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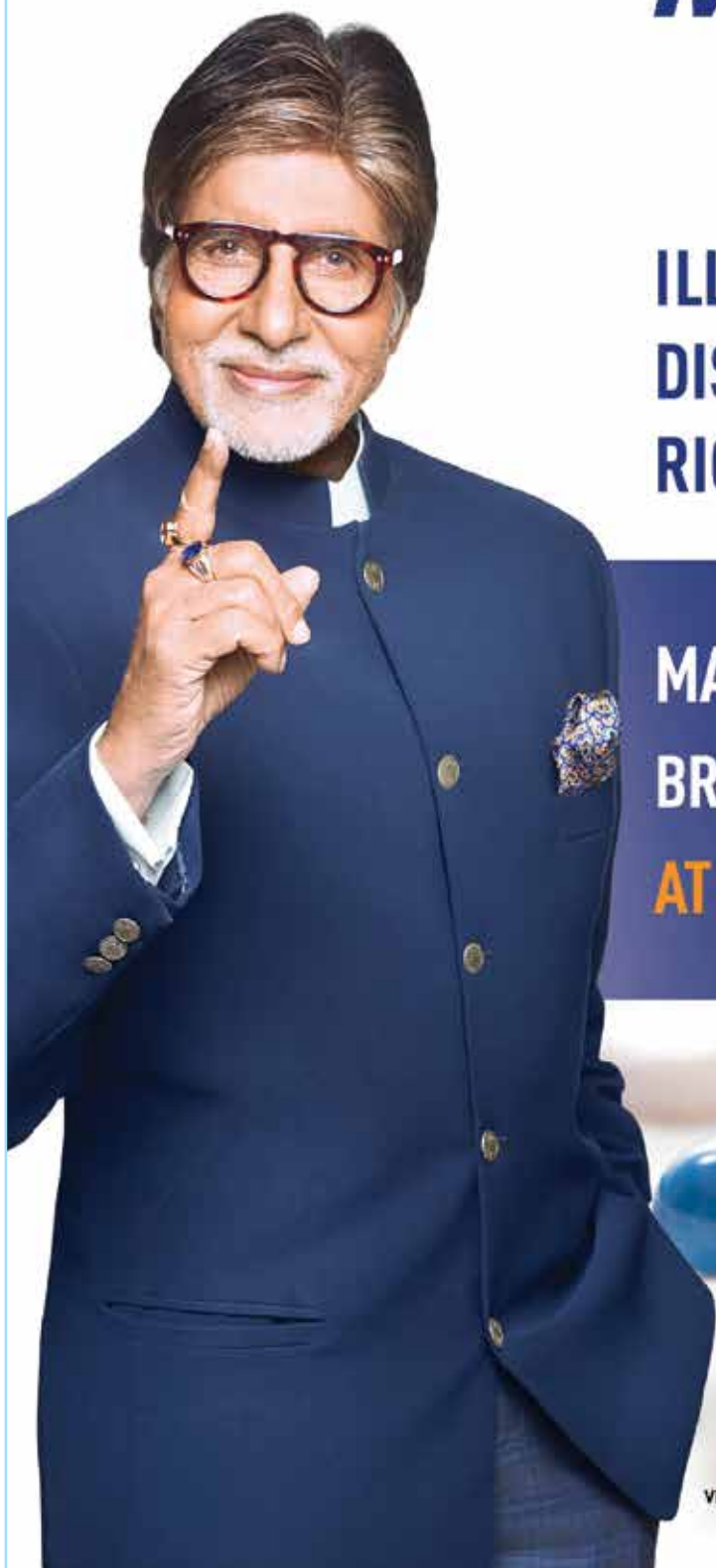




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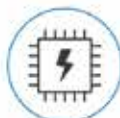
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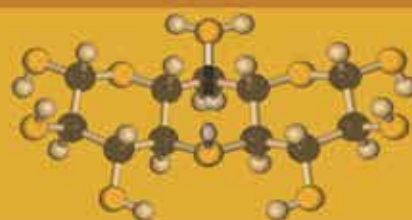
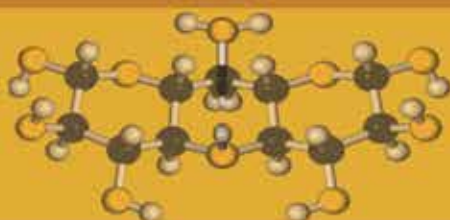
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Message

RAJEEV JUNEJA PRESIDENT



Our forthcoming 121st Annual Session, scheduled for October 2026 on the theme “India’s Next Leap,” will require a renewed focus on transformative reforms, technological leadership, manufacturing excellence, world-class infrastructure and an empowered workforce, while ensuring that growth remains inclusive, resilient and sustainable. I urge all our members to participate in this important occasion, where Hon’ble Cabinet Ministers and distinguished experts will share their perspectives on India’s emerging opportunities, challenges and the road ahead.

As India advances with confidence towards becoming a modern, developed and self-reliant economy, this is an appropriate moment to reflect on the year gone by and the larger journey ahead. For me, it is a moment of both pride and gratitude. The privilege of leading PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, an institution with a distinguished 121 year legacy of service to industry and the nation, has been deeply fulfilling.

Throughout my tenure as President, our approach has been anchored in the 3 Speed Formula (3S): speed in identifying opportunities and challenges, speed in decision-making, and speed in execution and delivery. In an environment of rapid technological change and global uncertainty, institutions must anticipate change and translate intent into outcomes. Guided by this philosophy, we have worked to strengthen collaboration between industry and government, foster innovation, advance sustainability and expand opportunities across the enterprise spectrum, from start-ups and MSMEs to large industrial enterprises.

Our efforts have taken place against the backdrop of an Indian economy

that continues to demonstrate remarkable resilience. India registered 7.8 per cent GDP growth in the first quarter of FY27, from April to June 2026. While this moderated from 8.6 per cent in the preceding quarter, it exceeded the expectations of most forecasters and reaffirmed India’s position among the world’s fastest growing major economies. This performance is particularly significant amid geopolitical tensions, oil price volatility, supply chain disruptions and wider global uncertainty. Hon’ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi aptly described the Q1 FY27 performance as a “herculean feat”.

The breadth of this expansion is equally encouraging, supported by robust domestic demand, improving investment activity and resilient exports. Manufacturing grew by 9.2 per cent, compared with 8.3 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, while services expanded by 10 per cent, against 8 per cent a year earlier. High frequency indicators, including automobile sales, three wheeler sales, digital payments and GST collections signalled strong momentum. Combined exports of goods and services increased

by 12 per cent in real terms during the June quarter, while imports contracted by 1.1 per cent.

Challenges, however, warrant continued vigilance. An uneven southwest monsoon and El Niño conditions could affect agriculture and rural demand, while geopolitical developments and global commodity prices remain external risks. At the same time, comfortable reservoir levels, policy support and climate resilient agricultural initiatives provide confidence. With inflation projected at around 5 per cent in 2026- 27, comfortable foreign exchange reserves and GDP growth projected at 7.3 to 7.5 per cent for FY27, India’s macroeconomic buffers remain strong.

As we speak of resilience and preparedness, we are also reminded of their human significance by the devastating floods in neighbouring Nepal. The loss of lives, displacement of families and damage to communities are deeply distressing. On behalf of PHDCCI, I extend our heartfelt condolences to those who have lost loved ones and express our solidarity with the people of Nepal. India and Nepal share bonds rooted in history, culture and enduring people to people relationships, and we stand

with our friends and neighbours as affected communities recover and rebuild.

Resilience must therefore be understood in its widest sense, encompassing the ability of communities to recover, economies to withstand shocks and enterprises to continue creating opportunity amid uncertainty. This resilience is visible in the PHDCCI'S SME Market Sentiment Index (Round 5), based on responses from more than 3,000 manufacturing SMEs. The Index indicates continued expansion during April to June 2026 and a moderately improved outlook for the following quarter. Forty per cent of respondents expect business activity to improve, while 47 per cent anticipate higher capital expenditure, supported by initiatives such as PLI and MOOWR. Despite concerns around employment, logistics, freight costs, energy prices and external demand, the broader direction points to sustained demand and improving business confidence.

These trends reinforce the indispensable role of India's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. MSMEs are not merely participants in India's growth story, but among its principal architects, creating employment, nurturing entrepreneurship and innovation, supporting exports and distributing opportunity across regions. Their competitiveness will be central to the realisation of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026, passed by Parliament in August, represents an important step towards modernising the MSME regulatory framework, with its focus on delayed payments, time bound dispute resolution, simplified compliance and competitiveness. I particularly welcome the Ministry of MSME's mandate requiring operating Central Public Sector Enterprises to route invoice settlements for procurement from MSMEs through RBI authorised Trade Receivables Discounting System platforms. By improving liquidity and transparency, this can provide

MSME suppliers with competitive, collateral free and non recourse financing against approved invoices before their due dates.

PHDCCI has complemented these reforms by expanding pathways to capital. Our MoU with BSE Limited will promote awareness of the BSE SME Platform and support eligible enterprises through guidance, mentorship, training and capacity building, enabling more MSMEs to explore equity and capital market opportunities. As the saying goes, "A rising tide lifts all boats." India's growth will be truly transformative when its benefits strengthen enterprises of every size and extend across regions and sectors.

The Chamber has simultaneously focused on strategic priorities that will define India's long term competitiveness. At the 6th International Summit on Climate Change, themed "India's Energy and Food Security Mission," discussions underscored the role of technology and innovation in securing India's energy and food future. Dr Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, outlined a multi pathway energy strategy encompassing 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047 and five Small Modular Reactors by 2033, alongside green hydrogen, biofuels and the circular economy.

It is against this larger canvas of resilience, enterprise and innovation that our forthcoming 121st Annual Session in October 2026, themed "India's Next Leap," assumes particular significance. India today combines strong economic fundamentals, a vibrant demographic dividend, rapid digital transformation and expanding global influence. The opportunity before us goes beyond sustaining high growth. This next leap will require transformative reforms, technological leadership, manufacturing excellence, world class infrastructure and an empowered workforce, while ensuring that growth remains

inclusive, resilient and sustainable. I urge our members to participate actively in the 121st Annual Session, where Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers and distinguished experts will share their perspectives on India's emerging opportunities and the road ahead.

As I conclude my tenure as President, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude and fulfilment. I sincerely thank our Outstanding and Esteemed Former Presidents and all our members for their confidence, counsel and support, and the Secretariat team for its unwavering commitment, professionalism and teamwork. Working together as one family has reinforced my belief that enduring institutions are built on shared purpose, trust and continuity. PHDCCI must continue to create meaningful value for its members, remain the strong "Voice of Industry and Trade," foster innovation and contribute to India's transformation, while remaining true to the values at its core: Progress, Harmony and Integrated Development.

The end of tenure is not the end of a commitment, but an opportunity to carry its purpose forward with renewed ambition. As Carl Bard wrote, "Although no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." I bid adieu as President with immense gratification for what we have accomplished together and great confidence in what lies ahead.

Let us move forward with speed in thought, conviction in decision and excellence in execution, building an India that is competitive in enterprise, confident in innovation, resilient in growth and transformational in its ambition. It has been my privilege to serve. The journey of this great institution, and of this great nation, continues.



Rajeev Juneja
President, PHDCCI

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6th International Climate Summit 2026

“Energy Security is Inseparable from National Security”

**Hon’ble Minister Dr Jitendra Singh,
Union Minister of State (IC), Ministry of
Science and Technology**



At PHDCCI’s 6th International Climate Summit 2026 on the theme “India’s Energy & Food Security Mission,” held on September 2, 2026, at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi, Dr Jitendra Singh, Hon’ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science and Technology said that India’s energy sector has been accorded unprecedented policy priority over the last decade, with the government simultaneously pursuing nuclear expansion, green hydrogen, biofuels and circular economy initiatives to secure the country’s energy and food future.

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that energy security is inseparable from national security, strategic autonomy and economic resilience, and stressed the need for an increasingly self-reliant, indigenous, affordable and technology-driven energy sector. Highlighting India’s multi-pathway strategy, he said the country is targeting 100 GW of nuclear

capacity by 2047 and five SMRs by 2033, while advancing green hydrogen, biofuels, ethanol and sustainable aviation fuel. He noted that India’s startup ecosystem has grown from around 350 in 2014 to nearly 2.4 lakh, with biotechnology startups reaching nearly 13,000, while the bio-economy has expanded from USD 10 billion to nearly USD



200 billion. He also highlighted the Rs 1 lakh crore RDI Fund to boost private-sector participation in R&D and said PHDCCI can serve as a bridge between the government and non-government sector in India’s journey towards 2047.

While addressing the august gathering, Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor, Homi Bhabha National Institute, said India would require

around 28,000 TWh of energy annually to achieve a developed-nation standard of living. He stressed the potential of bioenergy for meeting India’s cooking-fuel needs and called for accelerating the shift from uranium to thorium-based nuclear technologies, supported by recycling and closed fuel cycles, to strengthen India’s long-term energy security.

Mr. Chakravarthy T. Kannan, Secretary General, Quality Council of India, spoke on the role of a robust national accreditation ecosystem in scaling up India’s manufacturing and localisation ambitions, drawing parallels with

healthcare and export sectors. He said Quality Council of India’s accreditation bodies, including the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and NABCB, currently work with over 30,000 hospitals across the country and are recognised internationally through mutual recognition arrangements with global bodies such as IAF and ILAC, allowing Indian certifications



to be accepted across more than 150 countries.

Highlighting India's rapid renewable energy expansion, the summit noted the growth of large-scale solar and battery storage projects, integrated solar-wind-hydro systems and agrivoltaic models that combine agriculture with solar power generation. Mr. Erik Solheim, President, Europe Asia Center, Brussels, said that renewable energy could strengthen both economic resilience and energy security by reducing dependence on volatile oil markets.

Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat, Former Member, NITI Aayog and former Director General, DRDO stated that India is on track to achieve 50% of installed power capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030, with nearly 300 GW already installed. He estimated the country's net-zero investment requirement through 2070 at Rs. 22.7 lakh crore, with an annual financing need of around Rs. 450–500 billion. He advocated low-carbon hydrogen beyond colour classifications, greater use of domestic resources through coal gasification and CCUS, reduced import dependence and greater private-sector participation in nuclear R&D.

Dr JP Gupta, Chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI, announced the

development of "Agni Kavach," described as the world's first GPU-based, open-source AI-driven industrial risk and safety analysis software platform, developed indigenously to end India's dependence on foreign safety-analysis software that currently costs industry upward of Rs 1 crore annually per user in licensing and renewal fees. He said the platform, positioned as a start-up with unicorn potential within three to four years, is designed to serve process, oil and gas, fertilizer, nuclear, defence and disaster-management industries, and sought government support to scale its adoption, particularly among MSMEs where industrial accidents remain high.

Earlier, delivering the welcome address, Mr. Sanjay Singhania, Vice President, PHDCCI, citing global benchmarks, he pointed to Brazil's decades-long ethanol ecosystem linking agriculture, industry and fuel distribution, and Denmark's integration of waste-to-energy technologies, including utilizing heat generated by data centres, as models India could match or exceed. He cited an Indore-based start-up that has scaled from biogas to compressed biogas, advanced biofuels and sustainable aviation fuel in collaboration with CSIR as an example of homegrown innovation.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, delivered the vote of thanks, commending the Minister for translating policy commitments into action across science, technology and climate initiatives.

The summit also featured a series of technical sessions covering "Bioethanol, Bio Fuels, Bio Plastics and Chemicals," "Coal Gasification – From Coal to Value," "Small Modular Reactors: Scalable Nuclear Solutions for India's Energy Transition," and "Process Safety, Risk Management & Agni Kavach," bringing together experts from government, industry, academia and research institutions to discuss technology, investment and safety solutions for India's energy transition.

The programme also featured the release of the Knowledge Book and the unveiling of an Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) electrolyzer developed by the Dr Bansi Dhar Institute.

The summit concluded with a call for stronger collaboration among government, industry, academia and technology institutions to accelerate indigenous innovation, strengthen energy security, reduce import dependence and build a resilient and sustainable energy ecosystem aligned with India's 2047 development vision.

Africa Day Celebration



Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI along with Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, and Mr. Niraj, Director – International Affairs, PHDCCI participated in the Africa Day Celebration held on August 5, 2026 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi on the invitation extended by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps, H.E. Mohamed Maliki, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco.

On the occasion of the 63rd Anniversary of Africa Day, Hon'ble

Minister of External Affairs, Dr S. Jaishankar graced the event as the Chief Guest. In his keynote address, he reaffirmed India's unwavering commitment to Africa as a trusted partner and priority. Highlighting the centuries-old historical and cultural ties between India and Africa, he emphasized enhanced cooperation in trade, investment, development partnerships, capacity building, education, healthcare, defence, and maritime security. Underscoring India's support for Africa's growing global role, he reiterated that India and Africa, united by shared values and aspirations, will continue

to work together to advance the interests of the Global South and build a more inclusive, prosperous, and sustainable future.

The Africa Day celebration witnessed the participation of diplomats from over 50 African Missions in India, senior government officials, business leaders, and other distinguished guests. The event served as an important platform to celebrate the enduring India–Africa partnership, reaffirm shared commitments, and strengthen collaboration across trade, investment, innovation, and people-to-people ties.



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Smart & Sustainable Water Systems: Bridging Technology and Access

PHDCCI Centre for Sustainability organized the International Summit on Smart & Sustainable Water Systems: Bridging Technology and Access on August 20, 2026 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, in association with Water Today. The summit served as a dynamic platform for dialogue among policymakers, industry leaders, technology providers, researchers, sustainability experts and development-sector stakeholders, with a focus on strengthening India's water resilience through technology, innovation, circularity and collaboration.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General, PHDCCI, inaugurated the expo and welcomed the distinguished participants. In his address, he highlighted the fundamental importance of water and emphasized the need to leverage Artificial Intelligence, sensors, smart technologies and data-driven solutions for improving water management and efficiency. He also highlighted the challenge of water leakage and the potential of smart monitoring systems to reduce water losses. Emphasizing the importance of collective action, he stated that addressing India's water challenges requires collaboration among government, industry, academia, technology providers, communities and citizens.

The first technical session, "Building Water Resilience through Reuse and Recycling," deliberated on urban wastewater reuse, municipal and industrial recycling, global best practices and strategies for scaling water-reuse systems. The session brought together Dr Sanjay Rana, Managing Director, Parsan Overseas Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Armin Mesinovic, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Republic of India; Mr. E Nandakumar, Chief Executive Officer, International Centre for Clean Water; Ms. Parul Goel, Associate Process, Mott



MacDonald Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. BB Singh, Founder & CEO, BB Singh Consulting Services; Dr Nupur Bahadur, Founder & Director, NuHorizon Water & Environment (OPC) Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Chetan Shukla, CEO, Clean Environmental Technologies and Ms. Saiba Gupta, Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

The second session, "Industrial Water Efficiency & Circular Manufacturing," focused on Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), industrial water audits, benchmarking, resource recovery, ESG and sustainability objectives, financing pathways and technology adoption. The session featured Ms. Mohita Taneja, Associate Director, Sustainability Consulting, Crisil Intelligence; Mr. Jaimeen Trivedi, Principal Engineer - Civil Project Lead, Mott MacDonald; Mr. Ramveer Tanwar, Director, Pondman; Dr Manish Kumar, Group Head – Adaptation & Risk Analysis, Climate, Environment and Sustainability, Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP); and Mr. Sumit De, Deputy General Manager - Sales, IDE Technologies; The session was chaired and moderated by Ms. Punnia Viswan, Co-Founder & CEO, Edha Sustainability Solutions LLP, and Dr Tania Ray Bhattacharya, Founder & CEO, The Celestial Earth.

The third session, "Leadership Talk: Innovation & Smart Technologies for Water Management, Policy,

Governance and Green Finance," explored the role of AI, IoT, smart metering, digital water systems, automation, green finance and public-private partnerships in transforming the water sector. The session featured Ms. Vishwa Patel Ruwala, Co-Founder & CEO, The Earthist; Ms. Vineeta Shetty, Managing Director, NSE Sustainability Ratings and Analytics Ltd.; Dr Ankita Menon, Strategic Advisor, Nico Nanobubbles India; Dr Anuradha Maan, Associate-Technical, Aplinka Solutions and Technologies Pvt. Ltd.; Ms. Rina Kanchan, Sustainability Consulting Partner, TCS Consumer Business Group; Ms. Bhagyashree Rath, VP-AI & Digital, Greenenvironment Innovation & Marketing India Pvt. Ltd.; Dr Chandni Rallan, Founder and CEO, Circen Technologies Private Limited and Dr Supriya Sharma, global strategist, business alchemist, and executive advisor. The session was chaired and moderated by Ms. Navya Singh, Founder, News with Navya.

The concluding session, "Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration for Circular Solutions," highlighted opportunities for collaboration in efficient irrigation, groundwater recharge, watershed management and treated wastewater reuse. The session featured Dr Mansi Tripathi, Researcher – Resource Recovery and Reuse, International Water Management Institute, Mr. Sasanka Velidandla, Director, Water Sanitation and Hygiene Institute



(WASH Institute), Dr Mahreen Matto, Team Lead, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and Mr. Tushar Kansal, Founder, Kansaltancy Ventures. The session was chaired and moderated by Dr Gyanendra Kumar, Founder & CEO,

Sustainable Solutions.

The summit was moderated by Mr. Mithlesh, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI. The summit concluded with a strong emphasis on advancing a circular water economy, where

wastewater is recognized as a valuable resource and technological innovation is supported by effective governance, financing, knowledge-sharing and community participation.

PHDCCI and BSE Sign an MoU to Expand Capital Market Access for MSMEs

PHDCCI and BSE Limited (BSE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 17, 2026 to promote greater access to equity capital and capital-market opportunities for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across India. The MoU was signed by Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, and Mr. Sundararaman Ramamurthy, Managing Director & CEO, BSE Limited.

The strategic partnership aims to enhance awareness among MSMEs about the benefits of equity financing, particularly through the BSE SME Platform, and assist eligible enterprises in understanding and navigating the SME listing process.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sundararaman Ramamurthy, Managing Director & CEO, BSE Limited, said that the BSE SME Platform provides eligible businesses with an opportunity to access growth capital while enhancing



their visibility and corporate credibility. He emphasised that the collaboration with PHDCCI would help bring greater awareness of SME listing and capital-market opportunities to businesses across India.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, said that timely and appropriate access to capital is critical for MSMEs to scale, innovate and compete in a rapidly evolving business environment. He described the partnership with BSE as an

important step towards enabling eligible MSMEs to explore equity financing and the SME listing route for sustainable growth.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr H. P. Kumar, Former Chairman, NSIC & Advisor, PHDCCI; Mr. Gaurav Kapoor, SVP, Business Development & Marketing, BSE; Mr. Varun Gupta, DVP, Lead SME, BSE; Mr. Sumit Saxena, AVP, SME & Listing, BSE; and Mr. Mithlesh Kumar, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI.

Internationalisation-In-Focus at the Education Summit

The vision of the National Education Policy 2020 to “Internationalise Indian higher education” has provided strong momentum to India’s efforts to position itself as a global education hub. In 2023, the University Grants Commission issued guidelines for setting up foreign higher educational institutions in India. Subsequently, the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) introduced guidelines for establishing International Branch Campuses in GIFT City, Gujarat. Since then, four international universities have established fully operational branch campuses in India, while 15 more have received Letters of Intent.

Against this backdrop, PHDCCI, in partnership with the US-headquartered World Education Services (WES) organised a two-day Education Summit in New Delhi, August 19–20, 2026.

The first day brought together heads of institutions and key stakeholders to deliberate on internationalisation as a policy imperative, particularly in view of India’s growing role in meeting global talent requirements. Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Chair of the Review Committee on NEP and former Chairman of UGC, highlighted India’s preparedness to welcome students from across the world to its campuses. Dr Shashank Shah, Senior Specialist, Education, NITI Aayog shared insights from a Government survey conducted in 2025 and outlined the pathways through which India could achieve its target of attracting five lakh foreign students by 2047, versus

60,000 at present.

Mr. Shreevats Jaipuria, Chair, Education Committee, PHDCCI spotlighted the opportunities presented by NEP 2020 to deepen global academic partnerships, research collaboration, student and faculty mobility, and industry–academia linkages. Other participants in the round-table included Ms. Esther Benjamin, CEO & Executive Director, WES; Dr Chandrasekhar Buddha, Chief Coordinating Officer, AICTE; Mr. Ajay Bisaria, former High

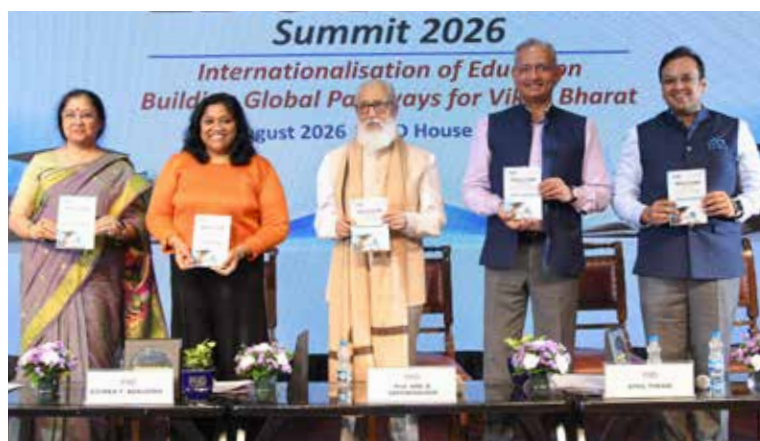
Mr. Atul Tiwari, former Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, highlighted the enormous global demand for Indian talent and the opportunity this presents for India to emerge as a leading hub for higher education. Ms. Esther Benjamin provided an overview of global student mobility and identified areas where India could strengthen its capabilities in high-demand skills. Prof. Manpreet Singh Manna, former Director, AICTE and Founding Executive Director, GCC School, stressed the importance of inculcating

interpersonal skills and empathy among students. Mr. Shaakun Khanna, Managing Director, Accenture, identified the ability to continuously learn and adapt as one of the most desirable attributes in a candidate. Ms. Jassi Dimple, Senior Vice President, Medhavi Skills University, shared insights into

the institution’s efforts to develop a workforce equipped for global opportunities.

The session on technology and digital interventions, led by Mr. Sulabh Puri, CEO, Publishing & Group Editor, Ya Media Networks, Gadget Bridge & Motor Bridge, explored the growing role of AI in learning and education. Panelists also included Mr. Amit Upadhyay, Regional Director, South Asia, Occupational English Test; Mr. Akshay Kadam, Lead, University Partnerships (South and Central Asia), The College Board; and Mr. Yash Mehta, CEO, ABP Education.

The Study in India session examined the policy and ecosystem requirements for making India a more attractive destination for international students. Ms. Shelly



Commissioner of India to Canada; Mr. Rubaab Sood, Vice President, NSDC International; Mr. Kuldeep Dagar, Joint Secretary, Association of Indian Universities; and Mr. Vinit Gupta, Founder, Ashoka University and Plaksha University.

The second day featured a series of sessions covering Skills for the Global Workforce, Technology and Digital Interventions, Study in India, and International Branch Campuses in India. The inaugural session, addressed by Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, National Educational Technology Forum and National Board of Accreditation showcased the importance of accreditation and India Rankings in attracting more international universities to establish branch campuses in the country.



Anand, Deputy Editor, India Today Group, discussed the role of policy in facilitating the inflow of international students. Mr. Syed Sultan Ahmed, Chairperson, The Association of International Schools of India, emphasised the need for more structured facilities on campuses and better urban infrastructure to make Indian cities more accessible and navigable for international students. Dr Arpan Tulsyan, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation spoke on the importance of ensuring safety and security of foreign students. Mr. Siddharth Iyer, Chief Operating Officer, OneStep Global, and Mr. Saurabh Arora, Founder & CEO, University Living, addressed challenges related to student accommodation and the need for structured forums to address these concerns.

The summit concluded with an insightful session on International Branch Campuses, moderated by Ms. Priyanka Srivastava, Senior Editor, Education Times, The Times of India. Ms. Ravneet Pawha, Vice President – Global Engagement & CEO, South Asia,

Deakin University, Australia, shared insights from Deakin University's experience in establishing one of the first international university campuses in GIFT City. Ms. Shamira Madhany, Managing Director, Canada & Deputy Executive Director, WES, provided perspectives on the socio-political factors behind the backlash against international students in Canada in recent years. Mr. Sahil Gupta, Partner, Deloitte India; Dr Vishal Talwar, Chief Operating Officer, University of Southampton in Gurgaon; Mr. Amit Garga, Co-Founder & Managing Director, LINC Education; and Mr. Pankaj Dhingra, Founder, FinTram Global, discussed the evolving landscape of international branch campuses,

global curricula, faculty mobility and the need for long-term academic collaborations.

The two-day summit provided a platform for policymakers, academia, industry and international education stakeholders to deliberate on the opportunities and challenges of internationalising Indian higher education.



New Age Financial Crimes & Response Readiness

Under the aegis of its State Development Council, in association with Gujarat Police and partnered by Visa Inc. and DLA Foundation, PHDCCI co-organized a workshop on “New Age Financial Crimes & Response Readiness” on August 20, 2026 at iHub, Ahmedabad. The workshop was conducted by Dr Rakshit Tandon, Cyber Security Consultant and Adviser.

The workshop meant to create the awareness regarding new age financial/cyber-crimes and further strengthen the response readiness of law enforcement agencies to tackle such incidents posing serious risks to industry and citizens. The session was attended by over 400 Gujarat Police officers.



DPDP Compliance: From Policy to Practice

The Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI organised a Seminar on DPDP Compliance: From Policy to Practice on August 21, 2026 at PHD House, New Delhi. The Seminar was a part of the Third Edition of Knowledge Series on Corporate Affairs being organised by the Committee for 2026-27.

Dr Pavan Duggal, Advocate, Supreme Court of India graced the Seminar as the Guest of Honour. He said that data protection is no longer a matter of simply creating privacy policies; the real challenge lies in moving from policy to practice. In today's rapidly evolving digital ecosystem, organisations must understand that personal data is their most valuable asset and protecting it is a responsibility that cannot be ignored. With the rise of artificial intelligence, AI agents and advanced technologies, the way data is shared, processed and utilised is changing dramatically, creating new challenges around accountability, security and compliance. He observed that as we move towards a data-driven economy, trust will become the foundation of every digital interaction.

Mr. Satwinder Singh, Chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI in his theme address said that as organisations prepare for the implementation of the DPDP Act and Rules, the focus should be on building compliance frameworks that are practical, industry-specific and ready for the future. Data protection is not only a regulatory requirement but also a foundation for trust in the digital economy. He said that it is the responsibility of every industry handling personal data to ensure appropriate safeguards for secure processing.

Mr. Thomas Vallianeth, Partner, Trilegal said that organisations must not view data protection compliance as a liability or a regulatory obligation, rather as an opportunity to unlock the future competitiveness.

Mr. Prashant Philips, Executive Partner, Lakshmikumaran &



Sridharan made a presentation on the Evolving Challenges & Practical Insights w.r.t. the DPDP Act. He said that businesses must focus on the key principles such as lawful processing, purpose limitation, data minimisation, accuracy, security safeguards and accountability. As the digital ecosystem evolves, organisations must move towards a practical and responsible approach to data protection, one that safeguards individual privacy while enabling innovation and sustainable business growth.

Mr. Amit Thareja, Head-Legal Department, Patanjali Foods Ltd., shared perspectives w.r.t. Building a DPDP-Ready Organisation: Industry Readiness, Best Practices & Lessons from Early Implementation. Organisations must begin with data mapping, identifying where data is collected, what type of data is being handled, why it is being collected and how it flows within the organisation. He shared that DPDP compliance requires practical implementation through internal governance, clear processes, privacy frameworks and response mechanisms.

Mr. Soumya Chatterjee, Co-founder & CEO, OneConsent made a presentation introducing OneConsent — The AI-Native Consent Management Platform Built for DPDP Readiness. He said that the implementation of

DPDP Act & Rules begins with discovery, identifying the data being collected, understanding its purpose, managing consent and establishing clear governance mechanisms. Organisations must ensure that data fiduciaries, data principals and data processors have clear defined roles and responsibilities. He said that effective compliance requires strong processes, technology-enabled solutions, transparent consent management, vendor governance and continuous monitoring.

Mr. Rishi Kapoor, Co-chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI moderated the technical sessions and shared valuable perspectives w.r.t. the DPDP Act. Mr. Sumant Nayak, Co-chair, Corporate Affairs Committee, PHDCCI proposed the formal vote-of-thanks to the guests.

The Knowledge Series is being supported by Trilegal as the Presenting Partner; Patanjali Foods as the Title Partner; Co-Powered by Akums Pharmaceuticals; Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan as the Associate Partner; Paramount Communications, EnPoint Advisers, Amber Enterprises and Deep Blue Xpress as Supporting Partners; Accuwiz Consulting, Aekom Legal, Kapoor and Company., Prudent Law Chambers, Speciality Merchandising as Co-Partners; OneConsent as the Tech Partner and ICAI as an Institutional Partner.



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Bharat Electronics Component Manufacturing Summit 2026

Accelerating India's Manufacturing Future

The “Bharat Electronics Component Manufacturing Summit 2026 – Accelerating India's Manufacturing Future” held on August 19, 2026 at PHD House, New Delhi brought together senior officials from Government Ministries & Departments, electronics and technology companies, component manufacturers, startups, academia, research institutions and industry leaders to deliberate on strengthening India's electronics component manufacturing ecosystem.

The inaugural session focused on “Bharat Electronics 2030: Design-Led Manufacturing for Global



Component Leadership” and was graced by Mr. Sushil Pal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology as the Chief Guest. Mr. Sushil Pal highlighted that India has already demonstrated its ability to manufacture electronics at scale and that the next phase must focus on developing a strong and globally competitive electronics component ecosystem.

He emphasized the importance of investment in R&D, engineering, quality, manufacturing capabilities and supply-chain resilience, and called upon industry to develop components that are not only manufactured in India but meet



global standards in terms of quality, scale, cost and technology. He further highlighted the importance of strengthening the semiconductor ecosystem through fabrication, packaging, design and related capabilities, supported by a robust ecosystem of components, materials, equipment, testing and engineering services.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI in his welcome address highlighted the need for India to move from electronics assembly towards deeper component manufacturing, indigenous technology development and globally competitive manufacturing capabilities. He emphasized the vision of moving beyond “Make in India” towards “Make in India for the World.”

Mr. M A Johar, Senior Member – ICT, Electronics & Telecom Committee, PHDCCI and President – Project Business, Aditya Infotech Ltd., emphasized that localisation must extend beyond final assembly to include components, design, engineering, software, cybersecurity, quality and supply-chain resilience.

Ms. Savita Kashyap, Scientist G, Group Coordinator – Embedded Systems, C-DAC Noida, MeitY, emphasized the importance of building capabilities across the electronics value chain, including semiconductor design, components,

manufacturing equipment, packaging, testing and system integration.

Speaking on innovation and technology development, Dr Jyoti Sharma, Head, RDI Cell, Department of Science & Technology, highlighted the critical role of research, innovation and industry-academia collaboration in India's technology-led manufacturing journey. Dr Sharma also highlighted the Rs. 1 lakh crore Research Development and Innovation Scheme and encouraged startups and industry to explore opportunities under government programmes to strengthen private-sector R&D and innovation in strategic and sunrise sectors.

Dr Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI moderated the session, while Ms. Swati Samaddar, Head – Government Affairs, Aditya Infotech Ltd. (CP Plus) gave the concluding remarks and vote-of- thanks to the dignitaries.

Technical Session 1 on “Design-Led Manufacturing: Building India's Component Innovation Ecosystem” focused on indigenous design, reference designs, R&D, intellectual property, prototyping, testing and collaboration between OEMs, EMS companies, design houses, academia and component manufacturers. The session was moderated by Mr. Saurabh Agarwal, Partner & Leader,

Incentives Practice, Ernst & Young LLP.

The session featured eminent panellists including Ms. Monika Sharma, Director R&D | Product Development | Procurement, Aditya Infotech Ltd.; Ms. Rini Bansal, Co-founder & Business Developer, Carbon Light Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Shree Harsha, Senior Sales Director – Growth Industries, Dassault Systèmes; Mr. Sushanth Gupta, Business Manager, Sony India Pvt. Ltd.; and Wg Cdr Giriraj Singh Punia, CEO, SAAM Drones.

Technical Session 2 on “Quality, R&D and Competitiveness in Electronics Component Manufacturing” focused on lean manufacturing, Quality-by-Design, reliability engineering, Industry 4.0, process automation, traceability,

global certifications and skilled engineering talent. The session was moderated by Dr Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI.

The session featured panelists including Mr. Amit Kumar Jha, Director – Government Affairs & Public Policy, India Middle East & Africa, Corning Technologies; Mr. Sumit Katyal, Director & Founder, ASIM Navigation India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Hemant Gangurde, Sales Head, Omron Automation Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Founder & CEO, INDRIS Semiconductor; and Group Capt. Pranay Dixit VM (Retd.), Senior Research Fellow, USI – Centre for Emerging Technologies in Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

Participants collectively highlighted the importance of strengthening collaboration between Government,

industry, startups, academia and research institutions to build a deeper, more resilient and globally competitive electronics component manufacturing ecosystem.

The Summit also provided a platform for discussions on component localisation, design-led manufacturing, indigenous R&D, intellectual property, quality, semiconductor capabilities, technology development, supply-chain resilience and global competitiveness.

The programme concluded with an emphasis on building an India that can design, develop, manufacture and export advanced electronics components and technologies to the world, contributing to the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047.

PHDCCI India Pavillion at 5th Pharmatech & Health East Africa 2026

The 5th edition of Pharmatech & Health East Africa 2026 officially kicked off on August 19, 2026 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from August 19-21, 2026. The India Pavillion was formally inaugurated by Mr. Lakshay Anand, Second Secretary, High Commission of India in Tanzania. PHDCCI set up a vibrant India Pavilion featuring a powerful delegation of 35 Indian companies showcasing cutting-edge healthcare, medical, and pharmaceutical innovations. During his visit to the pavilion, Mr. Lakshay Anand interacted with Indian exhibitors at their booths, sharing valuable insights and first-hand experiences on doing business successfully in Tanzania and the East African region. He appreciated PHDCCI for organizing the largest participation from India, highlighting its role in expanding bilateral trade and healthcare collaboration.

This landmark participation opens exciting new avenues for healthcare partnerships between India and East Africa.



Conference on Income Tax, Search and Seizure

The conference on Income Tax, Search and Seizure, held on August 20, 2026, in New Delhi, brought together senior tax officials, legal experts and industry stakeholders for an in-depth discussion on the evolving legal and procedural dimensions of search and seizure proceedings.

The conference was graced by

now containing vast volumes of personal and business information, these challenges have become even more complex. He also emphasized the importance of taxpayers understanding their rights and appropriately navigating the proceedings.

Mr. Ajay Wadhwa, Advocate and President, ITAT Bar Association, spoke on the changing nature of search and seizure proceedings in the digital era. He pointed out that despite the increasing reliance on digital evidence and systems, the

outlined the key changes relating to search and seizure under the Income Tax Act, 2025, particularly with regard to electronic records, digital systems, virtual digital assets, and undisclosed foreign assets and income.

Dr Raj K. Agarwal, Partner, Rakesh Raj Legal LLP, clarified the scope of the block period, which generally covers the six years preceding the date of search, while noting that in certain circumstances it may extend to seven years or more, depending on the applicable provisions.



Mr. Anand Kumar Kedia, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, who emphasised that the success of a search and seizure operation should be assessed not by the volume of material found, but by the credibility of the information, proper authorisation, adherence to lawful procedures and the sustainability of evidence. He observed that as tax enforcement increasingly moves into the digital era, taxpayer rights and procedural safeguards remain equally important. The objective, he stressed, should be the correct and proportionate exercise of power, supported by fairness, quality evidence, legal sustainability and taxpayer confidence.

Mr. Mukul Bagla, Chair, Direct Tax Committee, PHDCCI, highlighted the highly stressful nature of search and seizure proceedings for taxpayers, which may involve concerns relating to privacy, uncertainty, questioning and disruption to personal and business life. With digital devices

fundamental legal requirement remains that a search warrant must be based on a “reason to believe”, rather than merely a reason to suspect. He stressed the need to safeguard taxpayer rights and ensure adherence to procedural safeguards, particularly as the Income Tax Department gains access to increasingly extensive digital information.

Dr Rakesh Gupta, Senior Advocate, set a thoughtful tone for the session through an engaging discussion on the evolution of block assessment. He traced its development from its introduction in 1995, when it covered a 10-year period, to its subsequent reduction to six years and the later frameworks under Sections 153A and 148. He also highlighted the importance of assessing undisclosed income in accordance with the provisions applicable to the relevant block period.

Mr. Rubal Singh, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax,

Mr. Rohit Jain, Partner, Vaish & Associates, explained that material discovered during a search may relate to both domestic and foreign sources of income. He noted that information concerning foreign bank accounts or undisclosed foreign assets may also emerge during search proceedings and could have implications under the applicable block assessment provisions. He further highlighted that the Black Money Act operates under a distinct framework from the Income-tax Act, particularly in relation to undisclosed foreign income and assets.

Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Director, PHDCCI, moderated the conference and steered the discussions on complex legal and procedural issues, facilitating an engaging, insightful and highly informative exchange among the speakers and participants.

Ms. Minakshi Srivastava, Deputy Secretary, PHDCCI, efficiently coordinated the conference.

TAP INTO GLOBAL MARKETS

With India Exim Bank's Trade Assistance Programme

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, the global trade finance gap widened, reaching a staggering US\$ 2.5 trillion in 2022. The trade finance gap continues to weigh on the ability of businesses to explore new geographies and scale exports on account of rising global uncertainties.

It is in this context that the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank), has conceptualised the Trade Assistance Programme (TAP). This first-of-its kind initiative in India is enabling Indian exporters to expand into new, high-risk markets.

Under TAP, Exim Bank provides credit enhancement to trade Instrument(s), thereby enhancing the capacity of commercial banks/financial institutions to support cross-border trade transactions involving markets where trade lines are constrained or where the potential has not been harnessed. The various credit mechanisms are in the form of Stand-by letter of credit, risk participation and fronting of guarantees.

Further, India Exim Bank also confirms and negotiates Letters of Credit (LCs) issued by overseas banks (Issuing Bank), for export of goods/ services from India. Support is also extended for UPAS LC financing and confirmation/discounting of long tenor capex LCs.

The objectives of the programme are as under:

- Increase confidence of counterparties in settlement of trade transactions;
- Incremental exports to untapped and challenging markets;
- Provide market entry mechanism and support market diversification of exporters, including MSMEs;
- Risk coverage for challenging trade transactions; and
- Enable local banks in target countries to establish working partnerships with large number of commercial banks in India.

Under TAP, Exim Bank has identified 72 focus countries, mainly including untapped geographies and countries with higher risk perceptions across Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe & CIS region. The Bank is currently partnering with over 100 banks (overseas and domestic), under the programme and is in active discussion with many more.

Further, under TAP, Exim Bank extends credit lines to overseas financial

institutions who act as intermediaries and on-lend to overseas buyers for import of equipment, goods and services from India. Moreover, the Bank also extends refinance to banks, for supporting underlying export transactions.

Since inception, the Bank has facilitated over 1200 transactions across 52 countries under TAP, including relatively untapped geographies and countries with higher risk perceptions. By increasing confidence in trade settlements, TAP has led to more than USD 3 bn of incremental exports by more than 160 exporters across diverse sectors.

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Interactive Session on India–New Zealand Trade Opportunities

The Asia-Pacific Committee of PHDCCI organized an Industry Interactive Session on “India–New Zealand Trade Opportunities” on August 27, 2026, at PHD House, New Delhi. The session brought together government officials, industry leaders, experts, business representatives and stakeholders from India and New Zealand to deliberate on strengthening bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation, with particular emphasis on the India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, welcomed the delegation to PHDCCI and highlighted the Chamber’s 121-year legacy as the voice of Indian industry and trade. He emphasized the importance of deepening business and economic linkages between India and New Zealand.

Ms. Ali Hamlin-Paenga, CEO, Te Matapihi National Māori Housing Aotearoa, New Zealand, shared her perspectives on the need to view housing as more than just four walls, emphasizing the importance of building the capabilities and capacities of families and



Ms. Nanaia Mahuta, Deputy Chair, Te Matapihi National Māori Housing Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, emphasized the importance of people-to-people connections and greater exchanges between delegations. She identified energy, water and food security as key areas where India and New Zealand can build greater resilience through enhanced trade, knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

Mr. Adarsh Kumar, Co-chair, PHDCCI Infrastructure & Road Development Committee, in his welcome address, noted that the FTA would create new opportunities and emphasized the need to translate market access into meaningful partnerships, particularly in housing, infrastructure, sustainable

Cities and highlighting emerging opportunities as the country prepares for the next phase of smart urban development. He also highlighted the potential for India–New Zealand cooperation in smart urban solutions, technology, sustainable infrastructure and urban development.

Mr. Kunj Vaidya, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), shared his insights on the India–New Zealand FTA, describing it as a “once-in-a-generation” agreement with the potential to significantly transform bilateral economic engagement. He spoke on the need for businesses to understand the opportunities arising from the FTA and translate its commitments into greater trade, investment and business partnerships.



communities alongside providing quality homes. She highlighted opportunities for India–New Zealand cooperation through the exchange of business management practices, knowledge and expertise to develop stronger and more sustainable housing and community development models.

construction and smart cities.

Dr Susheel Kumar, Head IT Governance & Advisor and Head Smart City Division, Gurugram & Faridabad Metropolitan Development Authority, Government of Haryana, shared his perspectives on India’s evolving Smart Cities ecosystem, drawing upon the experience of 100 Smart

Mr. Jordan Robertson, Chairperson, Te Matapihi National Māori Housing Aotearoa, New Zealand, shared his perspectives on strengthening bilateral cooperation and the importance of people-to-people connections as a foundation for deeper India–New Zealand relations.

Mr. Aupito Sua William Sio, Managing Director, Win-Win Investments Ltd., spoke on the need to develop affordable, sustainable and climate-resilient homes that support families and communities. He also highlighted the importance of strengthening healthcare systems as an integral part of building resilient and prosperous communities.

An overview of the India–New Zealand FTA was presented by Mr. Gautam Khattar, Principal, Pricewaterhouse & Co. LLP, who provided insights into the key provisions of the agreement and its

potential opportunities for businesses seeking to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

Mr. G. S. Chowdhury, Director, Rising Japan Infra Pvt. Ltd., shared insights into the approach, capabilities and project models adopted by his organization and highlighted the potential to extend these capabilities and explore similar project opportunities in New Zealand, thereby fostering greater bilateral collaboration in the infrastructure sector.

Mr. D. P. Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI, in his

concluding remarks, highlighted the importance of sustained industry engagement, stronger business-to-business linkages and enhanced collaboration between India and New Zealand to unlock new opportunities in trade, investment and economic cooperation.

The session was moderated by Dr Nasir Jamal, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI, who facilitated an insightful exchange among the distinguished speakers and participants. The Industry Interactive Session was supported by PwC as the Knowledge Partner.

Awareness Session on National Pension System (NPS) for MSMEs

PHDCCI in collaboration with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), organized an Awareness Session on the National Pension System (NPS) for MSMEs on August 31, 2026 at PHD House, New Delhi. The session focused on enhancing awareness among MSMEs about NPS benefits, employer registration and contributions, tax-efficient retirement planning, investment options, and integration with existing retirement benefits such as EPF and Superannuation.

Mr. Sudhir Singh, Deputy General Manager, PFRDA, provided an overview of NPS and its relevance for MSMEs, while Mr. Abhishek Dhiman, Assistant Manager, PFRDA, highlighted its key features and benefits. Mr. Aishwarya Mudgal, Regional Head, HDFC Pension Fund, explained the NPS onboarding process and practical implementation aspects.

Ms Babeeta Sharma, Director, PHDCCI, delivered the welcome address and vote-of-thanks to the participants, emphasising the importance of strengthening retirement security and financial planning for the MSME workforce.

Mr Sanjay Ahuja, Joint Secretary, BFSI Committee, PHDCCI, coordinated the programme and facilitated



seamless execution and effective industry–regulator engagement.

B2B Marketing Linkage Forums

Bathinda

The Metals & Minerals Committee along with Punjab Chapter of PHDCCI in association with L&T-SuFin and Bathinda Chamber of Commerce and Industry, organized the Bathinda B2B Market Linkage Forum 2026 – Exploring Bathinda as a Sourcing Destination at Hotel Sapphire, Bathinda on August 5, 2026. The forum deliberated on how B2B industrial e-commerce can support entrepreneurs from Punjab by strengthening MSME supply chains across sectors including engineering, electrical and mechanical machinery, metals and alloys, industrial supplies, solar power, building materials, plastics, and packaging.

Mr. Ram Prakash Jindal, President, Bathinda Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in his speech shared insights on ground-level industry issues and emphasized the need for enhanced collaboration between



industry associations. He invited SMEs to give their suggestions which could be sent to Government bodies for the growth of SMEs in Bathinda.

Mr. Saurabh Natu, Head – Strategy, SuFin Limited, said L&T-SuFin, launched by Larsen & Toubro, connects MSME buyers and sellers through a digital marketplace offering 50+ product categories and over 8.5 lakh SKUs, including construction and industrial inputs. The platform's RFQ model enables buyers to compare quotes from multiple suppliers. It also provides

working-capital solutions, including invoice discounting and Buy Now, Pay Later financing through banks and NBFCs.

Mr. Mukesh Jindal, Patron, Bathinda Chamber of Commerce & Industry, spoke about GST issues being faced by SMEs.

Welcoming participants, Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI, talked about the benefits of B2B e-commerce and advised entrepreneurs from Bathinda to utilise this technology to grow their businesses.

Chandigarh

The Renewable Energy Committee along with Punjab Chapter of PHDCCI, in association with L&T-SuFin, organized the Chandigarh B2B Market Linkage Forum 2026 for Solar Power Sector – Exploring Chandigarh as a Sourcing Destination at Chandigarh on August 12, 2026.

Mr. Parv Arora, Convener, Regional Renewable Energy & Power Committee, PHDCCI said that e-commerce can become an important enabler of the solar revolution in India. B2B e-commerce digital platforms can improve access to solar panels, inverters, batteries, mounting structures and other components, particularly for smaller businesses.

Ms. Soumya Pathak, Regional Lead - North, SuFin Limited, highlighted how SuFin Limited, a group company of Larsen & Toubro, which is a B2B digital marketplace



is enabling businesses to digitally discover, source and transact across a wide range of solar power sector, industrial and construction-related products. She also highlighted L&T-SuFin's focus on supporting the broader industrial ecosystem in solar power sector by combining product discovery, competitive price discovery, financing, logistics and digital transaction capabilities on a single B2B platform. She emphasized that such digital solutions can help MSMEs in solar power sector improve procurement transparency, access a wider supplier base and enhance operational efficiency as they participate in India's growing solarisation.

Mr. Sukhpal Singh, President, Solar Energy Vendors' Association,

stated that B2B e-commerce is significantly important for solar power businesses as it streamlines operations, enhances efficiency, and fosters growth. Mr. Parminder Singh, General Secretary, Renewable Energy Members' Welfare Association, said that SMEs in solar power sector should adopt e-commerce and digital procurement platforms to accelerate market growth and improve supply-chain efficiency.

Welcoming participants, Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI, spoke about the services being given by PHDCCI for solving problems of MSMEs in Punjab and various initiatives of PHDCCI like forthcoming Business Delegation to China during 11-17 October 2026 for companies in solar power sector and electric vehicles. Mr. Naveen Chaudhary, Resident Manager, PHDCCI, coordinated the program.



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Defensible Water Accounting: Close Your Water Account with Confidence

A Masterclass on “Defensible Water Accounting: Close Your Water Account with Confidence” was organized by the PHDCCI Centre for Sustainability on August 7, 2026. The Masterclass brought together industry professionals, sustainability practitioners, ESG experts, and corporate representatives to deliberate on the growing importance of robust, transparent, and audit-ready water accounting systems for sustainability, ESG reporting, and regulatory compliance. The Masterclass served as an important knowledge-sharing platform to enhance awareness and build practical understanding of defensible water accounting.

Mr. Mithilesh Kumar, Senior Secretary & Head, Centre for Sustainability, PHDCCI, while welcoming the participants, highlighted the growing significance of accurate, transparent, and defensible water accounting



systems. He emphasized the importance of strengthening water data management and adopting robust accounting practices to help industries meet evolving sustainability, ESG, and regulatory expectations.

Mr. Vinay Chaturaju, CEO, Kritsnam Technologies Pvt. Ltd., in his technical session highlighted practical approaches for developing reliable water accounting systems, improving the accuracy and traceability of water data, leveraging digital technologies for water data

management, and developing comprehensive water balance methodologies. He also emphasized the importance of creating audit-ready datasets and documentation to support internal and external assurance processes.

Mr. Mohit Kumar, Senior Assistant Secretary, Centre for Sustainability, PHDCCI moderated the Masterclass.

Government of India's Export Promotion Mission: Opportunities for Exporters and MSMEs

PHDCCI in association with the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), organized a webinar on “Government of India's Export Promotion Mission (EPM): Opportunities for Exporters and MSMEs” on August 17, 2026.

In her welcome address, Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Director, PHDCCI, highlighted the importance of strengthening India's export ecosystem and ensuring easier access to finance and market opportunities for MSMEs. She emphasised that initiatives such as EPM can play an important role in enhancing the global competitiveness of Indian businesses.

Ms. Trupti Mhatre, General Manager, Loan Operations and

Monitoring Group II, EXIM Bank provided valuable insights into the financing solutions and support mechanisms available to exporters and MSMEs under EPM. She also highlighted the importance of appropriate export financing, risk management and institutional support in helping Indian businesses explore new markets and expand their global footprint.

Ms. Babeeta Sharma in her vote-of-thanks reiterated PHDCCI's commitment to facilitating



awareness of government initiatives and improving industry access to finance and export opportunities.

Mr. Sanjay Ahuja, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI, coordinated the webinar and ensured its smooth conduct and effective engagement with the participants.



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Release of PHDCCI's Report - West Bengal: Mapping Agriculture and Industrial Investment Opportunities



PHDCCI's Research Bureau recently released a report on "West Bengal Mapping Agriculture and Industrial Development opportunities outlining the state's economic structure, factor endowments, agriculture, infrastructure, industrial ecosystem, export potential and sector specific investment opportunities" on August 19, 2026. The report highlights that West Bengal's economic structure is increasingly industry- and services-led, underscoring the need for productivity-enhancing investments, greater mobilisation of private capital, and a stronger focus on

higher-value industrial activities.

A key recommendation is the creation of a five-stage industrial land pipeline covering 5,000–10,000 acres, ensuring the availability of large, investor-ready land parcels to facilitate deeper manufacturing activity. The pipeline is based on a Land Readiness Score, which categorises industrial land into four stages: investment-ready, near-ready, development pipeline, and strategic land bank.

The sectoral assessment identifies maritime manufacturing, particularly shipbuilding and ship repair, as a

potential strategic focus for West Bengal. Developing this sector could generate significant skilled employment while strengthening the state's export capabilities.

Among the 14 sectors covered under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, the report identifies Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) as an area with strong growth potential. It also highlights opportunities in agriculture and food processing, which could help boost value addition and production in key crops such as pulses, potato, and rice.

Incorporation of Income Computation and Disclosure Standards into Indian Accounting Standards

A PHDCCI delegation comprising Ms. Pallavi Dinodia, Co-chair, Direct tax Committee; Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Director and Ms. Minakshi Srivastava, Deputy Secretary attended a meeting on August 14, 2026 at the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for providing comments on incorporation of Income Computation and Disclosure Standards (ICDS) into Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS).

PHDCCI submitted its detailed Comparative Study on Ind AS vs. ICDS vs. Accounting Standards (AS). Suggestions covered- "Accounting Treatment, Tax Computation, Book-Tax Differences and the Continuing Need for ICDS."

The discussions focused on the practical and tax implications of aligning accounting standards with tax computation requirements.





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Smart Cement: Innovation, Sustainability and Financial Excellence

The Conference on “Smart Cement: Innovation, Sustainability and Financial Excellence” on August 19, 2026 at PHD House, Delhi was addressed by Dr Siddharth Behera, Principal Scientist & Head, HSS Group, CSIR-CBRI. He stated that CSIR-CBRI is working across several areas involving advanced construction materials, structural systems, environmental systems and related technologies, with innovation and sustainability as key areas of research.

He highlighted research in advanced materials, structural systems, industrial applications, artificial intelligence for critical infrastructure and structural monitoring. He noted that monitoring critical infrastructure can contribute significantly to improving safety, performance and reliability. He also highlighted research in renewable energy, including solar and wind energy, which can support the cement industry in developing more sustainable construction solutions.

Dr S.K. Chaturvedi, Joint Director, National Council for Cement and Building Materials discussed the scale and growing capacity of the cement industry and the challenges of meeting increasing infrastructure and construction requirements.

He stressed the importance of research, technology development and effective transfer of research outcomes to industry. He stated that research institutions should go beyond research publications and patents and ensure that research leads to practical technology



development and technology transfer.

Mr. Amit Peswani, Partner, Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP, highlighted that cement is one of the most widely used materials globally and is present across buildings and infrastructure. He explained the concept of “smart cement” and its distinction from traditional cement. Smart cement can incorporate advanced materials, innovative mixtures and sensor technologies capable of continuously monitoring the condition of infrastructure. Such technology can potentially be applied to buildings, bridges, roads and other critical infrastructure, providing real-time information to engineers and infrastructure managers.

Mr. Shailesh Kumar Mishra, Former Director, Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), discussed the development of the renewable energy sector and the role played by government policies and

standardized procurement processes in supporting its growth.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI while moderating the inaugural session highlighted the importance of the cement industry globally and emphasized that smart cement represents more than improving infrastructure; it is about creating infrastructure that is smarter, cleaner, more sustainable and more responsible.

A Panel Discussion was moderated by Mr. Sandeep Mohanty, Partner, PwC India. Speakers included Mr. Jagabandhu Kole, Senior Vice President, JSW Cement Ltd.; Mr. Ramnik Gupta, FCA, Chief Financial Officer, Cement Business, JCIPL (Naveen Jindal Group); Mr. Anil Kumar Sharma, Chief Financial Officer, Heidelberg Cement India Ltd.; and Mr. Hemantha Kumar, VP EHS (Sustainable Development), MP Birla Cement.

DARSHAN Roundtable on Spiritual, Cultural & Heritage Tourism in Development of Spiritual Tourism Along India's River Banks

Under the aegis of its State Development Council, and in association with the Visa Inc. and Development Leaders' Alliance (DLA), PHDCCI as "Initiative Partner" co-organized the "DARSHAN Roundtable on Spiritual, Cultural & Heritage Tourism in Development of Spiritual Tourism Along India's River Banks" on August 31, 2026 at Ekatma Bhawan, New Delhi. The roundtable was convened as a focused, closed-door consultation bringing together key stakeholders across government, industry, cultural institutions, think tanks and academia.



The discussion aimed to examine the potential of "Development of Spiritual Tourism Along India's River Banks" as a significant factor for spiritual, cultural, and heritage tourism, while addressing critical

challenges related to infrastructure, visitor experience and coordinated development. It also explored pathways for policy support, partnerships, and sustainable, community-oriented tourism models.

DARSHAN Roundtable on Spiritual, Cultural & Heritage Tourism in Maharashtra

Under the aegis of its State Development Council, and in association with the Visa Inc. and Development Leaders' Alliance (DLA), PHDCCI as "Initiative Partner" co-organized the "DARSHAN Roundtable on Spiritual, Cultural & Heritage Tourism in Maharashtra" on August 25, 2026 at Nashik with a special focus on the upcoming Nashik–Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Kumbh Mela. The roundtable brought together senior representatives from civic administration, spiritual institutions, tourism and hospitality, heritage, industry and technology to deliberate on Kumbh preparedness, pilgrim experience, infrastructure, safety, sustainability and the long-term tourism legacy of Nashik–Trimbakeshwar.

Along with several distinguished stakeholders from Nashik and Maharashtra, among the prominent speakers who addressed the roundtable were Ms. Himgauri Aher Adke, Mayor (Nashik); Mr. Shekhar Singh (IAS), Commissioner, Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Kumbh Mela Authority; Mr Rahul Kapadia, Head - Government Solutions (India and South Asia) Visa Inc.; Mahant Narsimha Kripa Das and Mr. Sankalp Shukla, Founder, Development Leaders' Alliance. The discussions focused on key areas: Kumbh governance & infrastructure;



spiritual sanctity & pilgrimage experience; heritage & sustainability; hospitality & local economic participation and technology, payments & communication.

India–Mauritius Healthcare Cooperation MoU



PHDCCI, along with its local MoU partner, the Hindu Business Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HBCCI), Mauritius, played an important role in advancing discussions initiated during the PHDCCI Business Delegation to Mauritius in 2025 and facilitating the formalisation of this partnership. As a significant outcome of these efforts, the Ministry of Health & Wellness, Government of Mauritius signed an MoU on August 21, 2026 with CK Birla Healthcare Pvt. Ltd.; Gurugram, and the Calcutta Medical Research Institute, Kolkata.

The MoU aims to strengthen specialised healthcare cooperation through technical assistance, capacity building and knowledge sharing, with a focus on areas including onco-surgery, neurosurgery, cardiac electrophysiology and robotic surgery. The partnership will facilitate the training of Mauritian doctors and nurses, enable visits by Indian specialists, and support greater access to advanced medical treatment in Mauritius.

The Hon'ble Minister of Health & Wellness, Government of Mauritius, Mr. Anil Kumar Bachoo, said that the Government is committed to providing the best possible healthcare facilities to its citizens and expressed confidence that the MoU would make a meaningful contribution towards achieving this objective.

The CK Birla Hospitals delegation was led by Mr. Vipul Jain, Group

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CEO. PHDCCI was represented by Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, while HBCCI was represented by its President, Mr. Shradhanand Beehary.



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Consul General @MahaveerSinghvi met with a high-level business delegation from the @phdchamber, comprising prominent business leaders representing diverse sectors including AI & Cyber Security, Automation, Healthcare, Toy Manufacturing, Gems & Jewellery, Apparel & Textiles, and Education, during their visit to Toronto and Ottawa.

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The Embassy, in collaboration with PHDCO India-Nepal Centre, organized the India-Nepal Economic Cooperation Forum on 4 June 2026 in Gorakhpur.

The Forum focused on strengthening trade facilitation, transit cooperation, business linkages and the bilateral Ease of Doing Business framework between Nepal and India.



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India in Canada
@HCI_Ottawa

@HCI_Ottawa hosted an interaction and networking session today with the @phdchamber business delegation visiting Canada. During the interaction, India-Canada engagements and possible opportunities were highlighted. The delegation was encouraged to forge meaningful partnerships with Canadian counterparts to expand commercial & investment linkages.

@MEAIndia @IndianDiplomacy @HCIIndia



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India in Birmingham
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Consul General @overwathi welcomed the Indian delegation of @phdchamber at the @GulfBhamChambers offices. During the meeting, the delegates discussed various opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with businesses across the @MGBanks.

Consul General @overwathi highlighted the significant business potential of the region and expressed hope that enhanced cooperation and mutual collaboration would prove beneficial for both countries, fostering stronger economic ties, investment opportunities, and sustainable growth.

@IndianDiplomacy @MEAIndia @overwathi @mahaveerindia



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National Conference on Farm to Fork Conclave 2026

The National Conference on “Farm to Fork Conclave 2026” was organized by PHDCCI with the support of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the Chandragupt Institute of Management Patna (CIMP) on August 19, 2026 at Patna. The conference was held on the theme “Building Efficient Agricultural Value Chains for Sustainable Rural Prosperity” and focused on strengthening the agriculture and food processing sector, while promoting awareness of NABARD schemes and support programmes.

Chief Guest, Mr. Birendra Prasad Yadav, IAS, Special Secretary, Agriculture Department, Government of Bihar, while inaugurating the conference, emphasized the importance of improving agricultural production, maintaining food quality, and strengthening the entire value chain from farm to plate. He highlighted the need to improve grading, sorting, marketing, and traceability to make Bihar’s agricultural products competitive in domestic and international markets. Citing Alphonso mango as an example of strong branding and marketing, he stressed that Bihar must focus on quality, authenticity, and better market positioning. He also emphasized that “Bihar mein production achha hona chahiye aur quality of food par poora dhyan



dena chahiye.”

Mr. Kumod Kumar, Chair, PHDCCI Bihar Chapter, in his welcome address highlighted the importance of the Farm to Fork approach in Bihar, emphasizing the need to strengthen the entire agricultural value chain—from farm-level production and aggregation to processing, value addition, packaging, branding, market linkages, and consumption.

Prof. Dr Rana Singh, Director, CIMP, in his keynote address emphasized the importance of strengthening the Farm to Fork value chain through innovation, technology, research, and entrepreneurship. He highlighted the need to promote value addition and food processing so that agricultural produce can move efficiently from farm to market and ultimately to consumers, creating greater economic opportunities for farmers and rural communities.

Ms. Anamika, General Manager, NABARD, Patna, highlighted the potential of Bihar’s makhana sector. She emphasized the need to strengthen the Farm to Fork ecosystem by connecting

farmers, FPOs, bankers, government departments and other stakeholders. She stressed the importance of greater awareness and access to credit and NABARD schemes for agricultural development.

Mr. Kumod Kumar, Chair, PHDCCI Bihar Chapter, delivered the vote-of-thanks to the dignitaries.

The technical session brought together experts from NITI Aayog, APEDA and NABARD, focusing on strengthening agriculture and allied sectors through value-chain development, storage, processing, dairy, animal husbandry, soil health and market linkages. Dr Devesh Kumar -----highlighted the importance of a ground-level, farmer-centric “Farm to Fork” approach, while Mr. Kangan Pandit, Assistant Manager, APEDA, explained key export promotion schemes and benefits. The session also highlighted NABARD schemes and financial support opportunities for FPOs, farmers, agri-entrepreneurs and rural enterprises, with emphasis on value addition, infrastructure and sustainable agricultural development.

Mr. Varun Yadav, Resident Officer, PHDCCI moderated the programme.

PHDCCI’s Farm to Fork Conclave was a significant initiative toward making Bihar’s agriculture and food processing sector more organized, competitive, and market-oriented.



Building a Sustainable Tomorrow with Solar and Battery Energy Storage

In association with Tata Power, District Private School Operators Association (Bilaspur) and Bhatt Enterprises (Tata Power's Channel Partner), PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter organized an "Awareness Programme on Building a Sustainable Tomorrow with Solar and Battery Energy Storage" on August 8, 2026 at Bilaspur. The programme aimed to create awareness about the latest developments, opportunities, government policies, and best practices in solar energy and energy storage technologies.

Welcoming the participants, Ms. Rekha Khare, President, District Private School Operators Association (Bilaspur), delivered the welcome address and emphasized the importance of adopting renewable energy solutions, particularly in educational institutions, to reduce operational costs and contribute to environmental conservation.

Mr. Wakar Naseem, Area Sales Manager, Tata Power, made a

detailed presentation on Tata Power's Solar solutions. He highlighted the key benefits of solar energy, including long-term cost savings, energy independence, and a significant reduction in carbon emissions. He also emphasized the importance of Battery Energy Storage Systems in ensuring reliable and uninterrupted power supply, making renewable energy more efficient and dependable.

Sharing practical insights from the field, Mr. Sanchay Bhatt, Bhatt Enterprises (Tata Power's Channel Partner), presented a success story showcasing the effective implementation of solar energy projects. Addressing the gathering, speakers noted that Chhattisgarh, blessed with abundant sunshine, high solar irradiance, and vast stretches of available land, possesses

immense potential for solar power generation. The state's growing industrial base and the government's focus on renewable energy make it an attractive destination for investment and innovation in the clean energy sector.

Mr. Sumit Dubey, Resident Director PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the guests.



Awareness Program on Solar: A Smart Solution for Reducing MSME Energy Costs

PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter, in association with Tata Power, Swastik Solar (Authorized Channel Partner of Tata Power) and Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Balod), organized an "Awareness Programme on Solar: A Smart Solution for Reducing MSME Energy Costs" on August 18, 2026 at Balod.

Mr. Harish Sankhla, President, Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Balod), highlighted the growing relevance of solar energy for MSMEs and other institutions seeking sustainable and economical energy solutions.

Mr. Utkrisht Kochhar, ASM - Tata Power, made a presentation on Tata

Power Solar solutions, reflecting on the key benefits of solar energy, including long-term cost savings, greater energy independence, reduced dependence on conventional sources of electricity, and a significant reduction in carbon emissions. He also emphasized the role of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in ensuring reliable and uninterrupted power supply, thereby making renewable energy solutions more efficient and dependable.

Mr. Jayesh Parmar, Swastik Solar, authorized Channel Partner of Tata Power, presented a success

story showcasing the effective implementation of solar energy projects.

Mr Sumit Dubey, Resident Director, PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter delivered the vote-of-thanks to the participants.



Awareness Programme on Building a Sustainable Tomorrow with Solar and Battery Energy Storage

PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter, in association with Tata Power, Durg Jila Private School Management Association (Durg) and Srishty Solar Power (an authorised channel partner of Tata Power), organized an “Awareness Programme on Building a Sustainable Tomorrow with Solar and Battery Energy Storage” on August 26, 2026 at Gandhi Vidya Peeth, Supela, Bhilai. The programme aimed to create awareness about the latest developments, opportunities, government policies, and best practices in solar energy and energy storage technologies. The programme brought together industry experts, entrepreneurs, representatives of educational institutions, and other stakeholders to discuss innovative solutions for a greener and more sustainable future.

Mr. Harish Kumar Sahu, President, Durg Jila Private School Management Association (Durg), delivered the welcome address. He emphasized the importance of adopting renewable energy solutions, particularly in educational institutions, to reduce operational costs and contribute to environmental conservation. Mr. Raj Kumar, Area Sales Manager, Tata Power, delivered an informative presentation on Tata Power Solar



solutions. He highlighted the key benefits of solar energy, including long-term cost savings, energy independence, and significant reductions in carbon emissions. He also emphasized the importance of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in ensuring a reliable and uninterrupted power supply, thereby making renewable energy more efficient and dependable.

Mr. Utkrish Kochhar, Area Sales Manager, Tata Power, also shared valuable insights on the adoption of solar energy and the emerging opportunities associated with energy storage solutions. He highlighted the role of advanced technologies in improving energy efficiency and supporting the transition towards a cleaner energy ecosystem. Sharing practical insights from the field, Mr. Aditya, Srishty Solar Power, presented a success story showcasing



the effective implementation of solar energy projects. He shared experiences and case studies demonstrating how organisations can successfully transition to renewable energy while achieving substantial operational and financial benefits.

Mr. Sumit Dubey, Resident Director, PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chapter delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants.

Update on Precision Agriculture

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has taken up a program of National Importance namely, Network Program on Precision Agriculture (ICAR - NePPA) having 16 ICAR Research Institutes of different domains. Under this program, technologies are being developed using sensors, remote sensing at different platforms (ground, airborne -Drone and satellite platforms), AI and ICTs in line with international best practices in precision agriculture related to Spatio-temporal monitoring and management of crop and soil health; Sensor based post-harvest quality monitoring and management (of mango, banana, pulse and rice); IoT based precision vertical farming for high valued vegetables under controlled environment; Developed sensor-based monitoring and management of aquatic environment for precision aquaculture and Monitoring of livestock health using different IoT enabled sensing for precision livestock.

NPS Workshop on Strengthening MSMEs through Social Security and Workforce Retention



The National Pension System (NPS) workshop on “Strengthening MSMEs through Social Security and Workforce Retention” held on August 27, 2026 at Ambala brought together industry leaders, MSMEs, pension experts and stakeholders to discuss the importance of social security and retirement planning. Experts from PFRDA, HDFC Pension and SBI Pension Funds shared valuable insights on NPS benefits, products and registration processes.

Mr. Shivam Saluja, Co-chair, PHDCCI Haryana State Chapter, while welcoming the dignitaries, speakers, industrialists and participants, highlighted the

importance of social security in strengthening workforce stability and retention.

Mr. Sudhir Singh, Deputy General Manager, PFRDA, shared insights on NPS and its role in long-term retirement planning and financial security. Mr. Jasvinder Singh, Key Account Manager, HDFC Pension, explained the key features, benefits and relevance of NPS for MSMEs and employees.

Mr. Chander Prakash, Manager, SBI Pension Funds, explained about the



NPS registration and contribution process and highlighted the importance of disciplined retirement planning.

Mr. Vikram Chaudhary, President, ASIMA in his vote-of-thanks appreciated all stakeholders for their valuable participation.

Prime Minister announces initiatives for citizens of India on Independence Day

Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi announced a series of ambitious initiatives and targets spanning AI, education, sports, civil defence, semiconductor manufacturing, nuclear energy and women-led development. Key announcements included the training of one crore youth in AI skills over the next year to equip India's young talent to emerge as global leaders in the AI era; free online coaching for youth preparing for competitive examinations; and a nationwide sports talent hunt for children aged 5–15 years, with selected talent receiving specialised training to develop into athletes capable of representing the country. The Prime Minister also announced plans to create a vibrant nationwide Civil Defence network, familiarising citizens with modern systems and developing a large voluntary force equipped to address contemporary challenges. Highlighting India's progress in semiconductor manufacturing, he noted that three semiconductor plants had already commenced operations, with production from these facilities being exported, while another five to eight plants are expected to be established over the next seven to eight years. India is also advancing towards its target of achieving 100 GW of nuclear power capacity by 2047, with plans to operationalise five new nuclear reactors within the present decade. On women-led development, the Prime Minister noted that the target of creating three crore Lakhpati Didis had already been surpassed. India will now move towards the ambitious goal of six crore Lakhpati Didis, strengthening women's economic empowerment and bringing about a significant transformation in the rural economy.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Entrepreneur Awareness & Special Vendor Development Programme (EA&SVDP)

PHDCCI organized an Entrepreneur Awareness & Special Vendor Development Programme (EA&SVDP) in association with National SC-ST Hub under the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) on August 7, 2026 at Sardar Patel University, Mandi. The programme aimed at enhancing awareness of the National SC ST Hub Scheme to existing and aspiring entrepreneurs to facilitate Central Ministries, Departments, and CPSEs for fulfilling the mandated 4% procurement from under the Public Procurement Policy.

Both aspiring and existing entrepreneurs gained comprehensive awareness of the NSSH scheme, and the various schemes offered by the Ministry of MSMEs. Aspiring entrepreneurs were specifically informed about the importance of registering on the Udyam Portal to formalize their enterprises, while existing entrepreneurs received detailed insights into vendor registration procedures, required documentation, items procured by CPSEs, detailed insights on e-tendering process, credit facilitation options, IPR registration and subsidy components available

through banks to support business expansion and sustainability.

The programme was graced by Mr. Abhishek Kumar Rai,



Assistant Director, MSME DFO, Solan.

Mr. Surya Bhushan, Branch Incharge, National SC ST Hub, Ludhiana in his opening remarks briefed about the Public Procurement Policy of the Government of India which mandated 4% public procurement from SC/ST owned MSEs and 3% from Women MSEs. The programme facilitated direct interaction between existing and aspiring entrepreneurs and key stakeholders such as CPSEs, MSMEs, financial institutions, and other MSME-supporting agencies.

Technical sessions featured inputs from representatives of MSMEs/Banks/CPSEs/GeM on financial support, vendor empanelment processes, and allied services, thereby strengthening collaboration within the MSME ecosystem and encouraging entrepreneurial growth.

Mr. Anil Kumar Saunkhala, Resident Director, PHDCCI Himachal State Chapter highlighted the role of the PHDCCI IPFC Centre at Shimla and encouraged people to come forward openly to register and protect their intellectual property.

Steering Committee Meeting of the PHDCCI Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre

PHDCCI, Himachal Pradesh State Chapter, organized a Steering Committee Meeting of the PHDCCI Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (IPFC) at the PHDCCI New Shimla Office on August 11, 2026. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ashok Kumar Gautam, IEDS, Head of Office/ Assistant Director Gr-I, MSME DFO-Solan, Ministry of MSME. The meeting was aimed at reviewing the functioning and progress of the IPFC Centre and discussing strategies to further strengthen intellectual property-related support and services for entrepreneurs, startups and industries in Himachal Pradesh.

Other stake holders present in the meeting were Mr. Parth Ashok, Assistant Director, Nodal Innovative Scheme, MSME DFO-Solan, Ministry of MSME; Dr Kiran Pathania, Assistant Scientist (RG PK3Y) SPIU, Krishi Bhawan, Shimla and Mr. S.H Abbas Mehadi, Additional Director, STPI, Shimla.

Mr. Anil Kumar Saunkhala, Resident Director, PHDCCI, Himachal Pradesh State Chapter gave a detailed review of the IPFC cases registered and pending at the PHDCCI IPFC Centre and



discussed measures to increase the number of IPFC cases in the state.

The members also deliberated upon various strategies and an action plan for increasing awareness and outreach of IPFC services across Himachal Pradesh. An open session was held wherein office bearers shared their valuable suggestions and inputs for strengthening the Centre's activities.

Buyer-Seller Meet on Ladakh Pashmina

In a landmark initiative to transform the Pashmina supply chain, the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Changthang, Ladakh, in collaboration with the All Changthang Pashmina Growers Cooperative Marketing Society and PHDCCI-Kashmir, organised the first-ever Buyer-Seller Meet on Ladakh Pashmina on July 30, 2026, at Srinagar. The initiative marked a significant step towards empowering local Pashmina growers, strengthening backward linkages, and ensuring the authenticity and quality of the world-renowned fibre.

The historic initiative was spearheaded by Mr. Nitish Rajora (IAS), Deputy Commissioner, Changthang, with support and mobilisation from PHDCCI-Kashmir and J&K Bank. The event brought together key stakeholders from across the Pashmina ecosystem, including representatives of PHDCCI, KCCI, TAHAFUZ, Kashmir Pashmina Welfare Trust, Textile Park Zakura, and prominent Pashmina traders.

Mr. Thinles Nurboo, General Secretary, All Changthang Pashmina Growers Cooperative Marketing Society, provided an overview of the Society's work and highlighted the availability of Pashmina that can now be sourced directly from

growers, thereby reducing dependence on lengthy intermediary chains.

Welcoming the participants, Mr. Vicky Shaw, Chairman, PHDCCI Kashmir, thanked the Deputy Commissioner for initiating the pioneering initiative and described it as a milestone that would be "written in the history of Pashmina backward linkage." The importance of strengthening the value chain and preserving traditional sourcing practices was further highlighted by Mr. Javaid Tenga, President, KCCI, and Mr. Mubashir Shaw, EC Member, PHDCCI and President, Kashmir Pashmina Welfare Trust.

Mr. Sachin Bali (JKAS), Deputy Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Leh, made a detailed presentation on the role of the Cooperative Society in facilitating the supply of quality Pashmina directly from growers to buyers and other stakeholders.

Chief Guest, Deputy Commissioner Mr. Nitish Rajora (IAS) outlined the

core objective of the initiative—to bring farmers' Pashmina produce directly to buyers with minimal intermediary involvement. He announced that the Buyer-Seller Meet would become an annual flagship event in Srinagar, with Changthang-quality Pashmina brought for direct auction among stakeholders. The Deputy Commissioner further highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the Ladakh Administration to incentivise and support Pashmina farmers through subsidies and other measures. He emphasised that GI-tagged, high-quality Pashmina from Changthang would be marketed through the Cooperative Society at fair and controlled prices, backed by stringent quality checks.



PHDCCI Kashmir Takes Part in Key Policy Meet, Hails Upcoming EoDB Reforms

PHDCCI Kashmir delegation, led by Chairman, Mr. Vicky Shaw, took part in a pivotal stakeholder consultation on August 6, 2026 at Srinagar that was focused on the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and the drafting of the Union Territory's new Industrial Policy. The meeting, was chaired by Financial Commissioner/ACS Finance, Mr. Shailendra Kumar.

The consultation brought to light that the new policy will incorporate

substantial solar benefits and a robust framework of deemed approvals, aimed at simplifying business operations. With the government targeting approval of the scheme by the end of October, industry representatives were optimistic. "We are confident that the UT industrial scheme will be highly interesting and attractive," the PHDCCI delegation noted, emphasizing the positive trajectory of industrial development in Kashmir.



JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Vendor Development Programme

The two-day Vendor Development Programme, organized by the MSME Development Facilitation Office (DFO), J&K, on August 4–5, 2026, at Budgam, witnessed the participation of a high-level PHDCCI Kashmir State Chapter delegation led by Chairman, Mr. A. P. Vicky Shaw and Co-chair, Mr. Himayu Wani.

Chief Guest, Mr. Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, J&K, urged participating MSMEs to fully leverage the platform by engaging with the participating CPSEs, understanding their procurement requirements, and integrating into national supply chains. He also visited the MSME exhibition stalls, with particular interest in PHDCCI member stalls, including Hyacinth, JK Technos, Virgin Himalayas, and Shalimar Engineering, appreciating their innovative products and

craftsmanship.

PHDCCI Chairman, Mr. A. P. Vicky Shaw highlighted that the presence of leading CPSEs and the active support of the Industries Department marked a significant step towards the economic empowerment of J&K's MSME sector. PHDCCI Co-chair, Mr. Himayu Wani said that the direct interaction facilitated through the programme was invaluable, noting that PHDCCI member stalls had already generated significant interest and expressing optimism about translating these interactions into concrete business opportunities.

The programme was designed to promote the effective



implementation of the Public Procurement Policy for MSMEs by providing a direct interface to explore procurement opportunities, understand GeM tendering processes, and forge sustainable business partnerships.

Interactive Meeting with Secretary and CEO, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Mr. Vicky Shaw, Chair, PHDCCI Kashmir state chapter and EC Member, Mr. Shahejehan Khan was invited for an interactive meeting with Mr. Rajit Punhani, IAS, Secretary to the Government of India and Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on August 17, 2026.

During his interaction, Mr. Vicky Shaw emphasized that PHDCCI stands for both consumer safety and ease of doing business. He welcomed regulatory reforms but stressed that the business community must first be trained on standards with scientific evidence and capacity building, rather than facing punitive measures directly.

Extending support to the views of Mr. Khalid Jehangir, Commissioner of the Food & Drugs Administration, Jammu & Kashmir, the Chairman strongly advocated for meeting global standards in restaurants and eateries. He called for clear and trustworthy declarations on menus—clearly specifying what is being served, whether it is frozen or fresh, and the nature of meat (lamb, beef, etc.)—in alignment with FSSAI norms. He noted that such transparency would build consumer



trust and consequently boost tourist and local footfall at eating establishments.

Jharkhand Mining Summit



The 5th Jharkhand Mining Summit, held on August 21, 2026, at Hotel Ramada Ranchi by PHDCCI and the Ministry of Coal, established a blueprint for advancing sustainable, automated, and green mining practices in the state. The summit highlighted the need for technology-led Mining 4.0, critical mineral management, and the integration of decarbonization efforts in Jharkhand, which holds 40% of India's mineral wealth. This year's theme, "Advances in Sustainable Mining", marked a clear shift from resource extraction to responsible resource management, focusing on green technology, net-zero, community welfare and transition.

Senior government officials, industry leaders and technical experts, including Ms. Madhu Mishra, Tourism Expert, Department of Tourism, Mr. Sanjiv Shekhar, Head Corporate Affairs Adani Power; Mr. K. K. Mishra, ED, Mecon Limited; Mr. Kishor Mantri, Past President, FJCCI; Mr. Ritik Pattnaik, Regional Head, Tata Power; Prof. Dr Piyush Ranjan, Vice Chancellor, Jharkhand Rai University; Mr. Chet Kamat, Mines Engineer, Hindalco Industries Limited & Mr. Rahul Kumar, Mines Engineer, Hindalco Industries Limited participated in the seminar.

The presence of both PSUs and private players showed strong Centre-State-Industry collaboration. The 5th Jharkhand Mining Summit

reinforced Jharkhand's vision to become the most sustainable mining destination in India. The discussions made it clear that the future of mining in Jharkhand will be defined not by how much is extracted, but by how responsibly it is extracted, processed, and restored. Prof. (Dr) S.P Agrawal expressed his views on the importance of this summit and how this summit would improve the vision of the mining along with the society contribution. Mr. Rajkumar Poddar, Co-chairman, PHDCCI Jharkhand State Chapter delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants. The event truly embodied the state's vision: where industries advance and nature continues to smile.

DGFT Connects DPIIT-Recognised Startups to Global Trade Ecosystem via 'Source from India'

In a major step towards promoting innovation-led exports and strengthening India's global trade ecosystem, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, has expanded the eligibility criteria for the "Source from India" service on the Trade Connect ePlatform to include eligible DPIIT-recognised Start-ups. The decision aims to provide greater international visibility to India's growing start-up ecosystem by enabling innovative exporters to showcase their products and capabilities on the Government's official digital buyer discovery platform. Trade Connect, launched by the Department of Commerce, serves as a one-stop digital interface connecting Indian exporters with trade-related services and institutional support. One of its flagship features, "Source from India," enables eligible exporters to create dedicated digital microsites that allow international buyers to discover reliable Indian suppliers and connect with them directly. Under the revised framework, with effect from August 06, 2026, DPIIT-recognised Start-ups meeting the existing eligibility criteria under "Source from India" will be able to create their microsites on the platform and will be identified through a unique Start-up Badge, making them easily discoverable by overseas buyers.

Harit Urja Conclave 2026 – Powering Madhya Pradesh (2nd Edition)

PHDCCI (under the aegis of its Madhya Pradesh State Chapter and State Development Council) as “Industry Partner”, in partnering with the Government of Madhya Pradesh (State Partner) and MAD IDEAZ (Initiative Partner), organized the “Harit Urja Conclave 2026 – Powering Madhya Pradesh (2nd Edition)” on August 4, 2026 at Hotel Courtyard By Marriott, Bhopal. Disaster Resilient and Research Foundation participated as the supporting partner. Mr. Manu Srivastava (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary - New & Renewable Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh was the Chief Guest for the conclave.

The conclave brought together policymakers, industry leaders, technology providers, investors, academia and sustainability experts to discuss the theme: “Driving the Green Transition: Energy, Mobility & Sustainable Growth”. The



Conclave focused on renewable energy integration, green mobility, battery storage, bio-energy, smart cities, climate resilience, energy efficiency and sustainable industrial development. It aimed to foster the knowledge exchange, investment opportunities

and collaboration in support of India's clean energy transition with focus on Madhya Pradesh.



Madhya Pradesh Industry Meet and Curtain Raiser - Madhya Pradesh Industry & Trade Expo 2026 (MPITEX 2026)

To project Madhya Pradesh as a preferred investment destination, increase the exports from state and showcase products from various sectors that the state has to offer, PHDCCI (under the aegis of its Madhya Pradesh State Chapter and State Development Council) in association with The SAGE Group on August 17, 2026 organized the "Madhya Pradesh Industry & Trade Expo 2026 (MPITEX 2026)" in Bhopal. A Symposium on 'MSMEs & Export Promotion' in Madhya Pradesh" was chaired by Dr Sanjeev Agrawal, Chair, PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter & CMD, The SAGE Group.



2nd Edition of “Madhya Pradesh Industry & Trade Expo 2026 (MPITEX 2026)”

To project Madhya Pradesh as a preferred investment destination, increase the exports from state and showcase products from various sectors that the state has to offer, in association with the Ministry of MSMEs under PMS Scheme (Government of India), PHDCCI (under the aegis of its Madhya Pradesh State Chapter and State Development Council) organized the 2nd edition of “Madhya Pradesh Industry & Trade Expo 2026 (MPITEX 2026)” on August 20-23, 2026 at Indore. MPITEX 2026, a multi-sectoral Expo with a resolve to further accelerate the growth of MSMEs in Madhya Pradesh and export ecosystem, is an annual flagship initiative of PHDCCI.

MPITEX 2026 was inaugurated by Mr. Kailash Vijayvargiya, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Urban Administration and Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh. In his address, Hon'ble Minister appreciated PHDCCI's initiative for supporting MSMEs and exporters



from Madhya Pradesh besides highlighting the importance of a market-linkage platform like this. He also visited the stalls and interacted with the exhibitors.

The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. S S Mandloi, Joint Director (Industries), Government of Madhya Pradesh; Dr Sudhir Agarwal, Director General, SAGE Indore and Dr Sandhya Chouksey, Executive Director, LNCT Group, Indore.

Under the banner of MPITEX 2026, PHDCCI created an important collaborative platform to ensure maximum benefits to the stakeholders in terms of effective market linkage opportunities, business leads and product sale.

As India's leading industry body,

PHDCCI has been taking significant steps to support the MSMEs and exporters across Madhya Pradesh and the country (India) at large. PHDCCI is fully committed to support the transformative changes (such as progressive policies-EoDB, Single Window System, Market Linkage and Performance Linked Incentives) that are immensely supporting the MSMEs and making them the real growth engines of the Indian economy. To keep the momentum steady, the necessity is to support the MSMEs of Madhya Pradesh for the sustainable development of the state, and for that matter, supporting local products and MSMEs involved with them made “MPITEX 2026”, a uniquely significant initiative of PHDCCI.



Felicitations of Women Changemakers/Achievers

During the 2nd Edition of the Madhya Pradesh Industry & Trade Expo, the women changemakers' from diverse spheres of life were recognized and felicitated for their exemplary contributions, achievements and inspiring works. On behalf of PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter, Co-chair, Mr. Sumit Agarwal felicitated the women achievers. Mr. Anirudh Dubey, Assistant Resident Director, PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter curated and moderated the



session.

The felicitations of women changemaker, celebrated the strength, determination and achievements of women who are creating a positive impact in society and inspiring others through their

remarkable journeys.

Ms. Juhi Pushyamitra Bhargava, Advocate & 1st Lady of Indore, graced the occasion and encouraged these inspiring achievers' who inspire change, create impact and lead by examples.

Awareness Workshop on National Pension System

The National Pension System (NPS) is emerging as a key instrument for extending retirement security for government employees and building a wider pension culture in India. An awareness workshop was held in Nagpur on August 26, 2026 organized by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) in association with PHDCCI and with the support of the Association for Industrial Development at Ramdaspath. Dr Vijay Sirsath, Director, MSME-DFO, Nagpur, highlighted NPS as an accessible and flexible long-term savings option that benefits from systematic investment and compounding.

Dr Vijay Kumar Sharma, Co-chair, PHDCCI Maharashtra



and Honorary Secretary, AID, in his welcome address, said that similar awareness programmes would be organized for Chartered Accountants and efforts made to take the NPS initiative to employees of MSMEs at the district level.

Mr. Ismail Salam, DGM, PFRDA, outlined the regulator's goal of achieving universal pension coverage and creating a pension-equipped society by 2047. PFRDA has already signed MoUs with Maharashtra,

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and is seeking broader sectoral participation.

Industry representatives also emphasized taking NPS awareness programmes to district-level MSMEs and professional groups such as Chartered Accountants.

Mr. Prasant Nandy, Assistant Resident Director, PHDCCI Maharashtra moderated the program.



Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) upgrades India's sovereign rating to A-

India has received a major boost to its sovereign credit profile, with the Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) upgrading the country's long-term foreign currency and local currency issuer ratings by one notch to 'A-' from 'BBB+'. JCR has maintained a stable outlook and also raised India's country ceiling to 'A'. The upgrade reflects what JCR described as India's solid and resilient economic growth, effective economic policies, improving fiscal quality, stronger financial-sector fundamentals and a robust external position. India has continued to record a high growth rate, supported by strong private consumption and sustained public investment. The latest government estimates show that India's real GDP grew 7.8 per cent in FY26, while growth remained at 7.8 per cent in the first quarter of FY27, despite a challenging global environment. JCR also highlighted structural reforms and policy measures aimed at strengthening the foundations of India's economy. It pointed to initiatives including digital public infrastructure and the implementation of the GST as measures supporting productivity and long-term economic development. The rating agency also noted an improvement in the quality of government spending, with greater emphasis on capital expenditure and infrastructure investment.

'Mindset over Market' - Fireside Chat on Entrepreneurial Grit

The Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI in association with CICU Ludhiana organized "Mindset over Market" – Fireside Chat on Entrepreneurial Grit at CICU Complex, Focal Point, Ludhiana, on August 14, 2026.



The fireside chat featured Mr. Saurabh Munjal, Co-founder & CEO, Lahori Zeera & Co-chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI, who shared insights from his entrepreneurial journey and experiences of building and scaling a consumer-focused business.

The conversation was led by Ms. Himani Arora, Chair, Regional Fashion Tex Tech Forum, PHDCCI and Creative Director, Studio by Himani Arora, who explored with Mr. Munjal the importance of entrepreneurial grit, perseverance, decision-making and maintaining the right mindset, while navigating market challenges.

Mr. Munjal addressed questions around what entrepreneurs see before an idea becomes visible in the market, the opportunities

and expectations that come with a business-family background, moments of self-doubt, and the difficult decisions that ultimately contribute to an entrepreneur's growth. While delivering the welcome address, Mr. Honey Sethi, General Secretary, CICU, highlighted the importance of meaningful industry platforms that encourage entrepreneurial thinking and knowledge exchange.

The session was moderated by Mr. Ajay Bharti, Co-convener, Steering Committee – Ludhiana Zone, Regional Banking & Financial Services Committee, PHDCCI who noted that meaningful conversations around the entrepreneurial journey can help emerging entrepreneurs develop greater clarity, confidence and resilience.

CA Vishal Garg, Co-convener, Ludhiana Zone, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI presented the formal vote-of-thanks and reiterated PHDCCI's commitment to creating meaningful platforms for industry interaction, knowledge sharing and entrepreneurial development, with a continued focus on connecting entrepreneurs, industry leaders and the wider business community.

An IPFC Help Desk was also set up by IPFC Amritsar during the session, wherein Mr. Sumit Kumar, Assistant Secretary, PHDCCI and Mr. Gursharan Singh, Resident Officer, PHDCCI, addressed queries of attendees pertaining to Intellectual Property Rights.

Over 100 participants, including industry leaders, entrepreneurs, family business owners, and professionals from diverse sectors, attended the session and deliberated on the evolving dynamics of family-led enterprises and strategies for sustainable growth.

Update on Agriculture Sector

Union Agriculture Minister Mr. Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the impact of El Niño on kharif production is expected to remain limited, with adequate rainfall supporting crop growth across most parts of the country. The number of rainfall-vulnerable districts has declined from 262 to around 100, while the gap in the sown area continues to narrow. The Minister called for state- and district-specific agricultural roadmaps aligned with local conditions and market demand, with greater focus on improving quality, food processing and exports. The government's priorities include raising farm productivity, reducing input costs, improving quality and ensuring remunerative prices, alongside promoting natural and organic farming, irrigation, crop diversification and other agriculture-based income opportunities. He emphasised that India must move beyond increasing production to building a strong "farm to global market" identity by ensuring quality, safety and compliance with international standards. Greater adoption of technology, mechanisation, AI, improved seeds and modern farming practices will be critical to enhancing productivity and strengthening India's presence in global agricultural markets. The Minister also stressed the need to develop integrated farming systems and locally relevant models to raise farmers' incomes, supported by clear targets, effective implementation and concrete action plans.

National Pension System (NPS) - Building a Secure Future for MSME Workforce

The Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI, in association with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and the Institute of Indian Foundrymen, Northern Region, organised an awareness session on “National Pension System (NPS) – Building a Secure Future for MSME Workforce” on August 19, 2026, at Hotel President, Jalandhar.

The session aimed to enhance awareness among industry leaders, trade representatives and MSMEs about retirement planning, financial security and the long-term benefits of adopting NPS for both employers and employees.

Delivering the welcome address, Mr. Sanjeev Juneja, Convener, Jalandhar Zone, PHDCCI, highlighted the



crucial role of small businesses and trade units in driving regional economic growth. He stressed the importance of implementing structured employee welfare and social security mechanisms to enhance workforce retention, stability and productivity.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Abhishek Dhiman, Assistant Manager, PFRDA, elaborated on PFRDA's vision of expanding pension and social security coverage, particularly among MSMEs and

the unorganised sector. He highlighted the importance of promoting awareness about structured retirement planning and encouraging wider adoption of NPS as a reliable long-term social security instrument.

Mr. Sumit Kumar, Assistant Secretary, and Mr. Gursharan Singh, Resident Officer, PHDCCI, presented an overview of PHDCCI's legacy, initiatives and key programmes undertaken by the Punjab State Chapter to support the growth and development of industry, MSMEs, startups and entrepreneurs.

The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Jasjit Singh Bedi, Vice Chairman, IIF Chandigarh Chapter and Member, PHDCCI.

Rakhi Sarhad Ke Naam Celebrations

Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI, in association with the Asafwala War Memorial Committee, Fazilka, organized Rakhi Sarhad Ke Naam Celebrations at Asafwala War Memorial, Fazilka on August 23, 2026 to honour the brave personnel of the Indian Army.

The programme was graced by Mr. Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab, who appreciated the initiative and paid tribute to the valour and sacrifices of the armed forces.

Welcoming the gathering, Mr. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI and President, Asafwala War Memorial Committee, said the initiative symbolized the emotional bond between citizens and the brave men and women guarding the nation's borders.

A total of 1,100 mothers and sisters tied Rakhis to 1,100 Army



Jawans, symbolising affection, respect and gratitude towards the nation's defenders. The celebrations also featured patriotic and Raksha Bandhan-themed performances by students from various schools and NGOs.

The event was attended by senior civil, police and military dignitaries, including Lt Gen Shamsher Singh Virk, GOC, Chetak Corps (10 Corps); Maj General Anuj Kalia, GOC, 16 RAPID; Ms. Amarpreet Kaur Sandhu, IAS, Deputy

Commissioner, Fazilka; Mr. Surjit Jyani, Ex-Cabinet Minister, Punjab; and Mr. Gagan Ajit Singh, PPS, SSP, Fazilka, among others.

PHDCCI Secretariat was represented by Mr Sumit Kumar, Assistant Secretary, PHDCCI. The celebrations witnessed an overwhelming response, with over 5,000 participants from across the region joining the occasion to express their gratitude and solidarity with the armed forces.

Professionals' Meet & Interaction



The Regional NCLT & Corporate Affairs' Committee, PHDCCI (PCH Region), in association with the Association of Chartered Professionals of India, organised a Professional's Meet & Interaction at Hotel Grand Marian, Ludhiana, on August 21, 2026. The programme brought together Company Secretaries, Chartered Accountants and Cost Accountants for an insightful exchange on contemporary professional challenges, regulatory developments and the evolving role of professionals in corporate governance.

CS Rahul Jogi, Convener, Regional NCLT & Corporate Affairs' Committee, PHDCCI (PCH Region), welcomed the distinguished members of the professional fraternity. He underscored the importance of creating regular platforms for direct interaction between professionals and regulatory authorities to foster a better understanding of regulatory expectations and strengthen the

compliance ecosystem.

Chief Guest, Mr. Vinod Sharma, Regional Director (NR-II), Chandigarh, Ministry of Corporate Affairs interacted with the professional fraternity to discuss issues related to corporate compliance, governance, regulatory processes and corporate accountability. He emphasised the evolving role of professionals in fostering a culture of good governance, responsible compliance and corporate accountability.

Guest of Honour, CS Harjeet Singh Arora, Managing Director, Master Trust Group shared his perspective on the changing business environment and the paradigm shift in the capital markets and the growing role of professionals in supporting economic growth, business development and the evolving financial ecosystem.

CA Vijay Gupta, Former Member, NIRC-ICAI, emphasised the importance of professional responsibility while serving as advisors to corporates. He stressed

the need for professionals to uphold the highest standards of ethics, integrity and professional competence, while providing strategic guidance to businesses.

A special session on "India's Data Privacy Law" was conducted by CS Meghna Saini, Company Secretary & Head Legal, DIC India Limited. The session focused on emerging responsibilities and challenges for professionals in the rapidly evolving data protection and regulatory landscape, providing valuable insights into the implications of data privacy regulations for corporates and the expanding compliance responsibilities of professional advisors.

The programme also provided an opportunity to reflect on the changing expectations from the profession. Discussions highlighted that professionals today must move beyond routine compliance and evolve as trusted advisors, responsible governance partners and value creators for businesses.

FOCUS STATE **RAJASTHAN**

Industry-Academia Interface Industry Visit - Jaipur Rugs

PHDCCI-Rajasthan Chapter, under its initiative of Industry-Academia Interface organized an "Industry-Academia Interface Program" wherein 11 Management Students and one faculty member of Jaipuria Institute of Management visited a renowned Rugs Company in India – "Jaipur Rugs" on August 14, 2026 at Jaipur.

During the visit, students and faculty had detailed discussion with officials of Jaipur Rugs with regard to



manufacturing of Rugs. Ms. Shreya from Jaipur Rugs explained in detail the process of manufacturing hand knotted rugs. The students evinced keen interest in understanding

the dynamics of Rugs Industry and appreciated the State of Art production processes.

UTTARAKHAND

PHDCCI Himalayan Wellness Festival 2026

Pre-Event Meeting with Travel & Tour Operators

The PHDCCI Uttarakhand State Chapter organized a Pre-Event Meeting with travel and tour operators on August 14, 2026, in Dehradun, ahead of the PHDCCI Himalayan Wellness Festival 2026. The meeting brought together key tourism stakeholders to discuss greater industry participation, collaboration and business opportunities in wellness tourism.

Discussions focused on developing marketable wellness tourism packages, promoting local experiences, strengthening business linkages and mobilising the travel trade. Participants highlighted the potential of the Festival to create a distinctive wellness tourism proposition and position Uttarakhand as a premier wellness destination. The meeting also underscored the importance of collaboration among travel, hospitality and wellness stakeholders to make the Festival a landmark platform for the State's tourism ecosystem.



NPS Awareness Workshop for MSMEs



The Uttarakhand State Chapter, in collaboration with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), organised an NPS Awareness Workshop for MSMEs on August 21, 2026, in Dehradun. The workshop aimed to enhance awareness among MSME owners, entrepreneurs, HR and finance professionals, and business leaders about the National Pension System (NPS), retirement planning, financial security, and the long-term benefits of NPS for both employers and employees.

Dr S.K. Dadar, Convener, AI Task Force, PHDCCI Uttarakhand State Chapter, highlighted the importance

of building a financially secure workforce and encouraging MSMEs to adopt employee-centric social security measures. Mr. Ritesh Singh, Deputy Resident Director, PHDCCI Uttarakhand, provided an overview of PHDCCI's activities, highlighting its legacy and programmes supporting the growth of industry, MSMEs, startups and entrepreneurs.

The programme was graced by Mr. Anupam Dwivedi, Joint Director, Directorate of Industries, Uttarakhand, as the Chief Guest. He emphasised the importance of strengthening social security initiatives for the MSME sector. Mr. Abhishek Dhiman, Assistant Manager, PFRDA, elaborated on the

need to expand pension and social security coverage among MSMEs and their workforce.

Expert sessions by representatives from PFRDA, UTI Pension Fund Ltd., Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India and Uttarakhand Gramin Bank provided participants with practical insights into the benefits of NPS, enrolment procedures, contribution mechanisms and operational processes. The workshop reflected a shared commitment to promoting employee welfare, financial security and long-term workforce stability through the National Pension System.

Vendor Development Programme For MSMEs

The Vendor Development Programme for Micro and Small Enterprises, organized jointly by the MSME Development & Facilitation Office, Kanpur, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and PHDCCI, Lucknow Chapter was held on August 20 – 21, 2026 at Lucknow. The programme aimed to connect Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) with Public Sector Undertakings and the government procurement ecosystem, while providing them with insights into vendor registration, quality standards, technology adoption and emerging market opportunities.

The programme was graced by Mr. Shashi Bhushan Lal Sushil, IAS, Principal Secretary, MSME & Export Promotion, Government of Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Sushil emphasised that MSME schemes such as CM YUVA should go beyond financial assistance and focus on creating sustainable business opportunities and stronger market access. He highlighted the importance of vendor development, forward linkages, GeM awareness and digital marketing to connect entrepreneurs with industries, institutional buyers and government procurement opportunities.

Mr. Pranjal Yadav, IAS, Secretary, MSME & Export Promotion, Government of Uttar Pradesh, highlighted the vital role of MSMEs in strengthening the state's industrial and export ecosystem. He underlined the opportunities available through GeM, government procurement, vendor development



and TReDS, and encouraged MSMEs to leverage digital platforms to expand market access and facilitate timely payments.

Mr. V.K. Verma, IEDS, Director, MSME-DFO, Kanpur, highlighted the 25% procurement target from MSEs and the business opportunities available through CPSEs. He urged MSEs, particularly SC/ST and women entrepreneurs, to familiarise themselves with vendor registration and government procurement procedures and make full use of the opportunities available under the public procurement ecosystem.

Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair, UP State Chapter, PHDCCI, and President, Technical KARAM Group, said that the programme provided a platform for MSMEs to directly interact with PSUs and gain

a better understanding of available business opportunities.

The technical sessions were represented by officials from HAL, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, ALIMCO, RDSO and Gas Authority of India Limited, who shared insights into business opportunities available to MSEs, along with details of vendor registration procedures and procurement requirements.

More than 200 officials from industrial organisations in Lucknow, MSE entrepreneurs, and various government departments and public-sector institutions participated in the programme, making it an important platform for strengthening industry-PSU linkages and facilitating greater participation of MSEs in government procurement systems.

The Digital Transformation of the Indian Judiciary

The e-Courts Mission Mode Project has transformed India's paper-based judiciary into a digitally enabled and trackable justice delivery system. Since 2014, both case filings and disposals have nearly tripled, with courts consistently disposing of more cases than are filed each year. Over 753 crore pages of court records have been digitised, while thousands of e-Sewa Kendras are helping bridge the digital divide by expanding access to judicial services. Together, these reforms are making the justice system faster, more transparent, and more accessible to everyone. This Mission aims to systematically speed up proceedings by digitising various court proceedings and documents. Now in its third phase, the Mission has transformed the judicial system using technology. This phase envisions a transition towards digital, paperless and more intelligent courts through large-scale digitisation of records, wider use of virtual hearings, deeper interoperability across justice institutions and adoption of emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence, analytics and Optical Character Recognition.

The RE Walker & JC Chandiook Library

Objective: To provide facilities to Members of PHDCCI for Business Development in an exclusive environment which is elegant and cost effective having a professional ambience, the Library can be used for

- > Knowledge Centre as it has all modern communication & information tools, including wi-fi.
- > Holding business meeting and discussions with guests, officials, collaborators, diplomats, etc.
- > Tranquil place to read, think and strategize
- > Can hold parties upto 60 people

FACILITIES

- > Separate sitting areas
- > Physical & electronic Communication / Information Facilities
- > Separate dining areas
- > Paid Service For Food and Beverage, etc.

MEMBERSHIP: All members of PHDCCI are exclusively eligible for the membership of The Library. Other details are as under :

- For new members one time admission fee is Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only) plus GST @ 18% and membership subscription will be Rs. 5500/- (Rupees Five Thousand Five Hundred Only) plus GST @ 18%.
- For existing members the renewal fees for membership subscription will be @ Rs. 5500/- plus GST @ 18% every year.
- The non-members of PHDCCI who would be interested to become member of the Library will have to pay Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only) plus GST 18% towards one time admission fee and Rs. 7,500/- plus GST @ 18% towards membership subscription. The renewal of their membership will be at the rate of Rs. 7,500/- (Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred Only) plus GST 18% every year. Such members will not be entitled to any benefits of membership of PHDCCI.
- Spouse of Member of the Library can also avail the services of the Library by showing the Library membership number of his/her spouse.
- Membership would be from 1st day of the month in which membership charges have been paid and will be for one year from that date.
- The Food & Bar Services of Cafe Lounge are being handled by the renowned gourmet caterers MOETS at a very reasonable price. The services are available from 11 am to 11 pm except Sunday.

For Membership and / or any clarification, please contact:

Ms. Swati Saxena - Assistant Secretary, PHDCCI

PHDCCI - PHD House, 4/2, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi -110016 I

Mobile: 8860466750; Tel: 26863801-09 (Extn: 205); E-mail: Swati.Saxena@phdcci.in

Meeting with Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal

PHDCCI was invited by Ms. Agnimitra Paul, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal, for a discussion on CSR funding for streetscape development, beautification and public realm management across urban areas in the State. The meeting, held on August 21, 2026, in Kolkata, focused on creating aesthetically appealing, accessible, sustainable and citizen-friendly public spaces.

Mr. Bhaven Kamdar, Chairperson, PHDCCI West Bengal Chapter, and Mr. Khilen Shah, Member, PHDCCI held a fruitful discussion on potential areas of intervention where Chamber members could contribute through CSR initiatives. These included bus stands, medians,



smart LED illumination, passenger-friendly amenities, dustbins, and the maintenance and development of green landscaping.

The Chamber submitted a tailor-made 'CSR Participation Proposal' aligned with the State Government's vision for major

urban development initiatives. The proposal outlined potential areas for CSR participation, highlighted relevant global best practices and models of corporate engagement, and emphasized the role of technology as a key enabler in the implementation and management of such interventions.

Seminar for Employers on New EPFO Policies

The PHDCCI West Bengal Chapter, in collaboration with the Zonal Training Institute of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), East Zone, organised a seminar for Employers on New EPFO Policies on August 31, 2026, at Kolkata. The programme provided an opportunity for participants to engage directly with senior officials from the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Academy of Social Security (PDNASS), seek clarifications on EPFO processes and discuss concerns faced by employers.

Mr. Rajib Bhattacharya, Additional Central PF Commissioner (ACC) and Officer-in-Charge, PDNASS Kolkata Campus, and Mr. Abhijeet Kundu, Regional PF Commissioner (RC) and Deputy Director, PDNASS Kolkata Campus, graced the occasion.

In his welcome address, Mr. Bhaven Kamdar, Chair, West Bengal



Chapter, highlighted the EPFO's continued efforts to upgrade, simplify and streamline its rules and processes for the benefit of both employers and employees.

CA Vikash Parakh, Co-chair, West Bengal Chapter, provided an overview of the new EPFO rules and elaborated on the three one-time initiatives introduced alongside the EPF Scheme, 2026 — EEC, VISHWAS and AMNESTY. He

explained their objectives, scope, eligibility criteria, employer obligations and the key actions required for their implementation.

A detailed presentation by the Regional PF Commissioner on "EPFO in Transition: New Code and Schemes" provided participants with an overview of the new EPF Code and related policies.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE UNION MINISTER FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS



A PHDCCI delegation comprising Mr. Adarsh Kumar, Co-chair, Infrastructure and Road Development Committee; Dr Ajay Sharma, DG, EVIA; Ms Shalini S Sharma, Assistant Secretary General; and Mr Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary met Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways on August 24, 2026. The purpose of the meeting was to invite the Hon'ble Minister as Chief Guest for the EVTech Asia - Summit and Awards being organized by PHDCCI and EVIA at PHD House and also for the Annual Session of PHDCCI in October.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF COAL & MINES



A PHDCCI delegation led by Dr J. P. Gupta, Chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee, accompanied by Mr. Mahendra Rustagi, Co-chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee and Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director met Mr. G. Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Union Minister of Coal & Mines on August 18, 2026. The delegation extended an invitation to the Hon'ble Minister to grace the 6th International Climate Summit on September 2, 2026 at Le Méridien, New Delhi. During the interaction, the delegation highlighted the Summit's focus on climate action, sustainable development, energy transition and India's pathway towards a low-carbon and resilient economy.



INTERACTION WITH HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal, Senior Managing Committee Member, Mr. Sunil Mangla, Chair, Manufacturing Committee; Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, Mr. Sanat Kumar, Chief Economist and Mr. Rakesh Shukla, Secretary interacted with Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry at New Delhi on August 12, 2026. The interaction took place on the occasion of the signing of the Terms of Reference for the India–Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), marking a significant milestone in the resumption of formal trade negotiations between India and the five-member SACU bloc comprising South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Eswatini. The India–SACU PTA holds considerable potential for enhancing bilateral trade and creating new opportunities for Indian industry across many sectors.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MSMEs



A PHDCCI delegation comprising Mr Gurmeet Chadha, Chair, BFSI Committee; Mr Raman Aggarwal, Co-chair, BFSI Committee; Ms Shalini S. Sharma, Assistant Secretary General; Ms Babeeta Sharma, Director; and Mr Sanjay Ahuja, Joint Secretary met Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Minister of State for MSMEs on August 12, 2026 at New Delhi. The delegation invited the Hon'ble Minister to grace the Conference on “MSME Financing: A Key Driver for Viksit Bharat @2047” and PHDCCI's 2nd MSME Banking & NBFC Excellence Sammaan – 2026,” scheduled for September 16, 2026 at New Delhi.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB & ADMINISTRATOR UT CHANDIGARH



Mr. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI met the Hon'ble Governor of Punjab & Administrator, UT Chandigarh, Mr. Gulab Chand Kataria, at Lok Bhavan, Punjab at Chandigarh on August 4, 2026, to discuss the Raksha Bandhan Celebration being organized by PHDCCI in collaboration with the Asafwala War Memorial Committee, Fazilka held on August 23, at Fazilka. The initiative is a heartfelt tribute to the brave personnel of the Indian Army and the Border Security Force, celebrating the spirit of Raksha Bandhan while expressing the gratitude and respect of the people of Fazilka towards the soldiers who tirelessly safeguard our nation's borders. Mr. V P Singh, IAS Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, was also present during the meeting.

MEETING WITH 'NANDI', HON'BLE CABINET MINISTER, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, EXPORT PROMOTION, NRI AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI delegation led by Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, along with Mr. Atul Srivastava, Senior Regional Director and Mr. Amresh Rastogi, Assistant Secretary met with Mr. Nand Gopal Gupta 'NANDI', Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Industrial Development, Export Promotion, NRI and Investment Promotion, Government of Uttar Pradesh on August 7, 2026. The delegation highlighted the Chamber's key initiatives for promoting industry, trade, entrepreneurship, and MSME development, and discussed investment opportunities in Uttar Pradesh. The Hon'ble Minister appreciated PHDCCI's efforts in fostering industry-government collaboration and strengthening the MSME sector.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Vineet Nahata, Chair, Economic Affairs Committee; Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, and Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General met Dr Chandra Bhushan Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment on August 13, 2026. The discussions centered on issues relating to the EPFO and the Labour Codes. The delegation also invited Dr Kumar to be the Guest of Honour at PHDCCI's forthcoming Seminar on Labour Codes.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Mahender Rustagi, Co-chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee; Mr. F.C. Rustagi, Vice President (Liaison), Kajaria Ceramics Ltd.; Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, along with and Ms. Kanchan Zutshi, Director, met Mr. Santosh Kumar Sarangi, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Mr. Akash Tripathi, Managing Director, Solar Energy Corporation of India on August 12, 2026. The delegation extended a formal invitation to the Hon'ble Secretary to grace the 6th International Climate Summit, held on September 2, 2026 in New Delhi.

MEETING WITH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



A PHDCCI delegation led by Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General; Mr. Mithilesh Kumar, Senior Secretary, & Head, Kerala Chapter, and Mr. Mohit Kumar, Senior Assistant Secretary met with Puneet Kumar, IAS, Resident Commissioner, Government of Kerala on August 12, 2026. The deliberations focused on initiatives for strengthening industry–government engagement and contributing to Kerala’s economic and industrial development.

MEETING WITH JOINT SECRETARY (SOUTH AMERICA), MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



A PHDCCI delegation represented by Mr. Vivek Seigell, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Apeejay Stya Svan Group, Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General and Mr. Niraj, Director – International Affairs met Dr Aman Puri, Joint Secretary (South America), at Ministry of External Affairs on August 5, 2026. Mr. Naveen Seth briefed the Joint Secretary on PHDCCI’s international engagements and its proposed Business Delegation to Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay in September 2026. Discussions centered on identifying promising business opportunities.



MEETING WITH MEMBER, ECONOMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL TO THE PRIME MINISTER



Mr Vinod Dugar, East Zonal Chair, PHDCCI, met Mr Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister on August 20, 2026. Mr Dugar highlighted the various initiatives undertaken by the West Bengal Chapter of PHDCCI to strengthen industry engagement and support the State's economic growth. He also presented PHDCCI's research report on West Bengal to Mr. Sanyal.

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF COLOMBIA



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Sharan Singh, AVP – Group Corporate Affairs, Aditya Birla Group; Mr. Anthony Kuttikal, CEO, FEHU Resources Pvt. Ltd.; Ms. Shalini S. Sharma, Assistant Secretary General and Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary met HE Mr. Victor Hugo Echeverri Jaramillo, Ambassador of Colombia on August 25, 2026 at the Colombian Embassy. The objective of the meeting was to explore opportunities of sourcing minerals from Colombia.

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF BRAZIL TO INDIA



The International Affairs Committee of PHDCCI represented by Mr. Vivek Seigell, Senior Vice President – Corporate Affairs, Apeejay Stya Svrn Group; Mr. Niraj, Director, and Ms. Priyamvada Singh, Deputy Secretary met H.E. Kenneth Félix Haczynski da Nóbrega, Ambassador of Brazil to India and Ms. Dana Blackman, Head – India Office & Partnerships, India Brazil Chamber of Commerce on August 13, 2026.

MEETING WITH DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Vikas Khanduri, Co-chair, International Affairs Division for Europe and CIS, met with Mr. Sandjar Tadiyev, Deputy Chairman of the Tourism Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan visited Uzbekistan to gain deeper insights into the country's tourism potential on August 14, 2026. The discussions focused on further strengthening tourism cooperation between Uzbekistan and India.

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT TO INDIA



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Sharat Jain, Co-chair, International Affairs Committee for Gulf; Mr. Vivek Seigell, Senior Vice President – Corporate Affairs, Apeejay Stya Svrn Group; Mr. Niraj, Director – International Affairs and Ms. Priyamvada Singh, Deputy Secretary – International Affairs, met H.E. Mr. Meshal Mustafa J Alshemali, Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to India on August 20, 2026 at the Embassy of Kuwait, New Delhi.

MEETING WITH ADDITIONAL CENTRAL PF COMMISSIONER (ACC), EPFO – GUJARAT



Mr. Ashish Wig, Chair of the HR & IR Committee, PHDCCI met Mr. Sudipta Ghosh, Additional Central PF Commissioner (ACC), Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) – Gujarat, on August 12, 2026. The discussions centred on the current initiatives being undertaken by EPFO, with a focus on improving compliance mechanisms, service delivery, and stakeholder engagement.



MEETING WITH MEMBER - GOODS AND SERVICES TAX APPELLATE TRIBUNAL (GSTAT)



A PHDCCI delegation comprising of Mr. Ashok Batra, Chair, IDT Committee, along with Ms. Babeeta Sharma, Director and Mr. Nanda Mishra, Joint Secretary met with Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Jain, IAS (Retd.) member GSTAT on August 12, 2026. The delegation invited Mr. Jain to grace a seminar on GST Litigation in the GSTAT Era to be held on September 8, 2026 at New Delhi.

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR, DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MEMBER, RBI MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE



Ms Babeeta Sharma, Director, PHDCCI, and Mr Sanjay Ahuja, Joint Secretary, PHDCCI met Prof. Ram Singh, Director, Delhi School of Economics and Member, RBI Monetary Policy Committee on August 11, 2026. Ms Babeeta Sharma invited Prof. Ram Singh to participate as an Eminent Speaker at PHDCCI's Conference on "MSME Financing: A Key Driver for Viksit Bharat @2047", scheduled for September 16, 2026 at New Delhi.

MEETING WITH CEO, INVEST UP, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI delegation of UP State Chapter comprising Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair and Mr. Parth Gupta, Member, along with Mr. Atul Srivastava, Senior Regional Director & Mr. Kaushik Fuloria, Deputy Resident Director met Mr. Vijay Kiran Anand, IAS- CEO, INVEST UP on August 5, 2026. Mr. Nigam, discussed the status of the representation submitted earlier on introducing a clear stamp duty framework for corporate restructuring transactions such as mergers and demergers.

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR, INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS, GOVT. OF J&K



A PHDCCI International Affairs Division & Kashmir Chapter delegation comprising of Mr. A. P. Vicky Shaw, Chair, Kashmir Region, Ms. Manisha Singh, Senior Secretary and Mr. Iqbal Fayaz Jan, Deputy Resident Director, Kashmir Region met with Ms. Shreya Singhal, Director, Department of Information & Public Relations, Government of Jammu & Kashmir on August 7, 2026 in Srinagar. The delegation discussed PHDCCI's proposal for collaboration with the Government of J&K for the International Film Festival.



CONFERENCE FACILITIES

PHD HOUSE, NEW DELHI

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

- Lakshmi Pat Singhania Auditorium: (Capacity: 300)**
 A newly designed, aesthetically architected fully air-conditioned Auditorium with well-designed soothing interiors, excellent acoustics, modern & professional audio visual facilities has a seating capacity of more than 300 people. The Auditorium is ideal for conducting large meetings, seminars, conferences and cultural & social programmes.
- GM Modi Exhibition Hall (Capacity: 60 to 90)**
 Well designed especially for Exhibitions / display of products and for conducting Training Programmes / Workshops / Audio-visual presentations.
- Radico Room (Capacity: 70)**
 Well designed Conference Room for Seminars, Panel Discussions and High Profile Corporate Meetings.
- MMG Hall (Capacity: 90)**
 Well designed for conducting Training Programmes/ workshops/Audio-Visual Presentations.
- IRC Room (Capacity: 25)**
 Ideal for Board Meetings and Small Meetings.
- Arbitration Hall (Capacity: 12-15)**
 Arbitration Hall which will enable the members to hold small Conferences, Arbitration hearings for max 12-15 pax at competitive rates.
- The RE Walker & JC Chandiok Library**
 The Library' Lounge & Café shall provide an exclusive and elegant ambience with gourmet catering and a well-stocked bar at reasonable prices for our members to conduct their business meetings, for hospitality or simply as a tranquil place to relax.

PHDCCI approved Caterers at the rates/menus provide catering facilities in PHD House, New Delhi.

PHD FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (PHDFWF)

Celebration of Teacher's Day with Dr. Kiran Bedi, Retd. IPS in the PHD House



PHD Family Welfare Foundation celebrated Teacher's Day on September 2, 2026 at PHD House, New Delhi in the presence of Chief Guest Dr. Kiran Bedi, retired IPS officer, Former Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry and renowned social reformer. The programme began with the ceremonial lamp lighting, followed by the felicitation of Dr. Bedi with memento, stole and a plant sapling. Ms. Anjali Jaipuria, Ms. Shruti Chandra on behalf of Padma Shri Shovana Narayan and Mr. Satish Chandra were also felicitated for their valuable contributions to education, Indian classical dance and student empowerment. Beneficiaries from PHDFWF's skill development centres presented performances. Dr. Kiran Bedi inspired teachers and students to embrace their responsibilities and contribute towards building a better society. The programme was supported by Ms. Seema Khaitan, GB Member, PHDFWF, who distributed gifts to teachers. Ms. Madhulika Mehta, GB Member, PHDFWF was the Master of Ceremony and the programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Suneeta Trivedi, Retd. IPS, Member, PHDFWF. The programme was attended by 325 participants.

Independence Day Celebration at N.L. Mehra Pre-Primary School



PHD Family Welfare Foundation celebrated the Independence Day on 14 August 2026 at N.L. Mehra Pre-Primary School, Aya Nagar. The programme began with Vande Mataram, the National Anthem and flag hoisting. Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson PHDFWF welcomed the guests and students and felicitated Ms. Vidhi Mehra from Jaquar Group. PHDFWF Governing Body members also felicitated Shri Shamsher Kanwar from Jaquar Foundation, PP Rtn. S.L. Sharma and Rtn. Poonam Jain from Rotary Delhi Central Charitable Trust. The guests addressed the students and encouraged them with their inspiring words. Teachers presented a graceful welcome dance and the school students impressed everyone with their energetic dance performances. Gift hampers were distributed to the students with the support of Jaquar Foundation and Rotary Delhi Central Charitable Trust. Ms. Seema Khaitan also presented appreciation gifts to the teachers and staff for their hard work. The programme brought together students, parents, teachers and guests to celebrate the spirit of freedom and togetherness.

PHDFWF - ROTARY CLUB OF DELHI PREMIER ORGANISED HEALTH CAMP IN INDIRA VIHAR / SANJAY COLONY, OKHLA PHASE 2, DELHI



On 27th August 2026, PHDFWF with the generous support of Rotary Club of Delhi Premier, District 3011, organized a General Health Check-up Camp in Indira Vihar / Sanjay Colony, Okhla Phase 2, Delhi with the objective of providing accessible and quality healthcare services to the local community. A total of 119 patients benefited from the camp and received free medical consultation, basic health screenings and free medicines. The camp was beneficial during the ongoing flu season, when a significant number of patients reported symptoms such as cough, cold, fever, weakness and other seasonal ailments. Free basic diagnostic screenings such as blood pressure and blood sugar testing were also conducted.

FREE HEALTH CHECK UP CAMPS



PHDFWF is working to make essential healthcare more accessible to in need communities by providing free medical services to people facing financial and geographical challenges. Through 12 Mobile Medical Vans including specialised eye and dental units the Foundation reaches remote and marginalised communities across multiple states. Its Target Intervention Project focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness among high-risk groups. With the continued support of its valued partner organisations PHDFWF is helping bring timely and accessible healthcare closer to those who need it most.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME



PHDFWF is creating a meaningful impact through its 36 Skill Development Centres across India by equipping women, youth with practical and market-relevant skills for better livelihood opportunities. With the support of its valued funding partners, the Foundation continues to promote skill development, employment, women's empowerment and community development across the country.

EDUCATION



PHDFWF is committed to providing children from underserved communities with access to quality education and a supportive learning environment. Through its education initiatives, the Foundation focuses on building strong foundations for young learners and encouraging their overall development. With the support of its partners, PHDFWF continues to create opportunities for children to learn, grow and build a brighter future.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS



PHD RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (PHDRDF)

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

WATER CONSERVATION



RAUA-1 Check Dam inaugurated at Akabarpur, Umrain, Alwar, Rajasthan, with support from NTPC and coordinated by Rotary Club of Gurgaon Qutab Enclave



HEALTH

189 health camps were organised in Punjab, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh benefitting **12,435 patients**



VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

Projects **SUGAM** and **Lumina Village**, inaugurated in Kolhapur, Maharashtra with support from **Olam Food Ingredients** and **Olam Agri**. The initiatives includes the construction of a **bus-stop shelter** and installation of a **25-metre high-mast light**.



AGRICULTURE

Under Project **PWABHI**, Indus-Tennis Ball F1-Orange marigold seeds were provided to 33 farmers in Rajasthan, providing additional sources of livelihood



SUPPORTED BY



The Daily Guardian



Read to Lead

PHDCCL, BSE, partner to help MSMEs raise IPO funds

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WEST BENGAL SHOULD shift from an investment strategy based primarily on individual projects and existing industrial estates towards an integrated, cluster-based manufacturing strategy, said a PHDCCI report released on Wednesday. Industry executives say the economics currently discourage anyone from bringing new chemistry into India.

AI-driven 'Agni Kawachi' to take centre stage at 6th International Climate Summit

BSE, IIFDCCI link pact for MSME capital access

New Delhi: Stock exchange BSE Ltd and IIFD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IIFDCCI) on Monday announced a new pact to promote equity financing and expand capital-market access for MSMEs. The organisations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to create awareness among MSMEs about equity financing, particularly through the BSE SME platform, and help facilitate their access to the listing process. BSE MD and CEO Sundaramaram Reddy said the MoU partnership would help take awareness about SME listing process to the MSMEs.

WOLFE
Chief, House

Traditional Republican House Speaker, Wolf is a vocal supporter of the 2001 tax cuts, and a vocal opponent of the Clinton health care bill. He is also a vocal supporter of the 2001 tax cuts, and a vocal opponent of the Clinton health care bill.



HASTERT
Speaker, House

SPENCER
House

House member from New York, Spencer is a vocal supporter of the 2001 tax cuts, and a vocal opponent of the Clinton health care bill. He is also a vocal supporter of the 2001 tax cuts, and a vocal opponent of the Clinton health care bill.

DDA to hold over 20 stakeholder meets to rush MPD-2047 implementation

WORLDWIDE

Following the publication of the 2006 report, the U.S. is scheduled to join the OECD Development Indicators list. In South America, which is expected to experience a significant increase in foreign investment, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will launch its "Doing Business in Latin America" report, which will include information on the region's economic, legal and regulatory environment. In the Middle East, the World Economic Forum's "Global Competitiveness Index" will be published, and the World Bank's "Doing Business in the Middle East and North Africa" report will be released. In Africa, the World Bank's "Doing Business in Africa" report will be published, and the World Bank's "Doing Business in Africa" report will be published.

political**business**daily

MSME Amendment Bill to strengthen framework, ease operational constraints: PHDCCI

PHCCI
PROMOTING
HIGHER
COUNTRY
INDUSTRY
COMMITMENT

NEW DELHI, AUG 40

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Bill, 1993, passed by Parliament, will strengthen the institutional framework for micro, small and medium enterprises, improve their operational conditions, and create a framework for MSMEs, an apex body, under the Ministry of Commerce.

The Bill also addresses the issues related to the functioning of existing business through decentralization, promotion of indigenous methods for production of

MSMEs, and an address payment delays faced by the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) sector from PHCCI said.

The bill will strengthen the overall ecosystem for the smaller growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector in India, said the industry body said.

Once it becomes an Act, the bill will provide an irregular facility with stronger mechanisms to address their various operational issues, PHCCI said.

"The statutory recognition of digital logic registered trademark and classification framework will provide a more predictable and systematic mechanism to scale creating new employment opportunities through the MSME sector," said PHCCI.

These measures will support the transition of MSMEs from small operations towards more formal, productive, and sustainable enterprises, the chamber said.

Further, the provision for time-bound mediation and alternative process for settling disputes within 30 days of MSMEs with a stronger revenue mechanism, PHCCI said.

"The provision for mandatory routing of PHCCI members through the MSMEs, Equity and all these measures will reduce the cost of doing business, improve cash-flow, predictability and enable them to compete more in the market, increase investment, employment and business expansion," said PHCCI.

Parliament has approved the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bill, 1993 (Amendment) Bill 2003, with the Lok Sabha passing the bill on Friday after Rajya Sabha cleared it on Monday.

The new legislation makes it mandatory for Central Public Sector Enterprises to write all proposals for investment in the Trade Receivables Discounting System to PHCCI, which has the MSMEs.

It mandates that in the case of cash flow, there must be completed within 30 days and register costs to reduce at least 50 per cent of the total amount amounts to MSMEs if an appeal against past

politicalbusinessdaily

Bengal can boost development through export oriented manufacturing

[illegible]



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**Don't
Be a
Loser**

ONLINE MEDIA

businessline.

West Bengal poised for industrial expansion with cluster-led strategy: PHDCCI

A new industry report highlights manufacturing clusters, export infrastructure and sector-focused investments as key drivers of future growth.

PHDCCI President Rajeev Juneja said West Bengal has a substantial base for accelerating industrialisation and investment, with the key opportunity lying in integrating its existing strengths into manufacturing and export clusters.

The State's GSDP increased from Rs 6.10 lakh crore in FY2015-16 to Rs 9.42 lakh crore in FY2024-25, registering a CAGR of about 4.95 per cent, while GSDVA grew at approximately 5.26 per cent. Services accounted for an average 42 per cent of GSDVA during the period, compared with around 23 per cent for industry, indicating scope to deepen the manufacturing base while leveraging the State's expanding services and human-capital ecosystem.



MSME Development Amendment Bill Aims At Timely Payments And Easier Business, Says Industry Group

The PHDCCI has welcomed the legislation, calling it an important step towards accelerating the growth of India's MSME sector.

New Delhi: The MSME Development Amendment Bill 2024 has been passed by Parliament, paving the way for measures aimed at making it easier for small and medium enterprises to do business and easing their financial and cash-flow challenges.

The PHDCCI, of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), has welcomed the legislation, calling it an important step towards accelerating the growth of India's MSME sector.

A key focus of the Bill is addressing delayed payments to small businesses, improving cash flow and reducing litigation faced by MSMEs while expanding their operations.

A large number of small businesses in India often have to wait for payments after supplying goods or completing work for companies. While their businesses may appear profitable on paper, delayed payments can create serious difficulties in managing day-to-day operations.

Businesses need working capital to pay employees, purchase goods and raw materials, maintain operations and invest in expansion. As a result, a delayed payment can affect the overall functioning and growth of a small enterprise.

The MSME Development Amendment Bill 2024 seeks to address the issue by strengthening inter-bank facilities and enhancing mechanisms for resolving payment-related disputes involving MSMEs.

OUTLOOK BUSINESS

RBI's Status Quo On Lending Rate Signals Balanced Approach Amid Global Uncertainties: Experts



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signalled its balanced approach to the monetary policy, aiming to maintain a balance between growth and inflation, experts say.

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ThePrint

Women's reservation needed to serve out historical disadvantage: Delhi WCD secretary

"The Women's Reservation Bill, co-sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD), aims to empower women leaders by ensuring an inclusive platform that advances leadership, gender equality, and the vision of 'Vishat Bharat', Anna Alkhey Oswal, chair, Women's Child Development & Entrepreneurship Committee, PHDCCI, said.

Nirya Pathak, executive director, Sahib International Social Service Organisation, said, "The dream of a Vishat Bharat can only be realised when women are equal participants, leaders, and decision-makers in the nation's development, empowered through education, skills, digital literacy and economic self-reliance." PTI KSH PRK.

BW BUSINESSWORLD

India Needs End-To-End Electronics Value Chain For Global Competitiveness



The growth of the Indian electronics industry is being driven by a combination of factors, including government support, increasing demand for electronics products, and the entry of global players.

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RETAILWORLD

July Inflation Hits 4.45% Above RBI Target Again, Rural India Feels More Heat



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DECCAN Chronicle

BSE, PHDCCI join hands to expand capital-market access for MSMEs

New Delhi: Stock exchange BSE Ltd and PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) on Monday announced a partnership to promote equity financing and expand capital market access for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across the country.

The two organisations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to create greater awareness among MSMEs about equity financing, particularly through the BSE SANE platform, and help eligible businesses navigate the listing process.



RBI's Balanced Policy Stance To Support Growth, Investment Sentiment: PHDCCI

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

DDA plans outreach to stakeholders on MPD

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ELECTRONIC MEDIA



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PHD

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PHDCCI

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Electrical and Fire Safety Risk Assessments and Management



Impact Assessment of CSR Projects



Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report/auditing (BRSR)



GHG Inventory Preparation and Verification



Occupational Health and Hygiene



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***With the Support of the Office of the Development Commissioner
Ministry of MSME, Government of India***

Apply for registration of Intellectual Property (IP) Rights through PHDCCI and get reimbursement of expenses as per Government Scheme

PHDCCI Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (IPFC) provides information & guidance and requisite services for obtaining Patents, Copyrights, Trademarks, Industrial Design and Geographical Indications (GI). PHDCCI IPR Team comprises of experts in the domain to assist MSMEs in achieving the objective of growth by leveraging their IPs and help in getting reimbursement of their expenses related to IPRs as per Scheme Guidelines.

The Government Scheme of IPR Reimbursement provides the following reimbursement of granted IPRs

Domestic Patent - Maximum Financial Assistance of Rs. 1 Lakh

Foreign Patent - Maximum Financial Assistance of Rs. 5 Lakh

Trademark - Maximum Financial Assistance Rs.10, 000

GI Registration - Maximum Financial Assistance of Rs. 2 Lakh

Design Registration - Maximum Financial Assistance of Rs. 15, 000

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