena Mir, Bilal Kawoosa, CA Anil Sharma, Syed Pervaiz Qaiser, Shabir Abdullah, Er Owais Raja, Shahid Khan and Deputy Director Iqbal Fayaz Jan on May 30, 2025 in Jammu.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. P.K. Bhat (JKAS), Commissioner, State Taxes, and attended by Mr. Parveez Ahmad Raina (JKAS), Additional Commissioner, State Taxes (Administration & Enforcement), Kashmir, along with prominent members of the Kashmir business community and GST professionals.

The delegation raised concerns over the pending establishment of the tribunal, which has delayed dispute resolution. Businesses highlighted challenges in filing returns, technical glitches, and procedural complexities. The Department committed to introduce Social Media video tutorials and welcome letters for new GST registrants, Enhancing collaboration with the Industries Department for smoother Udyam and GST registrations, Addressing concerns of women entrepreneurs through dedicated awareness programs, Handicraft Sector



Support – Special provisions for the movement of handicraft goods during exhibitions were discussed with the department, reaffirming existing notifications for 28 handicrafts to facilitate trade.

Given the impact of recent business disruptions, businesses sought leniency in tax payments where genuine hardships exist. The Department assured a compassionate review of such cases within the legal framework.

Commissioner Mr. Bhat highlighted the surge in fake GST registrations and tax evasions, emphasizing that advanced online mechanisms have helped the department to identify fraudulent businesses. He urged stakeholders to work ethically and contribute responsibly to J&K's economic growth.

Mr. Bhat was quoted to have said, "The relationship between taxpayers and the department is symbiotic—like two sides of the same coin. We are committed to a balanced approach, ensuring compliance while addressing genuine concerns through dialogue and facilitation."

Mr. Parveez Ahmad Raina (JKAS), Additional Commissioner, added: "Our focus remains on fairness and reform. While enforcement is necessary, we are equally invested in grievance redressal, especially for sectors recovering from unprecedented challenges."

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to collaborative governance, ethical tax compliance, and economic growth in Jammu & Kashmir.

SRIJAN - MADHYA PRADESH INNOVATION SUMMIT-2025

Under the aegis of its Madhya Pradesh Young Entrepreneurs' Council and supported by the Madhya Pradesh Startup Centre, The SAGE Group, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank and Ethnic Elements, PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter organized "Srijan - Madhya Pradesh Innovation Summit 2025" on May 30, 2025 at Bhopal.

The Summit was addressed by leading decision-makers from the government and industry besides the Startup Founders: Dr Abha Rishi, Executive Head, Madhya Pradesh Startup Centre (Bhopal), Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam; Dr

Anil Kothari, Director General, MP Council of Science & Technology; Mr Sanjay Kumar Mishra (IAS), Additional Secretary, Department of AYUSH & CEO, Madhya Pradesh State Medicinal Plants Board; Mr. Manoj Modi, Co-chair, Madhya Pradesh State Chapter, PHDCCI; Mr. Karan Khurana, Convener, Madhya Pradesh Young Entrepreneurs' Council (MPYEC), Madhya Pradesh State Chapter, PHDCCI; Mr. Atul K Thakur, Secretary (State Development Council; India-Nepal Centre; Madhya Pradesh State Chapter; Chhattisgarh State Chapter), PHDCCI; Mr. R G Dwivedi, Adviser, Madhya Pradesh State

Chapter, PHDCCI. Mr. Anirudh Dubey, Resident Manager, Madhya Pradesh State Chapter, PHDCCI moderated the Inaugural Session. The other three sessions were addressed by: Mr. Karan Khurana; Ms. Amruta Shingwekar; Mr. Jai Jain; Mr. Aseem Johari; Ms. Saumya Dubey, Cluster Head, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, Bhopal; Ms. Ishita Modi; Ms. Bharti Sadhwani and Mr. Kartik Chawala.

"Srijan - Madhya Pradesh Innovation Summit 2025" witnessed an impressive gathering of business owners' and startups.

President of India graced the launch of the Mediation Association of India

President of India, Ms. Droupadi Murmu graced the launch of the Mediation Association of India on May 3, 2025. The President said that the Mediation Act, 2023 was the first step in consolidating the civilisational legacy. She emphasised that the dispute resolution mechanism under the Mediation Act should be effectively extended to rural areas so that the Panchayats are legally empowered to mediate and resolve the conflicts in villages. Mediation can speed up the delivery of justice not only in the specific case under consideration, but also in other cases, by reducing the burden on courts of a large number of litigations. It can enhance both the ease of doing business and the ease of living. Mediation becomes a key instrument to realise the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. The establishment of the Mediation Association of India is a significant step forward in carrying this legacy into the future. It institutionalizes and promotes mediation as a preferred, structured, and widely accessible mode of dispute resolution — an approach that is timely and much needed in today's dynamic and complex world. Mediation fosters dialogue, understanding and collaboration. These values are essential for building a harmonious and progressive nation. It will lead to the emergence of a conflict-resilient, inclusive and harmonious society.

VICE PRESIDENT OF NORTH-EAST INDIA TOURISM CONFEDERATION TO ARUNACHAL PRADESH VISITS NER CHAPTER

Padma Shri Dr Anshu Jamsenpa, first woman in the world to scale the summit of Mount Everest twice in a season, along with Mr. Tsering Wange, Vice President of the North-East India Tourism Confederation and Chief Advisor to the Arunachal Pradesh Tour Operators Association visited NER Chapter, PHDCCI on May 5, 2025. They met with Assistant Resident Director, Ms. Meghmala Choudhury and discussed the on-going initiatives of the NER Chapter, particularly in the areas of tourism and regional development. Both sides expressed interest in exploring future collaborations, especially in promoting tourism opportunities in the Northeast.



PHDCCI NEW MEMBERS MAY 2025

PATRON MEMBER

Mr. Sunil Mangla

Director
SH Haryana Wires Ltd.
New Delhi

Mr. Gulbahar Taurani

Director
Versuni India Home Solutions Ltd.
Haryana

STAR

Mr. Rummy Chhabra

Chairman cum Managing Director
Metro Tyres Limited
Uttar Pradesh

ORDINARY

Mr. Janardhana Rao Voonna

Chief Executive Officer
Bothra Shipping Services Pvt. Ltd.
Andhra Pradesh

Ms. Amrita Basu

Lead- Liasoning & Coordination-
Corporate Affairs
Dalmia Bharat Limited
New Delhi

Mr. Shreyans Bengani

Director
Ecartes Technology Pvt. Ltd.
New Delhi

Mr. Payas Agarwal

Director
Greatvalue Projects India Ltd.
New Delhi

Dr Dhruv Pandit

Founder & CEO
Heritage Cyberworld LLP
Gujarat

Mr. Naresh Jain

Chairman
Jainco Buildcon Pvt. Ltd.
New Delhi

Mr. Amit Khaneja

Director
MNT Buildcon Pvt. Ltd.
New Delhi

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Tariq Muneer

Partner
CKM Partners
New Delhi

Mr. Anil Matta

Partner
Matta & Associates
Haryana

ASSOCIATION

Dr Rahul Sharma

Registrar
K R Mangalam University
Haryana



INTERACTIVE SESSION ON SCALING YOUR FAMILY BUSINESS FROM 10X TO 100X

Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI in association with Master's Union organized an interactive session on 'Scaling Your Family Business from 10x to 100x' on May 18, 2025 at Courtyard by Marriott, Amritsar.

The objective of the session was to equip family-run enterprises with actionable frameworks and leadership insights to achieve sustainable, exponential growth by professionalizing operations, modernizing governance, and fostering a culture of innovation.

CA Jaideep Singh, Convener, Amritsar Zone, PHDCCI, welcomed the participants and emphasized PHDCCI's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and knowledge-sharing platforms that address the evolving needs of traditional business models in today's dynamic economic landscape.

Mr. Pratham Mittal, 3rd Gen Promoter, Lovely Group & Founder, Master's Union in his address emphasized the distinction between "running a business" and "building an institution." He urged the new generation of entrepreneurs to transition

from operational dependency to strategic leadership. Citing global examples, he shared that businesses that scale successfully often do so by institutionalizing processes, building professional management teams, and creating learning cultures. He also highlighted how digital transformation, data-driven decision-making, and venture-style risk-taking can redefine the trajectory of family businesses.

Mr. Rajiv Gupta, Founder, Reverentia & Author, Lala Company in his address on "What Makes or Breaks a Family Business" outlined the critical areas where family businesses often falter—such as lack of succession planning, emotional decision-making, and resistance to change. Sharing stories from his book, Lala Company, he reflected on the pitfalls of informal governance and urged businesses to adopt boardroom discipline and structured decision-making.

A Fireside Chat between Mr. Sachin Mehra, Member, PHDCCI and Mr. Rajeev Gupta explored the transformation of traditional family businesses. Mr. Gupta emphasized the importance of next-gen leaders

driving digitization through small, high-impact initiatives to overcome resistance. He highlighted Punjab's entrepreneurial strengths while encouraging businesses to adopt professional governance, build scalable systems, and empower younger members to lead with innovation, agility, and strategic thinking.

A MoU exchanged between PHDCCI and Master's Union aimed at formalizing a collaboration to promote educational initiatives, mentorship opportunities, and leadership development for family businesses. The MoU was exchanged by CA Jaideep Singh, Convener, Amritsar Zone, PHDCCI and Mr. Pratham Mittal, Founder, Master's Union.

Mr. Nipun Aggarwal, Co-Convener, Amritsar Zone, PHDCCI in his vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries stressed the need for continuous learning, adaptability, and inter-generational dialogue to ensure long-term business resilience.

The session was moderated by Mr. Sachin Mehra, Member, PHDCCI.



PHDCCI HOSTS DELEGATION FROM SUDURPASHCHIM PROVINCE, NEPAL

The Uttar Pradesh State Chapter, PHDCCI hosted a high-level delegation from Sudurpashchim Province, Nepal on May 4, 2025, at PHD House, Lucknow.

The delegation was led by Hon'ble Bir Bahadur Thapa, Minister for Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives, along with senior provincial leaders and officials. Mr. Saketa Raja Musinipally, Deputy Secretary (Nepal), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, also accompanied the delegation.

The delegation highlighted the province's investment potential and invited Indian businesses to explore joint ventures, assuring full



government support. Prominent PHDCCI members, including Mr. Lal Gupta, CMD, Samarthman Agrochem, Mr. Jatin Verma, MD, JSV Group, Mr. Vimal Shukla, CMD, Meghdoot Gramodyog and

Mr. Hamza Zaidi, AMA Herbal Laboratories P. Ltd., expressed interest in collaborating particularly in herbal R&D, agro-processing, tourism and wood-based value chains sectors.

"Before you start some work, always ask yourself three questions - Why am I doing it, What the results might be and Will I be successful. Only when you think deeply and find satisfactory answers to these questions, go ahead."

Chanakya



UTTAR PRADESH ENERGY EXPO

The UP State Chapter, PHDCCI & the FirstVIEW Media Group in collaboration with UPNDEA, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh organized the debut edition of the three-day Uttar Pradesh Energy Expo, May 8-10, 2025 at Lucknow.

The Expo aimed to promote Uttar Pradesh as a global hub for electric mobility development and manufacturing and to create an Ecosystem to attract the investments for development of charging/battery swapping infrastructure and attract the EV ecosystem manufacturers to set up their manufacturing units in the State and supply to the global market.

Chief Guest, Mr. A. K. Sharma, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister- Urban Development, Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation, Energy and Additional Sources of Energy, Uttar Pradesh highlighted that Uttar Pradesh is steadily moving toward a solar energy revolution, in alignment with the Prime Minister's 'Make in India' vision. He added that UP possesses all the necessary energy resources, demonstrating the state's productivity. Ayodhya is being developed as the state's



first model solar city under the Energy Policy 2022, with 10% of its electricity load already met through renewable energy. Similar solar plant installations are underway in 16 other municipal corporations. The Minister encouraged entrepreneurs at the Expo to invest in solar ventures and assured full government support. The Minister also appreciated PHDCCI for bringing up this Expo on such a burning topic which is the need of the hour and also assured full support by his department in the future endeavors of PHDCCI in the same direction.

Guest of Honour, Mr. Narendra Bhushan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy and Additional Energy Department, and Chairman, UPNEDA, observed that Uttar Pradesh currently ranks first in the country in terms of energy

consumption. He noted that with such high demand, the role of renewable energy, particularly solar, will continue to grow in the coming years.

Conference Chair, Mr. Mukul Singh, IAS (Retd.), Chairman Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Election Commission praised the Expo as an unprecedented initiative and

emphasized the need to ramp up domestic production of high-quality solar panels. He also advocated for focused research and development tailored to local land availability to enhance solar panel output.

Mr. R.P. Gupta, IAS (Retd.), Chairman & MD, SECI raised concerns about global warming and climate change, highlighting the vital role of renewable energy. He noted that while India's current total energy production stands at 500 GW, it is projected to reach 2,000 GW by 2047, making development of advanced battery storage technology all the more critical.

Dr Ashish Kumar Goel, IAS, Chairman, UPPCL, expressed confidence that renewable energy

would help make round-the-clock electricity supply a reality, noting the government's subsidies for solar projects with enhanced storage capabilities.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI and CMD, KEI Industries, voiced optimism about Uttar Pradesh's future in renewable energy, solar power, electric vehicles, and energy storage. He pointed to the significance of the PM Suryaghar of providing Free Electricity Scheme in advancing the state's goal of reaching 22 GW of solar capacity by 2027.

Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair, UP State PHDCCI and President-Technical, KARAM, stressed the need to address rising air pollution through clean and green energy initiatives, encouraging vendors, producers, and suppliers to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the expo.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, underscored that transforming UP into a US\$ 1 trillion economy is an inclusive goal, with solar energy set to play a pivotal role. He highlighted the state's target of generating 500 GW of energy by 2030, noting the collaborative efforts of UP PHDCCI, UPNEDA, and the state government in achieving this milestone.

Mr. Parag Mishra, Conference Convener, UPEX 2025 & MD Jaganlite India Pvt. Ltd., described the PM Suryaghar: Free Electricity Scheme as one of the most popular initiatives at present.

Mr. Varun Gulati, CEO, FirstVIEW Media Group mentioned that UPEX 2025 is shaping up to be a milestone event for Uttar Pradesh's clean energy journey.

Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director, UP State Chapter, PHDCCI said that UPEX 2025 is an initiative that brings together vision, technology, and execution under one roof. For a state as dynamic as Uttar Pradesh, the path to sustainable energy lies in collaboration and capacity building



at every level — from grassroots entrepreneurs to global investors.

The second day featured a session on "Creating a Competitive Environment for Solar Manufacturers," wherein Mr. Arvind Kumar, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, UPERC, emphasized that UP's fast-growing energy demands offer immense opportunities for solar manufacturers, and praised the state's progressive industrial policies, which attracted Rs. 6 lakh crore in investments last year. He encouraged both national and international investors to capitalize on the state's manufacturing potential.

Mr. Rakesh Kumar Agrawal, Senior Project Officer at UPNEDA, mentioned that the PM-KUSUM scheme was launched in November 2022, and UP was the first state to establish a dedicated KUSUM portal. The day also featured insightful panel discussions on the PM-KUSUM scheme, with experts discussing how it can drive solar adoption in agriculture, particularly through agrivoltaics, and stressed the need for streamlined land leasing policies to support such initiatives. Another session focused on the future of green mobility, highlighting the need for high-capacity fast-charging infrastructure to promote electric trucks and transform the logistics sector.

The third day featured key panel discussions on solar EPC, electric fleets, energy storage, and grid modernization. Mr. Deepak Raizada, Chief Engineer, UPPCL, invited investors to establish

battery storage plants in the state, emphasizing strong government support and infrastructure development. Panelists discussed the need for enhanced policy support to achieve the state's 2030 renewable energy targets while addressing challenges in rural electrification and skilled labor shortages. The state aims to complete the rollout of an electric bus fleet by 2030 and install EV charging stations every 25 kilometers along highways.

Mr. Yogesh Kumar, Commercial Director, Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. expressed the need for better storage solutions to stabilize the grid, while Mr. Ranjan Nair, Managing Director, UPSRTC highlighted government incentives for electric buses.

Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director of UP Chapter, PHDCCI, remarked, "The three-day UP Energy Expo 2025 was a grand success in every sense — bringing together vision, execution, and collaboration. From clean tech innovations to rural energy solutions, the expo showcased Uttar Pradesh's readiness to lead India's energy transition."

Mr. Varun Gulati, CEO of FirstView Group delivered the vote-of-thanks to the participants. The platform witnessed massive footfall of over 8,000 attendees, showcasing innovations in solar, electric vehicles and energy storage & a lot of enthusiasm was seen amongst the attendees / participants.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr Hemant Jain, President accompanied by Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General and Mr. Suresh Chandra Joshi, Joint Secretary met with Commerce Secretary, Mr. Sunil Barthwal and Director General of Trade Remedies, Mr. Sidharth Mahajan on May 20, 2025 at New Delhi. The discussion focused on inverted duty structures and other key matters pertaining to trade and commerce.

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



Mr Mahendra Rustagi, Co-chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee along with Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director, PHDCCI met Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Mr. Bhupender Yadav on May 14, 2025 at New Delhi. The delegation invited the Hon'ble Minister for ICS 2025 which is scheduled to be held on August 29, 2025. The Hon'ble Minister appreciated the Chamber's efforts in respect of the climate change and bioenergy and confirmed his presence for ICS 2025.



MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Former President along with Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director and Mr. Suresh Chandra Joshi, Joint Secretary met Ms. Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution on May 30, 2025 at New Delhi. The objective of the meeting was to request the Ministry for deferment of the implementation of 32 Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in respect of 40 products which the Govt. has proposed to implement shortly. The Secretary acknowledged the challenges faced by industries, particularly the MSMEs in complying with Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and said that the government would seek solutions for resolving the issue.

MEETING WITH JOINT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Former President along with Mr. Vinod Karwa, Chair, MSME Committee, Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director and Mr. Premashis Mittra, Joint Secretary met Mr. Vijay Mittal, IIOFS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries on May 29, 2025 in New Delhi. The objective of the meeting was to request the Ministry for deferment of the implementation of 32 Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in respect of 40 products which the Govt. has proposed to implement shortly. The Joint Secretary advised PHDCCI to become members of various technical committees and sub-committees for providing expert inputs from the industry members.

MEETING WITH MANAGING DIRECTOR, INDIA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Rajan Sehgal, Co-chair, Tourism Committee, along with Ms. Shalini S Sharma, Assistant Secretary General; Ms. Sulagna Ghosh, Secretary; and Mr. Sanchit Prabhakar, Deputy Secretary met Ms. Mugdha Sinha (IAS), Managing Director, India Tourism Development Corporation on May 9, 2025 at her office in New Delhi. The delegation extended their congratulations to Ms. Sinha on assuming charge as MD, ITDC and briefed her on the upcoming initiatives planned by the Tourism & Hospitality Committees of PHDCCI.

MEETING WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER OF MALAYSIA



Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, and Mr. Niraj, Director, International Affairs, PHDCCI met H.E Mr. Dato' Muzafar Shah Mustafa, High Commissioner of Malaysia on May 21, 2025. Mr. Naveen Seth emphasized on the Chamber's expanding international footprint in the Southeast Asia region. He underscored PHDCCI's continued efforts to enhance economic and trade cooperation with partner countries, notably Malaysia, and expressed the Chamber's intent to host inbound Malaysian business delegations. He also outlined plans to lead an outbound delegation to Malaysia in September 2025, aimed at fostering business-to-business linkages and identifying new avenues for trade and investment collaboration. H.E. Mr. Dato' Muzafar Shah Mustafa proposed aligning the PHDCCI delegation's visit to Malaysia with the upcoming ASEAN Summit scheduled for October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur.

MEETING WITH TRADE & INVESTMENT COMMISSIONER, EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM & WALLONIA-BRUSSELS ECONOMIC REPRESENTATION



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General and Mr. Niraj, Director, International Affairs met Mr. Guillaume de Bassompierre, Trade & Investment Commissioner, Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium & Wallonia-Brussels Economic Representation on May 7, 2025. Mr. Naveen Seth informed about the recent activities of PHDCCI including the International engagements particularly in the European region and underscored how the Chamber plays a pivotal role in promoting cross-border trade and investment, facilitating stronger business ties between India and its regional and international partners, especially in the European Region.

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sanjay Bhatia, Former President along with Mr. D P Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director and Mr. Premashis Mittra, Joint Secretary met Mr. Pramod Kumar Tiwari, IAS, Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on May 23, 2025 at New Delhi. The objective of the meeting was to request BIS for deferment of the implementation of 32 Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in respect of 40 products which the Govt. had proposed to implement shortly. The DG appreciated the Chamber's efforts in providing timely inputs to BIS and assured his support to address the issues which MSMEs might face due to implementation of the QCOs.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY (EAST), MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI and Mr. Niraj, Director, International Affairs, PHDCCI met Mr. P Kumaran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs on May 2, 2025. Mr. Seth briefed him on PHDCCI's recent international engagements, particularly in countries under the Secretary's purview. Mr. Kumaran appreciated PHDCCI's efforts in strengthening India's economic ties and assured full support for its initiatives. He encouraged deeper engagement in emerging markets across Southeast Asia and South America—especially Chile, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, and Guyana—noting their potential in oil, gas, and allied sectors. He also highlighted the ongoing initiatives to establish skill development centres in India, South Korea, and Singapore, aimed at enhancing industrial workforce capabilities.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB AND ADMINISTRATOR OF UT



Mr. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI interacted with Mr. Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator of UT Chandigarh at Raj Bhavan, Chandigarh, on May 20, 2025. Mr. Gilhotra apprised the Hon'ble Governor about PHDCCI's ongoing activities, regional initiatives, and its commitment to fostering socio-economic development across Punjab and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The Hon'ble Governor lauded PHDCCI's efforts in promoting entrepreneurship, facilitating Industry-Government Dialogue, and contributing to Nation-building. On this occasion, Bollywood actor, Sohail Khan and filmmaker, Mr. Vikram Chopra were also present.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB AND ADMINISTRATOR OF CHANDIGARH



A PHDCCI delegation of Chandigarh Chapter comprising of Mr. M.S. Vij, Chair; Mr. Suvrat Khanna, Co-chair; Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director and Mr. Gurdarshan Aggarwal, Resident Director met Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh, Mr. Gulab Chand Kataria on May 19, 2025. The delegation presented the PHDCCI 120 years Legacy Coffee Table Book to the Hon'ble Governor and also extended a formal invitation to grace the inaugural ceremony of the 11th edition of "INS and OUTS", scheduled to be held in September 2025 at Chandigarh.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF HARYANA



M r. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI interacted with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, Mr. Nayab Singh Saini on May 19, 2025, to discuss the upcoming high-level interactive session between PHDCCI Members and Hon'ble Chief Minister on "Opportunities in Haryana," scheduled for June 3, 2025 at Chandigarh. Mr Sohail Khan, Renowned Bollywood Actor was also present during the meeting.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, RENEWABLE ENERGY & LABOUR, GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA



A PHDCCI delegation led by Advocate Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter along with Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, Mr. Gurdarshan Aggarwal, Resident Director and Mr. Naveen Kumar, Resident Manager, met Mr. Anil Vij, Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Renewable Energy & Labour, Government of Haryana at Chandigarh on May 27, 2025. Adv. Lokesh Jain apprised the Hon'ble Minister of various impactful initiatives undertaken by PHDCCI in the renewable energy sector. He emphasized the Chamber's commitment to promote clean energy and sustainability through industry engagement, policy advocacy, and collaborative platforms.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES, FOOD & SUPPLIES, FOREST & ENVIRONMENT GOVERNMENT OF THE NCT OF DELHI



Mr. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI met S. Manjinder Singh Sirsa, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Food & Supplies, Forest & Environment Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, and MLA on May 15, 2025 in New Delhi. The meeting focused on fostering greater collaboration between the business communities of Punjab and Delhi. Mr. Gilhotra emphasized the importance of inter-state partnerships and the critical role Chambers like PHDCCI play in bridging public and private sector initiatives. Mr. Sirsa reiterated the Delhi Government's commitment to encouraging ease of doing business, promoting green industries, and creating a robust framework for cooperative growth across states.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE, GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Advocate Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter, Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, Mr. Gurdarshan Aggarwal, Resident Director and Mr. Naveen Kumar, Resident Manager met Mr. Rao Narbir Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries and Commerce, Government of Haryana at Chandigarh on May 27, 2025. Advocate Lokesh Jain proposed potential areas of collaboration between the Chamber and the Department of Industries to promote awareness of various schemes and policies formulated for the benefit of industries in Haryana.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT, ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, CLIMATE CHANGE



Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair, UP Chapter along with Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director and Ms. Riddhi Garg, Resident Officer, UP Chapter, PHDCCI met with Dr Arun Kumar Saxena, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Forest and Environment, Zoological Garden, Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh on May 28, 2025 at UP. The team invited him to be the Chief Guest for UFSEC 4th edition scheduled to be held in July 2025 at India Expo Centre & Mart.

MEETING WITH ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, HOME GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA



A PHDCCI delegation led by Advocate Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter, along with Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director and Mr. Gurdarshan Aggarwal, Resident Director met Dr Sumita Mishra, IAS ACS- Home, Government of Haryana on May 30, 2025 at Chandigarh. The delegation invited Dr Mishra as the Guest of Honour for a Cyber Security Conclave scheduled to be held on July 25, 2025 at Chandigarh.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY- INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & CEO, INVEST UP GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair along with Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director; Mr. Kaushik Fuloria, Resident Manager and Mr. Amresh Rastogi, Assistant Secretary, UP Chapter, PHDCCI met with Mr. Vijay Kiran Anand, IAS, Secretary- Infrastructure & Industrial Development & Chief Executive Officer, Invest UP, Government of Uttar Pradesh on May 28, 2025. The team presented a representation regarding imposition of stamp duty and registration charges on change of name or constitution of business affecting industrial land leases and also invited him to be the Guest of Honour for UFSEC 4th edition scheduled to be held in July 2025 at India Expo Centre & Mart.

MEETING WITH IPS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, UTTAR PRADESH FIRE SERVICES, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI delegation of UP State Chapter comprising of Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair; Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director along with Mr. Kaushik Fuloria, Resident Manager and Mr. Amresh Rastogi, Assistant Secretary met with Mr. Aditya Mishra, Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh Fire Services, Government of Uttar Pradesh on May 19, 2025. The delegation briefed Mr. Mishra about the importance of fire safety awareness in the industry and invited him to be the Guest Honour for UFSEC 4th edition scheduled to be held in July 2025 at India Expo Centre & Mart.

MEETING WITH ED, PUNJAB STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



A PHDCCI delegation of Punjab chapter consisting of Mr. Manish Verma, Chair, Regional Startup and Entrepreneurship Forum; Mr. Supreet Singh, Convener, Regional Pharmaceutical, Health and Wellness Committee; Adv. Pooja Nayar, Chair, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh and the Secretariat Team met Mr. Pritpal Singh, ED, Punjab State Council for Science and Technology and Dr. Dapinder Kaur Bakshi, Joint Director and Head, Research and Start-up Facilitation Division, Punjab State Council for Science & Technology on May 28, 2025. The meeting focused on exploring collaborative opportunities between PHDCCI and the Punjab State Council for Science and Technology in the domains of startup facilitation, research and innovation, capacity building, women entrepreneurship, and industry-academia linkage.



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



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Mob: 7004728646

PHD FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (PHDFWF)

MAJOR PROGRAMMES



The PHD Family Welfare Foundation inaugurated Mobile Medical Van



Assam skill center visit



PHDFWF self-defense Training Program.

FREE SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLE



With support from funding partners, PHDFWF operates 27 skill development centers in remote and rural areas. A total of 1,620 students are trained in various skills, empowering them to become self-sufficient and support their families.

FREE HEALTH CAMPS FOR NEEDY PEOPLE



PHDFWF provides essential healthcare services to underserved communities using 11 mobile medical vans, which include specialized services for eye care, dental care, and a TI project focused on HIV/AIDS. A total of 189 health camps were conducted across five states, benefiting 8,722 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



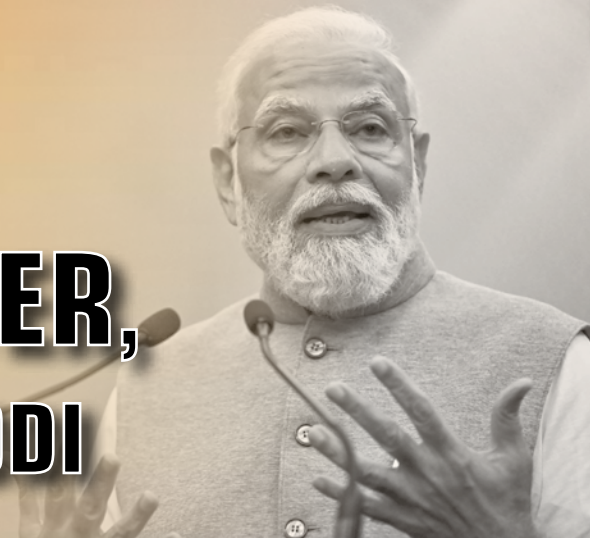
Kajaria



CHANDIOK
FOUNDATION



THUS SPOKE PRIME MINISTER, MR. NARENDRA MODI



AT THE RISING NORTHEAST INVESTORS SUMMIT

Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi's address at the Rising Northeast Investors Summit emphasized the strategic importance of the Northeast in India's journey towards becoming a developed nation. He highlighted the region as Bharat's most diverse and vibrant zone—rich in natural resources, organic products, energy potential, tourism, and skilled youth. The PM underscored that development in Eastern Bharat, particularly the Northeast, is crucial to building a Viksit Bharat and outlined the government's EAST (Empower, Act, Strengthen, Transform) policy. Over the past decade, the region has seen transformative growth with

unprecedented investments in infrastructure—highways, railways, airports, digital connectivity, and gas pipelines—laying the foundation for industrial expansion and tourism. He noted that cities like Guwahati, Imphal, and Agartala are being developed as multimodal hubs, and major international trade corridors such as the Bharat-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and Kaladan Project are positioning the Northeast as a gateway to ASEAN.

The Prime Minister stressed that improved law and order, peace accords, and inclusive policies have helped integrate youth into the mainstream economy. Initiatives

in education, skill development, digital innovation, and sports are creating local opportunities and reversing historic neglect. The PM called attention to the Northeast's potential in organic agriculture, holistic wellness, food processing, and clean energy, including semiconductors and solar power—highlighting the region's evolving role in global supply chains. He asserted that “Rising Northeast” is more than a summit—it is a national movement, urging the business community to seize the first-mover advantage and make the Northeast a cornerstone of India's future growth.

AT THE 78TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

At the 78th Session of the World Health Assembly, Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi reaffirmed India's commitment to global health under the theme ‘One World for Health’, which aligns closely with India's vision of ‘One Earth, One Health’. He emphasized that the foundation of a healthier world lies in inclusion, integrated vision, and collaboration. Highlighting India's strides in inclusive healthcare, the PM cited the Ayushman Bharat scheme, now covering over 580 million people and extended to all citizens above 70 years. He also noted the role

of health and wellness centres in early disease detection and the availability of affordable medicines through public pharmacies. Digital innovations such as telemedicine and unique digital health IDs are transforming access and efficiency in healthcare delivery, contributing to a marked decline in out-of-pocket expenditure and a rise in public health spending.

The Prime Minister underscored that the future of global health hinges on how well the most vulnerable are cared for, particularly in the Global South. India's healthcare initiatives, he said, provide

scalable and sustainable models that can benefit other developing nations. He extended an open invitation for global collaboration by offering India's experiences and best practices. Looking ahead, he invited all nations to join the 11th International Day of Yoga in June, themed ‘Yoga for One Earth, One Health’. He also commended the World Health Organization and member states for the successful negotiation of the INB treaty, viewing it as a collective step toward pandemic preparedness and global cooperation.

AT THE INDIA STEEL SUMMIT- 2025

At the India Steel 2025 Summit, Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi emphasized the pivotal role of the steel sector in shaping a 'Viksit Bharat'. He highlighted steel as the backbone of modern infrastructure—essential for skyscrapers, transport, smart cities, and industrial corridors. With India now the second-largest steel producer globally, the government aims to increase production to 300 million tonnes by 2030 and boost per capita consumption to 160 kg. PM Modi outlined how major initiatives such as PM Gati Shakti, National Infrastructure Pipeline, Smart Cities Mission, PM Awas

Yojana, and Jal Jeevan Mission are catalyzing demand for steel. He reiterated the government's commitment to using only 'Made in India' steel in public projects and noted the sector's expanding role in defence, space, and manufacturing under schemes like the PLI and the National Manufacturing Mission.

The Prime Minister also addressed the challenges ahead—especially the need for raw material security and technological advancement. He called for a shift towards energy-efficient, low-emission, and AI-driven production, with greater use of recycling

and by-product utilization. Emphasizing the importance of alternative technologies like DRI and coal gasification, he urged timely development of allotted greenfield mines. Stressing the need to reduce dependence on imports and increase exports, PM Modi set an ambitious target of 500 million tonnes of steel production by 2047. He concluded by inviting global and domestic stakeholders to collaborate in R&D, innovation, and employment generation, positioning India as a global hub for high-quality steel.

AT THE VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN

In a landmark virtual address at the launch of the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted the initiative as a transformative step towards modernizing Indian agriculture and empowering farmers across the country. He described the campaign as a unique national effort that brings together over 2,000 teams—including scientists, agricultural experts, government officials, and progressive farmers—who will reach out to millions of farmers across more than 700 districts in the coming weeks, just ahead of the Kharif season. The Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan, he said, is designed to bridge the critical knowledge gap between lab-based agricultural research and field-level practices. By bringing scientific advancements directly to farmers' fields, the initiative aims

to equip them with the tools and knowledge required to optimize yields, preserve soil health, and use water more efficiently.

Acknowledging that agriculture has long been a state subject, the Prime Minister noted that evolving consumer preferences, market dynamics, and climate challenges now call for a shift in farming strategies and policies.

Prime Minister, Mr. Modi outlined several priority areas for the government's agriculture policy, including: Ensuring fair prices for farm produce; Strengthening the rural and agricultural economy; Aligning crop production with national and international demand; Promoting India as a global food supplier; Combating climate change through sustainable practices and Encouraging adoption of modern

technology and innovation. He also stressed the need for diversified income sources for farmers, highlighting initiatives such as: Installing solar panels on farm boundaries for additional income; Expanding the Sweet Revolution through beekeeping; Promoting the Gobardhan Yojana to monetize agricultural and cattle waste; Boosting production and value addition of 'Shri Anna' (nutri-cereals) and Encouraging the use of agri-waste to generate clean energy.

Mr. Modi stated that a developed India must be built on the foundation of a modern and sustainable agricultural sector, and expressed confidence that the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan would serve as a catalyst for agricultural transformation and rural prosperity.





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COVERAGE IMPRINTS

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

MSMEs show improved sentiments for Q4 2025, bullish on Q1 FY2026 growth prospects: Report

Synopsis

PHDCCI report suggests Indian SMEs are experiencing positive business activity. It further shows growth for Q4 FY2025. The index also indicates a strong outlook for Q1 FY2026.

New Delhi: PHDCCI SME Market Sentiment Index suggests positive momentum in business activity for the period Q4 FY2025 compared to previous quarter Q3 FY2025 and robust growth outlook for next quarter (Q1 FY2026), based on survey conducted on 3,000 pan-India SME firms across various manufacturing units, said a report released by PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, 'SME Market

NBT नवभारत टाइम्स

मौजूदा सिमाही में कारोबारी माहौल दमदार: PHDCCI
नई दिल्ली: नवभारत टाइम्स (NBT) की 3000 रजिस्टर्ड एंड मैनिफेस्ट इंडस्ट्रिज से की गई सर्वे पर आधारित PHDCCI SME मार्केट सेंटीमेंट इंडेक्स में मौजूदा वित्त वर्ष की अप्रैल-जून तिमाही में व्यवहार बिजनेस एक्टिविटी का संकेत मिला है। संगठन की जारी रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, पिछले वित्त वर्ष की आखिरी तिमाही में उछाल घटने की सिमाही के मुताबिक बिजनेस मांसेटम बेहतर दिखा। PHDCCI के प्रेसिडेंट हेमंत जैन ने कहा कि SME बिजनेस आउटलुक इंडेक्स 60.3 पर रहा, जिससे इंडस्ट्री में दमदार कॉन्फिडेंस का पता चलता है। करीब 67% कंपनियां ने बिजनेस एक्टिविटी सुधारने, 47% ने टर्नओवर बढ़ाने और 53% ने कैपिटल एक्सपेंडिचर बढ़ाने की उम्मीद जताई। जैन ने बताया कि SME बिजनेस एक्टिविटी इंडेक्स 57.7 रहा, जिससे पिछले वित्त वर्ष की चौथी तिमाही के मुताबिक मौजूदा तिमाही में मैनुफैक्चरिंग एक्टिविटी बढ़ने का पता चला।

abp LIVE

Industry Anticipates Another Rate Cut From RBI As Growth Estimates Cross 6.5 Per Cent

According to Ranjeet Mehta, Secretary General and CEO of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), the current economic climate has bolstered optimism across sectors.

With the Reserve Bank of India's next monetary policy review just weeks away, industry sentiment is leaning toward a potential rate cut, buoyed by encouraging inflation data and steady growth projections.

According to Ranjeet Mehta, Secretary General and CEO of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), the current economic climate has bolstered optimism across sectors. "As far as rates are concerned, I think that RBI has definitely looked into it. They have reduced the repo rate. But we are, we are just waiting for the next RBI decision on this," Mehta said. "And industry is hopeful that when inflation, we have seen the inflation data, which is within the zone of RBI and we hope that there would be some kind of rate reduction in future, very soon."

FORTUNE

India-UK FTA to augment bilateral trade by \$60 billion by 2030: PHDCCI

The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is set to significantly boost bilateral trade to over \$60 billion by 2030 through the elimination of tariffs on 99% of Indian exports, including textiles, leather, and auto parts, according to a report by the PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI).

The FTA also addresses non-tariff barriers, streamlining trade processes, said Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI. In 2024, South East England and London led UK imports from India, while Indian services exports to the UK reached \$13.25 billion in 2022, mainly delivered remotely, Jain added.

BW BUSINESSWORLD

Retail Inflation's Easing In April Gives Impetus To Further Rate Cuts

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) highlighted that this is the lowest year-on-year (YoY) inflation since July 2019. The rural inflation declined to 2.92 per cent in April 2025 as compared to 3.25 per cent in March 2025. The urban year-on-year inflation rate based on CPI slipped to 3.36 per cent in April 2025 from 3.43 per cent in March 2025.

"Both the rural and urban segments of the economy are witnessing softening of CPI inflation, with 2.92 per cent and 3.36 per cent in April 2025 in comparison to 3.43 per cent and 4.11 per cent respectively in April 2024. This is expected to further give comfort to the RBI to reduce interest rates in the next bi-monthly MPC meeting, which will reduce the industry debt burden," highlighted Hemant Jain, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI).

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Industry hopeful of RBI rate cut "very soon"; expects over 6.5pc GDP growth in FY26: PHDCCI

Synopsis

PHDCCI anticipates a rate cut by the RBI and expects India's economic growth to exceed 6.5% in the current fiscal year. Ranjeet Mehta highlighted key challenges for MSMEs, including access to affordable finance, technology adoption, and affordable market access. The State Represents Activity Index indicates a significant upturn in manufacturing activities.



Finance, technology and market access.

The industry is hopeful of a rate cut by the Reserve Bank "very soon" and expects India's economic growth to be more than 6.5 per cent in the current financial year, PHDCCI Secretary General and CEO Ranjeet Mehta said on Tuesday. He also outlined three major challenges faced by the country's micro small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including access to affordable

INDIA TODAY

Why the free trade agreement with UK is a win-win for India

All Indian exports to the UK will now enjoy zero-duty benefits, opening access to one of the world's most affluent and consumption-driven markets



After three years of negotiations, India and the United Kingdom have concluded a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that is likely to boost bilateral trade by \$60 billion (Rs 5.08 lakh crore) by 2030, according to industry body PHD Chamber Of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI). This is to be done through the elimination of tariffs on 99 per cent of Indian exports and by addressing non-tariff barriers that will streamline trade processes.

In 2024, India was ranked as the UK's 11th largest trading partner, with trade between the two countries pegged at 42.6 billion (Rs 4.8 lakh crore).

FORTUNE

India-U.S. trade pact: Handicraft, other labour-intensive sectors to have safeguards: Commerce Ministry

During a panel discussion on "Reformulating Existing Trade and Investment, and Leveraging its Potential", organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sen added that the countries will ensure something that works to the mutual benefit of both countries.

हिन्दुस्तान

उद्योग को ब्याज दरों में कटौती की उम्मीद

नई दिल्ली, एनईसी। उद्योग जगत की उम्मीद है कि अगली-आई साल जून-जुलै-दरों में कटौती करेगा। पारंपरिक वृद्धि 6.5 प्रतिशत से अधिक रहने का अनुमान है।

खोईअर रजौत गैरहा ने कहा कि साल वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में भारत की आर्थिक वृद्धि 6.5 प्रतिशत से अधिक रहने का अनुमान है।

ELECTRONIC MEDIA



AUTHORED ARTICLE



Food labels: Empowering healthy eating choices

BY
INVITATION



PN ARORA

Picture this: You walk into a supermarket, pick up a product labelled “low-fat” or “all-natural”, and assume it’s a healthy choice. But do you ever turn the package around to read the fine print? You may be surprised to find excessive sugar, artificial additives or serving sizes hiding behind those claims.

Food labels are intended to help consumers make healthier choices, but often they lack clarity and sufficient detail. There’s significant room for labels to improve and provide clear and useful information.

In the journey of healing and disease management, nutrition plays an indispensable role. Particularly for those battling severe illnesses such as cancer, maintaining optimal nutrition is essential even when appetite declines. This has become more relevant in today’s fast-paced world, where processed and packaged foods dominate our diets.

As healthcare professionals, we witness the impact of poor dietary choices on people’s health every day — rising cases of obesity, diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. In this context, careful reading of food labels becomes essential to making informed dietary choices that support healing and overall well-being.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated comprehensive regulations to standardise food labelling in the country. These guidelines ensure that food labels provide accurate and relevant information, enabling consumers to assess the quality and nutritional value of the product they consume.

However, despite these regulations, many consumers overlook food labels or struggle to interpret them effectively.

EVALUATING CLAIMS

Food labels basically provide essential information about a product’s nutritional content, ingredients and compliance with food safety regulations. Every packaged food product must carry clear, legible and standardised labelling, as per FSSAI norms.



ISTOCK

Nutrition facts on labels present energy, protein, fat, carbohydrates, sugar, fibre and sodium content per serving, helping consumers assess whether a food item aligns with their dietary needs. The ingredient list, in descending order by weight, helps identify the primary components and avoid allergens or unwanted additives.

The FSSAI logo and licence number indicate regulatory compliance, ensuring that the product meets safety standards. Health and nutritional claims often highlight benefits such as “high-fibre,” “low-fat,” or “no added sugar”, but buyers must critically evaluate these claims against the nutrition panel.

Clear labelling of allergens such as peanut, gluten, dairy and soy is crucial for individuals with food sensitivities, while checking expiry and manufacturing dates ensures that consumers can verify the product’s freshness and safety for consumption.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Food labels are not just regulatory tools but also powerful instruments of consumer empowerment to promote healthier choices and combat diet-related diseases. As consumers, we must embrace the habit of scrutinising food labels and advocate for greater transparency in the food industry.

At the same time, regulatory bodies, manufacturers and policymakers must work together to enhance food labelling practices, ensuring that every individual has access to accurate and comprehensible nutritional information. By fostering a culture of informed eating, we can make significant strides toward building a healthier nation.

(The writer is Chair-Hospitals, Diagnostics and Wellness Committee, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Views are personal)



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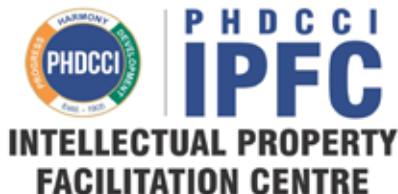
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