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President's *Message*



HEMANT JAIN
PRESIDENT

This year, as we commemorate our 120th anniversary, we are not merely celebrating the past; we are also embracing a renewed responsibility, to drive impactful change, foster a resilient business ecosystem, and contribute to India's emergence as a global economic powerhouse. The journey ahead demands strategic foresight, collaborative leadership, and a shared commitment to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

As we usher in a new fiscal year, I extend my warmest greetings to all our esteemed members, government partners, and stakeholders. The year 2025 marks a momentous milestone for the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry as we celebrate 120 years of our institution's commitment to nation-building. In the words of Edwidge Danticat, "I think, ultimately, we all have to live with our stories. Stories are important not only to preserve history, but to make an impact on the present and the future." This historic legacy that PHDCCI shares is a tribute to the vision, dedication, and foresight of our past leaders who have shaped the Chamber into a formidable force for advocacy, growth, and policy innovation. For over twelve decades, the Chamber has stood as a symbol of trust and integrity, championing inclusive development and influencing India's economic narrative through pragmatic and forward-looking engagement.

This year, as we commemorate our 120th anniversary, we are not merely celebrating the past; we are also embracing a renewed responsibility, to drive impactful change, foster a resilient business ecosystem, and contribute to India's emergence as a global economic powerhouse. The journey ahead demands strategic foresight, collaborative leadership, and a shared commitment to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

India today stands at a transformative juncture. With the Reserve Bank of India projecting a GDP growth rate of 6.5% for FY 2025–26, the outlook for our economy is robust and promising. This growth trajectory is being driven by resurgence in capital investments, a revival of private sector activity, and buoyant consumption across both rural and urban markets. India's manufacturing sector is gaining significant traction, supported by policy consistency, enhanced ease of doing business, and progressive trade facilitation. The services sector continues to thrive, buoyed by innovation, digital expansion, and global demand.

The recent decision by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to reduce the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6%, along with its continued accommodative stance, underscores a strategic approach to fostering economic momentum while maintaining inflation within the target band. Strong agricultural output, stable inflation, and resilient macroeconomic fundamentals offer additional momentum to

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

India's growth story. Notably, the Indian rupee is expected to remain stable around Rs. 85.5 per US dollar in the coming months, giving the RBI room to strengthen its foreign exchange reserves and manage external vulnerabilities.

Even as we move forward with optimism, we must remain agile and alert to global economic headwinds. Of particular note is the recent announcement by U.S. President Donald Trump proposing new reciprocal tariffs of up to 26% on Indian exports. This has created policy uncertainty, especially for sectors such as engineering goods, automotive components, machinery, textiles, apparel, and gems and jewellery. While these developments warrant close monitoring, India's position remains resilient. Our relatively lower tariffs and a modest trade surplus with the U.S. offer some buffer compared to other emerging economies. The Chamber estimates that the potential impact of these tariffs on India's GDP will be limited, approximately 0.1%. This is a testament to the increasing depth of our domestic manufacturing capabilities and the strategic success of initiatives like Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes. These reforms have positioned India to weather global trade disruptions and enhance its competitiveness across critical sectors.

With reciprocal tariffs now suspended until July 9, India has a crucial window of opportunity to reinvigorate efforts toward a bilateral trade agreement with the United States. The Chamber strongly believes that a comprehensive and forward-looking trade pact could unlock immense potential in areas such as clean technology, digital trade, electronics, and defence manufacturing. We welcome the on-going consultations between the Ministry of Commerce and U.S. counterparts, and we support the Government of India's prudent approach to safeguarding national interest while expanding strategic trade partnerships.

Our expanding trade engagements with the European Union, the United Kingdom, and ASEAN countries, along with our vast and resilient domestic market, will provide important safeguards against external volatility. We remain confident that India's export potential will continue to grow as we diversify markets, build institutional capacities, and strengthen our global value chains.

Reflecting our holistic approach to industry engagement, the Chamber recently hosted a series of high-impact events. The Tourism Sustainability Summit, inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Mr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, spotlighted the twin opportunities and challenges of sustainability in tourism. The Hon'ble Minister called upon industry players to partner with the government to shape a green and resilient tourism economy.

During our Conclave on 'Creating Future-Ready Manpower for the Mining Sector,' Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal & Mines, Mr. Satish Chandra Dubey emphasized the imperative of skilling and upskilling, urging industry to shift toward high-technology and environmentally sustainable mining practices.

Recognizing the pivotal role of agriculture in India's future, the Agriculture Input Conclave saw the participation of Hon'ble Ministers, Mr. Bhagirath Choudhary and Dr Raj Bhushan Choudhary, who underscored the need for private sector investment in high-value crops and technologies that enhance farmer incomes and ensure food security.

On the global front, our economic diplomacy continues to yield results. The 40th Ambassadors' Meet witnessed participation from over 125 diplomats and 200 business leaders, strengthening bilateral economic ties and encouraging cross-border investments. Our Vice President led a multi-sectoral business delegation to Japan, focusing on advanced manufacturing, technology transfer, and SME collaboration. The Chamber also organized a strategic trade delegation to Mauritius with a focus on healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors. Additionally, we hosted high-level engagements with delegations from the UAE, Germany, Vietnam, and the Czech Republic, exploring investment opportunities in renewables, advanced manufacturing, and water management.

Looking ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to empowering industry, strengthening India's global presence, and contributing to a future-ready economy. The Chamber will continue to champion reforms, advocate for progressive policies, and facilitate public-private collaboration to build a thriving, resilient India. As we celebrate 120 years of our Chamber's impactful journey, we rededicate ourselves to the ideals of inclusive growth, innovation, and national development. I urge all our members to actively participate in our initiatives, to innovate, collaborate, and lead. Let us work together to make India the destination of choice for investment, innovation, and enterprise.

In the words of Ban Ki-moon, "Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all." Let us continue building that future—for India, for the world, and for generations to come.



Hemant Jain
President, PHDCCI

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TOURISM SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025





PHDCCI is association with the Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI), organized the 2nd edition of the "Tourism Sustainability Summit: Mainstreaming Sustainability in Tourism" on March 26, 2025 at Hotel Le-Meridien, New Delhi. This flagship initiative aimed to strengthen India's position as a global tourism and hospitality destination, besides fostering cooperation at national, bilateral, regional & sub-regional, multilateral and international levels.

Mr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, while speaking on sustainability challenges in the Tourism sector, urged the industry to collaborate with the government. "Until and unless it becomes everybody's business, we will not be able to solve this problem" said the Hon'ble Minister. He added that the tourism sector's situation and conditions present both opportunities and challenges.

Hon'ble Minister concluded by taking a pledge to convert this into action after identifying the responsibilities and work in tandem toward the sustainability goals in the tourism sector.

Mr. Suman Billa (IAS), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism emphasized the need to design tourism growth in a mindful manner. He added that tourism is a rapidly growing sector and that the industry is at the beginning of a long-term growth cycle for tourism and hospitality. Highlighting key points, he stressed that tourism should not be viewed merely as an economic activity but as a shared responsibility. Referring to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Mission LiFE initiative, he spoke about the need to shift from a paradigm of mindless consumption to mindful living.

He further mentioned that the Ministry of Tourism has launched the sustainability criteria under "Travel for LiFE," which promotes a community of green travellers. Further, Mr Billa emphasized that if sustainability is the goal, there is a need to rethink the approach by building resilient, inclusive, and future-ready infrastructure.

He further highlighted the importance of community engagement and creating livelihoods through tourism for these communities. And lastly, the involvement of the private sector, businesses, and the adoption of technology was necessary in driving sustainable tourism growth.

Mr. Sheo Shekhar Shukla (IAS), Principal Secretary (Tourism) & Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, Government of Madhya Pradesh, informed that Madhya Pradesh has a Responsible Tourism vertical within its state department. He highlighted that the state is home to 498 State Protected Monuments, 290 ASI Protected Monuments, and 14 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, establishing it as a significant historical and cultural destination. Further, he mentioned that efforts are underway to develop 50 new destinations and 20 cultural sites to enhance the tourism landscape.

Speaking on environmental aspects, he highlighted that Madhya Pradesh has the highest forest cover (25%) in India, 12 National Parks, 9 Tiger Reserves, and 3 Biosphere Reserves. Emphasizing the growth of spiritual and religious tourism, the state is home to the Narmada, one of the world's oldest rivers, and comprises five cultural zones. The State also focuses on eco-tourism, tribal tourism, and rural tourism, added Mr Shukla.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI indicated that Sustainability is no longer a choice or an option- it is our responsibility now. If we do not make our hotels sustainable and more green-compliant today, we will lose a significant part of the market. Initiatives like this and sincere efforts towards sustainability will further strengthen India's position in this sector.

Amb Mr. Manjeev Singh Puri, Chair, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI & Distinguished Fellow, TERI urged everyone to internalize sustainability in their organizations, emphasizing the need for climate-proofing and building resilience.

He added, our lifestyle in India has always been aligned with sustainability, and as we progress in tourism let us not forget that sustainability is what will keep resources ready for future generations.



It is important that every single one of us acts, as India has a national commitment to a net zero target by 2070.

Mr. Glenn Mandziuk, CEO, World Sustainable Hospitality Alliance (UK), discussed that we have significant sustainability and human rights issues present in our industry, and we need to act collectively as an industry.

Mr. Mandziuk said that we need to think about the workforce and not just focus on serving the customer. He further informed 'Overtourism' was the word of the year in the Oxford Dictionary in 2018. However, tourism holds great potential, and the sustainability revolution is crucial. Enabling every hotel to operate responsibly and grow sustainably, the Sustainable Hospitality Alliance brings together engaged hospitality companies and the wider hospitality value chain, along with strategic partners, to address key challenges affecting the planet, people, and places around the world, he added.

Mr. K Syama Raju, President, FHRAI discussed the importance of sustainability in tourism and the contributions made by the Industry alliance. He further emphasized that while tourism continues to grow, it also presents significant challenges. He stressed the need to ensure that tourism is not just an economic driver but also a catalyst for social change. He called for collective efforts toward a greener and more inclusive future.

Mr. Surendra Kumar Jaiswal, President, HRANI & Vice President, FHRAI delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the esteemed guests.

A Knowledge Report on Tourism was released at the event.

The Tourism Sustainability Summit 2025 was supported by the Ministry of Tourism, with partnership from the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board. Gujarat Tourism participated as an Associate Partner.

It is reckoning that tourism is one of the world's fastest growing industries and an important source of foreign exchange and employment. As a sector, it also keeps a very significant bearing to the economies, especially so for developing countries and endowed with high tourism potential. Noticeably, sustainable tourism practices are applicable to all forms of tourism in all types of destinations, including mass tourism and the various niche tourism segments. Sustainability principles refer to the environmental, economic, and socio-cultural aspects of tourism development, and a suitable balance must be established between these three dimensions to guarantee its long-term sustainability.



CREATING FUTURE READY MANPOWER FOR THE MINING SECTOR

Chief Guest, Mr. Satish Chandra Dubey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal & Mines at PHDCCI's Conclave on 'Creating Future Ready Manpower for the Mining Sector' held on March 21, 2025 at New Delhi was quoted to have said, "With 65% of India's population being young, I urge the youth to contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat. While India has become self-reliant in coal production, it still depends on imports for critical minerals. The government is making continuous efforts to bridge this gap, so I urge the industry to train its employees to build expertise in this sector."

Further, while stressing on the importance of skill development, the Hon'ble Minister encouraged industry to establish colleges and universities focused on mining education to equip the youth with the necessary skills. He highlighted that the mining industry is undergoing a major transformation and urged the mining industry to shift from being a labor-intensive sector to a high-tech industry driven by automation, digitalization, and sustainable development.

Lastly, the Hon'ble Minister assured PHDCCI of the government's support for any future initiatives and reiterated that Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi envisions India becoming self-reliant in every sector and contributing significantly towards the 2047 Viksit Bharat goal.



Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI emphasizing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat said that the mining industry's future will be shaped not just by the resources we extract, but by the human capital we develop.

He added that we must address the challenge of skill development head-on through three key pillars: education transformation, industry-academic partnerships, and inclusive workforce development. He observed that as we must stand at the crossroads of tradition and innovation, we must acknowledge that the mining industry's future will be shaped not just by the resources we extract, but by the human capital we develop.

Mr. Aman Sethi, Co-chair, Minerals & Metals Committee, PHDCCI, envisioned mining communities transforming into hubs of innovation whereby miners become knowledge workers utilizing technology to extract resources with minimal environmental impact and maximum value creation. He added that mining careers are still perceived as physically demanding and dangerous, discouraging young talent from entering the industry at a time when fresh talent is needed the most.

He informed that PHDCCI plans to sign an MoU with the Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) for designing and conducting skill development programs for

upskilling India's mining workforce in new technologies.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI informed that PHDCCI is celebrating 120 years of legacy this year, and the key focus areas in the current era are digital transformation, sustainability, and global competitiveness. In this context, skilling is crucial in the mining sector. As technology advances people need to be skilled in AI and the latest innovations. He added, in India, five million people enter the workforce annually, making it the youngest country in the world, which is why skill development is so important.

Mr. Pankaj Satija, Chairman, Skill Council for Mining Sector & Executive In Charge, Ferro Alloys Mineral Division, Tata Steel Ltd. discussed the Prime Minister's request to revive Nalanda



University and mentioned that SCMS is working on this initiative. Mr Satija further highlighted that the percentage of formally skilled workers in India remains low and India must work towards becoming cost competitive which can be achieved by focusing on skill development. He informed that SCMS was encouraging entry of women and transgenders in the mining workforce.

Mr. Naveet Kumar, CEO, Skill Council for Mining Sector discussed the roadmap for skill development in the mining sector.

A number of technical sessions on skill development ecosystem, regulatory mechanisms, role of techology in skill development, briding sill gaps for future -ready mining workforce , etc were held which were addressed by experts.

A knowledge report, titled 'Creating Future Ready Manpower for the Mining sector.' was released during the Conclave.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) WITH EESL ENERGY EFFICIENCY SERVICES LIMITED



PHDCCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with EESL Energy Efficiency Services Limited on March 6, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

The MoU was signed between Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General of PHDCCI and Mr. Venkatesh Dwivedi, Group Executive Director of EESL. The MoU is designed to work jointly on the modalities for promoting EESL Mart's collaboration with PHDCCI, which could create significant advantages for both parties in terms of sustainability, energy efficiency, and government relations. The partnership appears to be a strong step toward promoting environmental responsibility and aligning with India's goals for a net-zero emissions future.



INDO-GERMAN DEEP TECH COLLABORATION FOR MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE

PHDCCI organized an interactive session on Indo-German Deep Tech Collaboration for Manufacturing Excellence on March 7, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The key objective of organizing this session was to deliberate on the new technologies in smart manufacturing such as IoT, AI, capacity building etc

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General of PHDCCI in his welcome address talked about the India and Germany sharing a strong and strategic partnership, built on a foundation of industrial expertise, technological innovation, and a shared vision for progress. Dr. Mehta also proposed that PHDCCI plans to mount a Technology Delegation for the Indian companies to Germany.

Mr. Marc-Alexander Winter, CEO & Co-Founder, Servitize, Germany in his keynote address spoke on the futuristic deep tech enabling smart manufacturing and the huge potential and opportunity between India and Germany in



manufacturing as India endeavours to become a manufacturing hub.

Mr. Siddharth Bhasin, Managing Director, German India Innovation Corridor (GIIC) shared the perspective GIIC as the bilateral highway that will help India and Germany to innovate and collaborate.

A dedicated Session on Deep Tech: Where Innovation Meets Excellence also took place.

The Sessions were moderated by Col. K V Kuber, Indian Army Veteran, Director - Aerospace & Defence, Ernst & Young LLP. The session featured panellists including Mr. Marc-Alexander Winter, CEO & Co-Founder, Servitize, Germany, Mr. Upen Barve, Vice President Strategy and Chief Fusionist, Servitize, Germany, Mr. Vijay Kishan Gupta, CEO, Think Future Technologies, Mr. Suryakantt Sharma, Director - Strategic Alliances, CorePeelers followed by the vote-of-thanks from Mr. Harish Saraf, Co-chair, PHDCCI ICT, Telecom & Electronics Committee.

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40TH EDITION OF AMBASSADORS' MEET 2025





The 40th edition of Ambassadors' Meet was held on March 7, 2025 at the Oval Mansion, Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Delhi.

Around 125 diplomats including Ambassadors/High Commissioners representing more than 70 countries including Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Colombia, Cote d' Voire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, South Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Malawi, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Norway, Palestine, Panama, Phillipines, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, UAE, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, USA, Uzbekistan, Venezuela and Zambia graced the occasion.

More than 200 industry members including, former Presidents of PHDCCI, central and state government officials from various ministries, made the most of the opportunity to interact with the diplomatic community.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI, in his presidential remarks thanked the distinguished dignitaries for sparing their precious time to attend the 40th edition of PHDCCI Ambassadors' Meet. He highlighted the event's significance, tracing its inception back to the 1980s and emphasizing its evolution into a cherished tradition that continues to strengthen global partnerships and foster meaningful dialogues.

He underscored the importance of such engagements in promoting international collaboration, trade, and investment opportunities. He extended heartfelt thanks to the Ambassadors, High Commissioners

Ambassadors' Meet is PHDCCI'S flagship event that has been held every year since its inception in 1998. The main objective of the Ambassadors' meet is to provide a platform for a direct interaction between the diplomatic community based in New Delhi, the Industry members of PHDCCI and the Government of India officials.

The Theme of Ambassadors' Meet "Fostering International Economic Cooperation" has remained the same since its inception and true to its meaning, it has given Indian Business Houses a platform to interact with the diplomats of the countries of their interest. Several of the State Governments in India have taken advantage of the gathering of the diplomatic community in the past to showcase their strengths and project their respective states as a significant contributor to the economic and trade relations of India with its partners. The meet is an opportunity to host several high ranking central government officials, state officials, heads of relevant government institutions and academia.







and the diplomats for their unwavering support, which plays a crucial role in deepening cultural, political, and economic relations between India and the global community. Their presence, he noted, reflects a shared commitment to mutual growth and cooperation. Additionally, he expressed sincere appreciation to sponsors and partners for their invaluable contributions, recognizing their pivotal role in enhancing the event's success and impact. He concluded by reiterating PHDCCI's commitment to fostering international cooperation and strengthening India's global economic footprint.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI extended a warm welcome to the esteemed dignitaries, diplomats, and industry stalwarts, expressing deep appreciation for their presence and emphasizing the event's role in fostering global partnerships and meaningful dialogue.

He highlighted India's commitment to multilateral diplomacy as a pillar of international cooperation, trade, and economic development. He elaborated on how India's proactive global engagement creates opportunities across various sectors, reinforcing the nation's position in the world economy. He reaffirmed that the Ambassadors' Meet serves as a vital platform for high-level discussions, idea exchange, and strategic partnerships that drive mutual growth and strengthen bilateral and multilateral ties.

Acknowledging the indispensable role of partners, he extended sincere gratitude for their continued support and contributions. He emphasized their crucial role in ensuring the success of PHDCCI's initiatives, particularly the 40th Ambassadors' Meet, which has grown into a distinguished platform for diplomatic and business engagement. He recognized their efforts in helping PHDCCI expand its outreach and impact and position India as a key hub for trade, investment, and international cooperation.

INDIA TO EMERGE AS A DEVELOPED NATION AND NUMBER ONE MILITARY POWER IN THE WORLD

Defence Minister, Mr. Rajnath Singh laid out a compelling vision for a self-reliant and future-ready India at a Defence Conclave in New Delhi on April 17, 2025. With a clear focus on indigenisation, innovation, and global leadership, he declared that India is not only securing its borders but also positioning itself as a key player in the international defence ecosystem. "The day is not far when India will not only emerge as a developed country, but our Military Power will also emerge as number one in the world," said Mr. Singh. The revival and strengthening of the defence sector is one of the biggest priorities for the government. The government's first and foremost challenge is to change the mindset that India would simply import to meet its defence needs. India will reduce its dependency on imports and create a defence industrial complex that will not only meet India's needs but will also strengthen the potential of defence exports. The Make in India program is not only strengthening the country's defence production but also has the capability to make the global defence supply chain resilient and flexible. He further stated that while India's defence manufacturing capabilities are aimed at national security and strategic autonomy, they are also insulating manufacturing from global supply shocks.

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MULTI-SECTOR BUSINESS DELEGATION TO JAPAN

A 14-Member Multi-Sector Business Delegation led by Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI visited Japan, March 17-21, 2025 with the objective to strengthen bilateral trade relations, explore growth opportunities, and foster partnerships between Indian and Japanese businesses.

Day 1 Highlights

Meeting with Mr. Kazuya Nakajo, Executive Vice President of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), along with their officals at Tokyo- The discussion focused on setting up alliances with Japanese companies.

Meeting with Mr. Jagmohan S. Chandrani, President, Indian Commerce and Industry Association of Japan-The discussions focused on enhancing bilateral trade relations and exploring collaboration across technology, manufacturing, and RE sectors.

Day 2 Highlights

Meeting with Officals of Mitsubishi Electric at Tokyo- Mr. Hideaki Hyodo, Senior Manager gave a presentation on the Mitsubishi group and their products and also showed different factories of Mitsubishi.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI highlighted PHDCCI's activities with the Mitsubishi group's officals.





Meeting with Mr. Takehiro Toba, MD, Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd. Mr Toba pointed out that Japanese companies are looking for investment in the Indian market.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI discussed the Indian market scenario.

Meeting with officals of Mizuho Bank Ltd., at Tokyo-Mr. Katsumi Onishi, Director, Global Advisory Team 2 spoke about Mizuho Bank Ltd.'s specific products. The Bank supports Japanese companies as well as Indian companies. Mizuho Bank has acquired two companies

in India.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, discussed Mizuho Bank Ltd.'s activities.

Meeting with Mr. Yuki Kishi, Co-Founder, Sustainability Data Standardization Consortium, MD, Fintech Association of Japan, Tokyo- Mr. Yuki Kishispone spoke on Fintech Association of Japan and gave a presentation on 'Creating a community where people come and grow together and invest in new opportunities'.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI, highlighted on the various fintech companies working in India.

Day 3 Highlights

Meeting with Mr. Koichi Matsushita, Chairman of The Investment Trust Association, and Mr. Jun Sugis, Vice Chairman Japan, at Tokyo. Mr. Koichi Matsushita briefed about the Investment Trust Association and was looking for possibilities for investment in India.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI highlighted that Indian markets have more potential for investment, and it is giving good returns to foreign investors.

Meeting with Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) to Japan in their office at Tokyo- Mr. R. Madhu Sudan, Deputy Chief of Mission to Japan indicated about the various opportunities available between India and Japan across various sectors, notably in health and medical care, IT/ITES, transportation, power and energy, urban environment management, and agriculture.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI highlighted sectors of cooperation that existed between both nations in sectors like Electrical wires & Cables, Healthcare/Pharmaceuticals, IT/ITES, Green Energy, Textile, Automated products, FMCG, Finance, etc.

The delegation was invited by Indian Embassy in Japan for a program on 'Make in India – The Next Big Opportunity: Collaborate, Invest, Grow.'









Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI gave a presentation on the 'Outlook of the Indian Electrical Industry.'

Mr. Vishal Dhingra, Co-chair of Foreign Trade and Investment Committee, PHDCCI spoke on opportunities in Textile & Apparel Industry. Mr. Manish Agarwal, Managing Committee Member, PHDCCI highlighted on the prospects of real estate in India.

Dr. Jatinder Singh, DSG , PHDCCI spoke on 'Role of Chamber in India-Japan Business Relations'.

Mr. Kiyoshi Shikano, Executive Vice President, Director, CEATEC invited PHDCCI members to collaborate with them in their upcoming IT, start-ups, and AI Exhibition in Tokyo.

Dr. Jatinder Singh, DSG, PHDCCI said that the delegation was happy to collaborate with CEATEC for further engagements.

Day 4 Highlights

Visit to Hitachi Plant in Nagoya- Mr. Yoshihiro Nakatani, General Manager, Hitachi highlighted Hitachi's activities and indicated










that their products have huge demand in emerging economies.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI highlighted there are f requirements for these products in India.

Visit to Osaka Municipal University Hospital in Osaka- Mr. Takeshi Fukuda, Section Manager, Planning Division, Osaka Municipal University Hospital spoke about the hospital activities and the availability of highly advanced medical care in the hospital.

Mr. Vivek Seigell, SVP, Corporate Affairs, Apeejay Stya Svran Group, and member, PHDCCI discussed how Apeejay Stya Svran Group could collaborate with Osaka Municipal University Hospital on the operational aspects of the hospital. He looked forward to the engagement in terms of MoU, showing that it could benefit both countries.

The delegation attended a joint seminar on 'India-Japan Business Relations: Strengthening the Strategic Partnership for a Shared Future' hosted by Osaka Chamber



of Commerce and Industry (OCCI). Mr. Chandru Appar, Consul General of India, Osaka said that the Consulate Office helps Indian and Japanese businesses communicate with each other.

Mr. Setsuo Iuchi, President, OCCI highlighted the opportunities that exist between Japan and India. He urged Indian industries to collaborate with Japanese companies in sectors, such as IT/ ITES, textiles, pharma, real-estate, engineering and electronic goods, gems and jewelry.

Mr. Anil Gupta, Vice President, PHDCCI outlined areas of collaboration between the two countries.

Mr. Manish Agarwal, Managing Committee Member, PHDCCI gave a presentation on the prospects of real estate in India. Mr. Sandeep Agarwal, Founder, Mahadeva Esys Pvt. Ltd., Brand – D&J, spoke on opportunities in the Textile & Apparel Industry.

Meeting with Mr. Paramjit Chadha, President, ICCJ at Osaka- Mr. Paramjit Chadha suggested that ICCJ would like to collaborate with PHDCCI to advance their members' interests between India and Japan.

Mr. Anil Gupta, VP, PHDCCI oulined the areas of cooperation between the two nations. With the help of government measures, India is growing its export market and solidifying its standing as a trustworthy provider to the world.

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DEMYSTIFYING ESG AND SUSTAINABILITY IN SUPPLY CHAIN

The conference on 'Demystifying ESG and Sustainability in Supply Chain' held on March 5, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi brought together industry leaders, policymakers, and experts to explore the critical role of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles in transforming supply chains. The event emphasized the need for responsible sourcing, carbon footprint reduction, and ethical supply chain management to drive long-term economic and environmental sustainability.





Inaugural Session Highlights:

Mr. Niraj, Director, PHDCCI emphasized the urgency of integrating ESG principles into supply chains amid global challenges like climate change and resource depletion. He highlighted the conference's focus on key challenges, opportunities, and strategies for sustainability.

During the Fireside Chat on ESG vs. Profitability: Bridging the Gap for Sustainable Growth, Mr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Former DG, Indian Institute of Corporate

Affairs, Senior Adviser, Deloitte India and Dua Associates (Father of CSR) underscored the critical intersection of ESG and profitability, emphasizing that sustainable business practices are not just ethical imperatives but strategic drivers of long-term growth. He highlighted how companies adoptin energy-efficient operations, responsible sourcing, and transparent ESG reporting gain a competitive edge, attract investor confidence, and enhance brand value. However, he also cautioned against greenwashing, stressing the need for measurable, data-backed sustainability efforts to build trust and ensure genuine impact. He urged businesses to move beyond compliance and integrate ESG as a core business strategy to drive both financial success and environmental responsibility. The session was moderated by Mr. Prateek Kanwal, Director, Deloitte.

Thematic Panel Discussions:

1. the session on Decarbonizing Global Supply Chains - Solutions & Strategies for Reducing Carbon Footprints was moderated by Mr. Inderjeet Singh, Partner, Climate Change & Sustainability, Deloitte India. Panelists included: Ms. Shweta Goela, Associate Vice President, Safexpress, Mr. Dipankar Bhattacharya, National Sales Head, VIP Industries Ltd., Mr. Abhishek Mukherjee, Senior Project Officer (Transport), SG-TRA, India Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank and Mr. Deepak Baindur, Project Manager, Smart and Climate-Friendly Logistics in India.

This session focused on practical solutions and strategies for reducing the carbon footprint of global supply chains. Experts discussed key approaches such as electrifying transportation, utilizing alternative fuels, and optimizing logistics routes to minimize



emissions.

2. The session on ESG Compliance - Turning Sustainability Mandates into Competitive Advantage was moderated by Mr. Abhishek P Rao, Founder, CEO & Director, CSRLSC & Advisor to the Chairman, RSA Global. Panelists included: Mr. Anil Mishra, National Logistics Head, Pladis Global, Mr. Udit Babbar, Founder, Pavitr Mitr, Mr. Dhritiman Chakraborty, Director Operations, Ingram Micro India Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Ranjit Kumar, National Head- Leasing, Pragati Warehousing and Mr. Nitin Mishra, Founder, Sustainovate Climate Solutions.

The session explored how organizations can turn Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance into a strategic advantage. By aligning business practices with sustainability mandates, companies can enhance their brand reputation, attract investors, and meet regulatory requirements while driving growth. Industry leaders shared insights into how ESG compliance can be integrated into corporate strategy, demonstrating that sustainable practices not only reduce risks but also open new business opportunities. The discussion emphasized the growing importance of ESG metrics in shaping consumer preferences and investor decisions.

3. The session on ESG Culture Building - Going Beyond KPIs was moderated by Mr. Dhritiman Chakraborty, Director Operations, Ingram Micro India Pvt. Ltd. Panelists included: Ms. Sheetal Sharad, Chief Ratings Officer, ICRA ESG Ratings, Mr. Tarun Verma, PLM Planning Manager, SHELL India (Virtual), Mr. S.K. Jain, Former Executive Director, IGL, Mr. Mithlesh Kumar, Senior Secretary & Head, Centre for Sustainability, PHDCCI and Ms. Banaja Mishra, Co-Founder & COO, Freight Forwarding, CSRLSC

This session delved into the importance of building a robust ESG culture within organizations that goes beyond just tracking key performance indicators (KPIs). Speakers discussed how fostering a culture of sustainability involves embedding ESG values into the company's core operations and leadership mindset. The session highlighted the need for companies to build awareness and support for ESG initiatives internally, driving authentic change that resonates with employees, customers, and investors alike.

Mr. Mithlesh Kumar, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI proposed the vote-of-thanks to all the attendees.



B2B MEETING WITH DELEGATION FROM DP WORLD, UAE

PHDCCI, in collaboration with JAFZA, UAE, organized an Interactive Session with the delegation from DP World from UAE on March 3, 2025 in PHD House.

Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, welcomed the delegation and provided an overview of PHDCCI's activities, with a special focus on international engagements.

Mr. Amitesh Misra, Director - Business Development, DP World GCC, expressed gratitude to PHDCCI for hosting the delegation. He presented UAE's economic potential and growth trajectory, emphasizing the importance of strengthening bilateral and multilateral relations, boosting trade, and enhancing B2B interactions to encourage investment. He also underscored the significance of investments under the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and potential collaborations



in sectors such as oil & gas, logistics, warehousing, IT, and software.

Mr. Deon D'Mello, Senior Manager - Business Development (Parks & Zones), DP World, also extended his appreciation to PHDCCI for hosting the delegation. He outlined DP World's expansion strategy in India, focusing on the development of Free Trade Warehousing Zones (FTWZs) and the enhancement of cold chain logistics. He highlighted DP World's collaboration with India's National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) through Hindustan Infralog Pvt. Ltd. (HIPL), an initiative aimed at investing up to USD 3 billion in the logistics sector. This strategic partnership led to the acquisition of 90% of Continental Warehousing Corporation, a key player in India's logistics landscape.

Mr. Sanjay Beswal, Co-chair, International Affairs Committee for GULF, PHDCCI in his vote-of-thanks assured the support of PHDCCI in all the endeavors of DP World in India especially in Tier 2 cities and suggested mounting a business delegation to Bharat Mart in near future.

The session was moderated by Mr. Niraj, Director - International Affairs Division, PHDCCI. A networking session and B2B meeting was also held.

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NATIONAL AGRI INPUT CONCLAVE

Concluding the second edition of its series, the Agribusiness Committee at PHDCCI organized the National Agri Input Conclave 2025 on March 25, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Mr. Bhagirath Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare urged farmers to get their soil tested to understand its specific needs and highlighted that research centres and FPOs are available to support them. He further appreciated the efforts of scientists, industrialists, and farmers and said that their hard work has made India self-reliant in many areas. While India is self-sufficient in grain production, challenges persist in pulses and oilseeds. Speaking on the fluctuating agricultural prices, he stressed the importance of focusing on high-value products. The Minister expressed that agriculture will be the biggest industry in the future and it requires greater attention and investment from the Industry.

Dr. Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, while deliberating on Government schemes, discussed the Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme and informed that nearly Rs. 3 lakh crore have been invested into the overall rural economy. He also appreciated



PHDCCI's efforts through such events in supporting the upliftment of farmers.

Dr. Ramesh Chand, Member, Niti Aayog pointed out that the agriculture sector in India is highly complex and diverse. Over the past 10-12 years, significant positive changes have taken place in this sector and given its potential, a fresh and updated approach is required. He further highlighted that despite COVID-19, the overall growth rate of the agriculture sector was 4%, with around six states recording growth above 5%. He urged farmers not to focus solely on MSP but also to demand support from the government for factors that drive growth, such as R&D, technology, monitoring systems for fake seeds, and a competitive market.

Dr. PK Singh, discussed that to become sustainable and self-reliant by 2047 informed about the Digital Agriculture Mission, where efforts are being made through Agri Stack to create a digital identity for farmers and Oilseed Mission, a seven-year program aimed at increasing production along with the value chain of oilseeds and pulses which are imported commodities.

Mr. Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI, shared how PHDCCI has been working for the development of industry and trade for the past 120 years, with agriculture at the centre of its activities. He commended the government for initiatives like the National Food Security Act, Rashtriya Krishi Kisan Yojana, and Kisan Beema Yojana. He expressed confidence that the strategies and discussions held at the conclave

will further strengthen India's agriculture sector and empower our farmers for a sustainable future.

Dr. R. G. Agarwal, Chair, Agribusiness Committee, PHDCCI, emphasized the importance of research and suggested three key measures to empower farmers—providing them with proper training, ensuring fair pricing, and addressing the issue of counterfeit pesticides in the market.

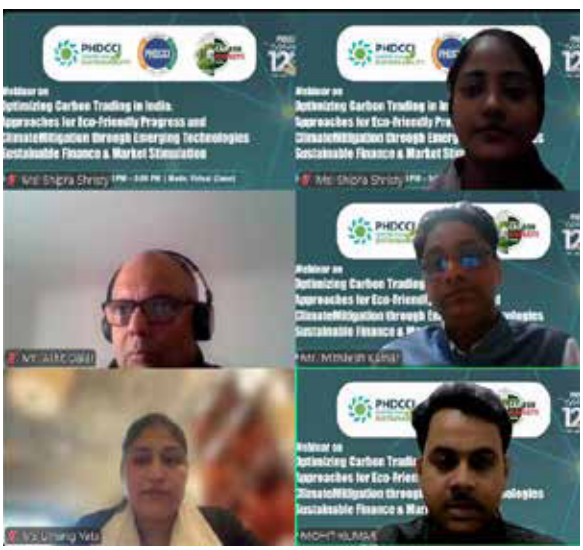
Mr. Abhishek Aggarwal, President & COO, Bharat Group summarised the conclave and informed that a lot of innovation has been done by agro chemical industry and urged government support to hand hold industry for promoting farmer literacy and bring in lot of molecules in the agriculture industry.

Ms. Mili Dubey, ASG of PHDCCI concluded the conclave by urging partners and stakeholders to share their insights for the betterment of the sector.





OPTIMIZING CARBON TRADING IN INDIA



In the webinar on "Optimizing Carbon Trading in India: Approaches for Eco-Friendly Progress and Climate Mitigation through Emerging Technologies, Sustainable Finance & Market Stimulation" held on March 11, 2025, Mr. Dalal, Principal Consultant & Director - GRC & ESG Practice, eDelta Consulting, Inc., NY, USA delivered an insightful session on Decarbonization Strategy and Carbon Pricing in India and the role of Green Hydrogen in driving the decarbonization revolution to stimulate sustainable growth.

Ms. Umang Vats, Asia-Pacific Regional Analyst, UNEP FI shared her perspective on UNEP Finance Initiative's with banks, insurers and investors to foster a sustainable finance sector. She spoke on the ongoing Climate Mitigation Journey and its significance for financial institutions.

Mr. Mithilesh Kumar, Head of the Carbon Market Forum & Centre for Sustainability delivered the vote-of-thanks to the guests, while Mr. Mohit Kumar, Senior Assistant Secretary, and Ms. Shipra Shristy, Executive Officer, PHDCCI moderated the session.

AYURVEDA HEALTH CAMP



PHDCCI's AYUSH Committee in collaboration with Karma Ayurveda organized an Ayurveda Health Camp held on April 4, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The aim of organizing the Ayurveda Health Camp was to promote holistic health and well-being using the principles of Ayurveda, the ancient Indian system of medicine.

The inaugural session was graced with the presence of Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, Dr. Santosh Joshi, Chair, AYUSH Committee, PHDCCI & Head R&D, Hamdard Laboratories India and Dr. Puneet Dhawan, Co-chair, AYUSH Committee, Founder & Director, Karma Ayurveda. Dr. Nasir Jamal, Director, PHDCCI moderated the session.

A guest lecture by Dr. Puneet Dhawan, Co-chair, AYUSH Committee, PHDCCI and Founder & Director, Karma Ayurveda spoke on the "Benefits of Diet Plan for Overall Health and Well-being." Dr Dhawan explained that in Ayurveda, diet is considered one of the most powerful tools for maintaining health and preventing disease. It emphasizes that food is medicine, and when chosen wisely according to one's body type and digestion strength, it can promote physical, mental, and emotional balance. A proper Ayurvedic diet helps in improving digestion, boosting immunity, enhancing energy levels, and maintaining a healthy weight.



The Health camp was well attended by various employees and members of PHDCCI.

SYMPOSIUM ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

A Global Symposium on Occupational Safety and Health: Risks and Strategies was held on April 5, 2025, organized by PHDCCI in association UN GCNI, IGFP-India, and CTAG/NLUD. The webinar focused on global and national strategies to strengthen workplace safety.

The inaugural session was chaired by Mr. Ashish Wig, Chair, HR & IR Committee, PHDCCI, Dr Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, UN GCNI, Dr. Fuelleman (Switzerland), and Prof. Bimal Sahu, Director, Indo-German Focal Poin.

Session 1 focused on Vision Zero – Global and National Strategies; Session 2 focused on Policy and Institutional Perspectives. Session 3 focused on Legal and Enforcement Dimensions and Session 4 focused on Challenges and Solutions.

Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, UNGCNI delivered the vote-of-thanks to the delegates.



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COOPERATIVES AS ENGINES OF GROWTH: A STRATEGIC PATH TO VIKSIT BHARAT

PHDCCI, through its Task Force on Cooperatives, organized a summit on "Cooperatives as Engines of Growth: A Strategic Path to Viksit Bharat" on March 5, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The discussions focused on enhancing the efficiency, sustainability, and global competitiveness of cooperatives, aligning with India's vision of Viksit Bharat.

Mr. Vineet Nahata, Chair of the Task Force on Cooperatives, PHDCCI, highlighted the vital role of cooperatives in India's economic transformation, emphasizing PHDCCI's ongoing commitment to strengthening the sector. Mr. Nahata stressed the importance of leveraging technology, embracing digital transformation, and adopting innovative business models to boost cooperatives' impact, aligning with India's vision of "Viksit Bharat." He also acknowledged the contributions of the Ministry of Cooperation and other stakeholders, emphasizing the need for continued collaboration to unlock the full potential of the cooperative sector.



Mr. Vikrant Dogra, Chairman of The Unati Agri Allied and Marketing Multistate Cooperative Society Ltd., spoke about the importance of integrating agriculture, allied sectors, and cooperatives for sustainable growth. He shared insights on the socio-economic impact of cooperatives, emphasizing that success lies in community participation and leadership.

Mr. Rajneesh Pandey, Director General Manager (Marketing) at IFFCO, highlighted cooperatives' vital role in India's economic development and rural empowerment. He also discussed how the Government of India has taken significant steps to strengthen the sector, such as expanding cooperatives' presence in Panchayats and integrating them with digital platforms.

Mr. Ashok Thakur, Director at NAFED, reflecting on the success of Amul, pointed out that cooperatives can drive substantial change when built on trust and collaboration.

The summit featured three technical sessions: Corporate-Cooperative Connect explored synergies for collective growth;

Cooperative Education and Branding focused on strengthening cooperatives for global success, and Transforming FPOs & Cooperatives into Global Agri-Export Leaders highlighted strategies to enhance market linkages. Distinguished speakers shared valuable insights on innovation, education, and global competitiveness for cooperatives.

Mr. Santosh Shukla, General Manager, IFFCO, a strong advocate for the growth of India's cooperative sector, highlighted its crucial role in agriculture, fertilizer distribution, and rural entrepreneurship. He focused on empowering farmers and women through technology and generating employment opportunities.

Ms. Savitri Singh, Deputy CEO, NCUI, a leader in cooperative education and training, advocated for digitalization, youth involvement, and the cooperative sector's role in addressing social issues like waste management and renewable energy.

Dr. Vinay Kumar Chauhan, Chairman, National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Limited focused on labor rights and employment generation. He works to improve labor cooperatives, ensuring fair wages and better conditions, in collaboration with the International Labor Organization.

Col. Himanshu, Senior Director, NCDC works on strengthening cooperatives by promoting leadership training, technology integration, and collaboration with the corporate sector. He advocated for empowering cooperatives to become world-class organizations and expand market reach.

Mr. V K Dubey, Managing Director, Cooperative Bank of India (COBI), emphasized the importance of cooperatives in rural development, particularly in providing financial support to the poor and empowering local communities. He highlighted successful models like Amul and IFFCO and stressed the need for agricultural cooperatives to create job opportunities and promote economic growth.

Mr. J.P. Singh Head CS, Bhartiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited discussed the growing success of cooperatives in agriculture, especially in seed production, and advocated for blending public, private, and cooperative sectors for greater efficiency and impact.

Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, Assistant Financial Advisor, NFCSF highlighted the significant role of cooperative sugar mills in India's sugar industry, contributing to sugar exports. He called for greater focus on value-added products for global competitiveness.

Dr. S. K. Tehedur Rahaman, Director FPO Cell, NCDC, provided insights on the formation and support for Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), emphasizing the importance of credit access, capacity building, and market linkages for FPO success.

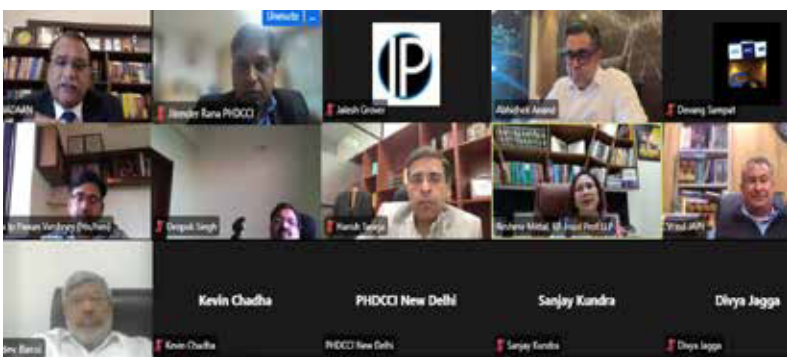
Mr. Sandeep Saha, Manager, APEDA, focused on the challenges and opportunities in exporting fresh fruits and vegetables, including perishable goods, and stressed the importance of proper infrastructure and certification for export success.

Mr. Jyoti Swaroop, Director, Unati Agri Allied and Mkt. Multistate Cooperative Society Ltd., shared Unati Cooperative's vision for the future, focusing on empowering women through the "Unati Sister Model" and creating decentralized production systems.

Dr. Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General of PHDCCI, concluded the event with a vote-of-thanks, expressing gratitude to the speakers and participants for their valuable insights and emphasizing the need for continued cooperation between industry and cooperatives.

RECENT AMENDMENTS TO CIRP AND LIQUIDATION REGULATIONS

The NCLT & IBC Committee of PHDCCI organized a virtual round table on "Recent Amendments to CIRP and Liquidation Regulations" on March 21, 2025. The session, was led by Mr. GP Madaan, Chair, NCLT & IBC Committee, PHDCCI. Participants discussed the IBBI discussion paper on 'Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons'.





INTERACTION WITH A DELEGATION FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC

An interactive session & B2B Meetings with a delegation from the Czech Republic, focusing on Water & Waste Management was held on March 5, 2025 at the Embassy of the Czech Republic.

Mr. Niraj, Director - International Affairs Division, PHDCCI provided an overview of PHDCCI's activities to the delegates, with a special focus on international engagements.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI in his address highlighted India's commitment to multilateral diplomacy in strengthening international partnerships, particularly with the Czech Republic. He also underscored PHDCCI's role in fostering business linkages, promoting bilateral trade, and creating opportunities for Indian and Czech enterprises.

Mr. David Surý, Director General for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic led the delegation and discussed how India and the Czech Republic share strong trade relations. He highlighted the major sectors of collaboration between the two countries, with India primarily exporting broadcasting equipment, pharmaceuticals, and aluminum, while the Czech Republic exports motor vehicle parts, liquid pumps, and machinery.

H.E. Ms. Eliška Segovia, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to India highlighted the strong ties between the two nations and also emphasized the importance of cultural exchange, innovation, and technological cooperation in strengthening bilateral relations. Furthermore, she expressed optimism about future joint ventures in key sectors such as manufacturing, education, and sustainable development, fostering a deeper and more dynamic partnership between the two countries.

Ms. Pavla Hosnedlová & Ms. Martina Foytlová both from the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic delivered a comprehensive presentation highlighting the country's strong commitment to environmental sustainability, climate action and green innovation.

Representatives from TGM Water Research Institute, EKO – KOM, Elkoplast, and Bonno – Filbec Czech companies showcased expertise in environmental sustainability, waste management, and water conservation. TGM Water Research Institute discussed advanced water management and pollution control, while EKO – KOM highlighted recycling and circular economy models. Elkoplast introduced efficient waste management solutions, and Bonno – Filbec presented air filtration technologies.

Mr. Sunil Duggal, Head Of International Business, KENT RO System Private Limited discussed on the increasing demand for advanced filtration technologies such as RO, UV, and smart systems due to rising water quality concerns. He explored potential collaborations with Czech companies to strengthen India's water purification infrastructure and drive technological advancements in the sector.

Ms. Laura Vlachová, First Secretary, Embassy of the Czech Republic moderated the networking session.

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NAVIGATING EQUITY MARKETS & EMERGING THEMES

The Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI organized a conference on 'Navigating Equity Markets & Emerging Themes' on March 18, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Mr. B K Sabharwal, Chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI in his opening remarks said that understanding the nuances of equity markets requires both a forward-looking perspective and a deep appreciation of historical patterns. He said that equity markets have undergone significant swings in the past also but have rebound to give decent returns to the investors.

Mr. Gurmeet Chadha, Co-chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI in his welcome address pointed out that based on historical data, Indian Stock Markets have not shown a downward trend lasting beyond 4-5 months and eventually bounce back to attain highs. The markets recover with even greater intensity as it declines, setting the stage for the next industrial revolution. He said that markets do get impacted by developments in the domestic economy including corporate tax



cuts; RBI infusing liquidity through rate cuts; increase in advance tax collection, among others. Global factors including China rolling out DeepSeek; performance of the US stock markets; Germany undertaking defence expenditure, among others also have an impact on the Stock Market sentiments leading to swings.

Mr. Aashish P Somaiyaa, Chief Executive Officer, WhiteOak Capital Asset Management Ltd. in his keynote address said that the markets have cyclical process like a pendulum. The deeper it falls, the higher it will eventually rebound. Its behaviour is largely driven by investor perceptions and greatest opportunities arise when the market is undervalued, offering a fair value. He said that visualisation of markets in the correct perspective is important to understand the market behaviour. EPS is an indicator of the performance of any company and should be viewed to gauge the performance of any company. Any fall in the markets and investors losing wealth does not imply that the company has stopped growing. He said that all past corrections look like missed opportunities while the present is perceived as a threat.

Mr. Ankur Gupta, Co-chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, PHDCCI proposed the vote-of-thanks to the guests.

Mr. Mohit Luthra, ASG, PHDCCI moderated the session and expressed gratitude towards the speakers.



B2B MEETINGS WITH BUSINESS DELEGATION FROM VIETNAM

The International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division of PHDCCI organized an interactive session & B2B Meetings with a Business Delegation from Vietnam in collaboration with the Embassy of Vietnam, New Delhi and Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam on March 26, 2025 at New Delhi.

Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, welcomed the delegation and provided an overview of PHDCCI's activities, with a special focus on international engagements. He spoke on PHDCCI's wide-ranging efforts, emphasizing its pivotal role in supporting business growth, fostering innovation, and promoting trade relations both within India and globally.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, during his special address stressed on India's commitment to multilateral diplomacy in strengthening international partnerships, particularly with Vietnam, a key strategic partner in Southeast Asia. He emphasized on the growing economic cooperation between India and Vietnam, focusing on trade, investment, technology, and emerging sectors, such as renewable energy, digital economy, and infrastructure. He also underscored PHDCCI's role in fostering business linkages, promoting bilateral trade, and creating opportunities for Indian and Vietnamese enterprises.

Mr. Le Hong Minh, Director of Investment Promotion Center for Industry and Trade (Investprocen) in his special address stressed on the growing economic and trade relations between India and Vietnam, emphasizing their collaboration in key sectors, including food and agriculture. He noted that India exports pharmaceuticals, machinery, iron and steel, and a wide range of agricultural products such as spices, tea, coffee, and seafood to Vietnam, while Vietnam supplies India with electronics, textiles, cashew nuts, coffee, and processed foods. He focused on the increasing cooperation in the food and agriculture sector, highlighting Vietnam's demand for Indian grains, pulses, dairy, and spices, while Vietnam's aquaculture and processed food industry offer opportunities for Indian businesses. He also emphasized the need for modern farming techniques, food processing, and cold chain logistics to enhance trade efficiency.

Mr. Bui Trung Thuong, Trade Counsellor, Trade Office, Embassy of Vietnam, New Delhi highlighted the strong ties between India and Vietnam, anticipating significant rise in trade and tourism that would strengthen strategic partnerships and economic collaboration. He emphasized the importance of cultural exchange, innovation, and technological cooperation in deepening bilateral relations. Furthermore, he expressed optimism about future joint ventures in key sectors such as agriculture, food processing, manufacturing, education, and sustainable development, fostering a more dynamic and long-term partnership between the two nations.

The session was followed by B2B Meetings between 27 Vietnamese Companies and 70 Indian Companies representing Food and Beverages, Manufacturing (PU Foam, Mechanical Products, Aluminum, Freezers, Refrigerators, Air Coolers, etc.) and Logistics sector providing further opportunities for participants to connect and explore potential collaborations.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENT GOAL- 4

In a concerted effort to drive impactful change in the education sector, PHDCCI organized a Conclave on SDG 4 on March 24, 2024 at PHD House, New Delhi, bringing together distinguished experts, policymakers, and stakeholders. Focused on Collaborating for Quality Education: Innovations, Partnerships & Impact, the Conclave provided a dynamic platform for discussions on the role of multi-sector partnerships in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4).

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI highlighted the indispensable role of NGOs in driving innovation and creating a lasting impact in the education sector. He emphasized that NGOs, with their grassroots connections and deep community engagement are well-positioned to address the challenges in the education sector and deliver meaningful changes.

Prof. (Dr.) Seema Sharma, Professor (Economics), Dept. of Management Studies, IIT Delhi, underscored the urgency of improving India's SDG rankings, where the country currently stands at 109th position among 166 nations. She stressed that education is the foundation of all other SDGs, shaping societal and environmental awareness. She advocated for a tripartite collaboration model involving NGOs, the corporate sector, and the government, leveraging corporate social responsibility funding for impactful educational initiatives.

Ms. Anuradha Goel, Chairperson, PHD Family Welfare Foundation (PHDFWF), reiterated the importance of SDG 4 in unlocking human potential and fostering a sustainable and just society. With India's demographic advantage of a youthful population, she emphasized the need for comprehensive improvements in health, education, and skill development. She shared PHDFWF's successful track record in community development, skill training, and family welfare initiatives over the past 35 years, reaffirming their commitment to advancing education and development at the grassroots level.

Prof. Sridhar Srivastava, Joint Director, NCERT emphasized the importance of collaboration among institutions and stakeholders to ensure that every child receives a holistic education. He pointed out that parents must be recognized as key stakeholders in the education ecosystem, as their awareness and involvement can significantly impact students' learning experiences and outcomes.

Mr. Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, Indian Institute of Public Administration provided a historical perspective on India's deep-rooted educational legacy, citing ancient institutions like Nalanda and Takshila. He emphasized the urgent need for continuous teacher training programs to maintain quality education in the evolving digital era.

The conclave requested stakeholders to collaborate more effectively, leverage available resources, and adopt innovative approaches to ensure quality education for all. The discussions reinforced that achieving SDG 4 is pivotal in realizing India's broader developmental aspirations and global commitments. The conclave was supported by Pustak Mahal, further strengthening the commitment towards enhancing educational opportunities and resources.

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PRACTICAL INSIGHTS ON GST & CUSTOMS LITIGATION

The Indirect Taxes Committee of PHDCCI organized a seminar on "Practical Insights on GST & Customs Litigation" on March 24, 2025 at New Delhi.

Mr. Pramod Kumar Rai, Chair, Indirect Tax Committee, PHDCCI in his theme presentation highlighted numerous issues relating to omnipresent officer of the customs at the port and officers of customs appointed under Customs Act 1962. He explained Section 2 (33), Section 11A and Section 11H. He also elaborated on Section 46, related to entry of goods on importation and Section 50 related to entry of goods on exportation. He described Section 2 (39), which is smuggling in relation to goods means any act or omission which will render such goods liable to confiscation under Section 111 or Section 113.

Ms. Shivam Mehtra, Director, Lakshmi Kumaran & Sridharan delivered a presentation on relief by judicial forums in matters of investigation/ enquiry, search, seizures and summons. He described how to handle GST investigations, adjudication process, self-assessment, assessment, audit and investigation, determination of tax liability, pre-show cause notice, order and appeal, etc. Further he spoke on the role of taxpayers and CAs and the power of tax officers.

Mr. Tushar Aggarwal, Co-Founder, Tattvam Advisor in his presentation spoke about application of input service distributon. He also narrated the concept of ISD and Cross Charges, application of ISD and cross charges, Manner of distribution of ITC in ISD mechanism, Challenges in implementation of ISD mechanism and its way forward.

Mr. Yogesh Gaba, Managing Partner, GABA & Co., gave an overview about recent judgements on input tax credit. He explained the turnover differences in GSTR-9, GSTR-1, GSTR-9C and GSTR-3B. Under article 265, no tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law. Section 9 (1) of CGST Act stated that a tax called central goods and service tax on all inter-state supplies of goods and services shall be levied. He further described Section 75 of CGST Act. And ITC revsersal in case of exempt services.

Ms. Neha Jain, Partner, Dhruva Advisors presented issues on customs HSN, classification, FTA benefits and its valuation. Various contents of the subject matters such as objectives of classification, tariff determination, rate of duty, eligibility/ validity of exemption, benefits under PTA/FTA and eligibility for benefits under FTP were explained by Ms. Jain.

Mr. Ajeet Kumar, IRS, Commissioner, CGST, the Guest of Honour of the seminar, gave a practical example about the law and working system of the GST Department and how the Department can support the taxpayer to mitigate their assessment.

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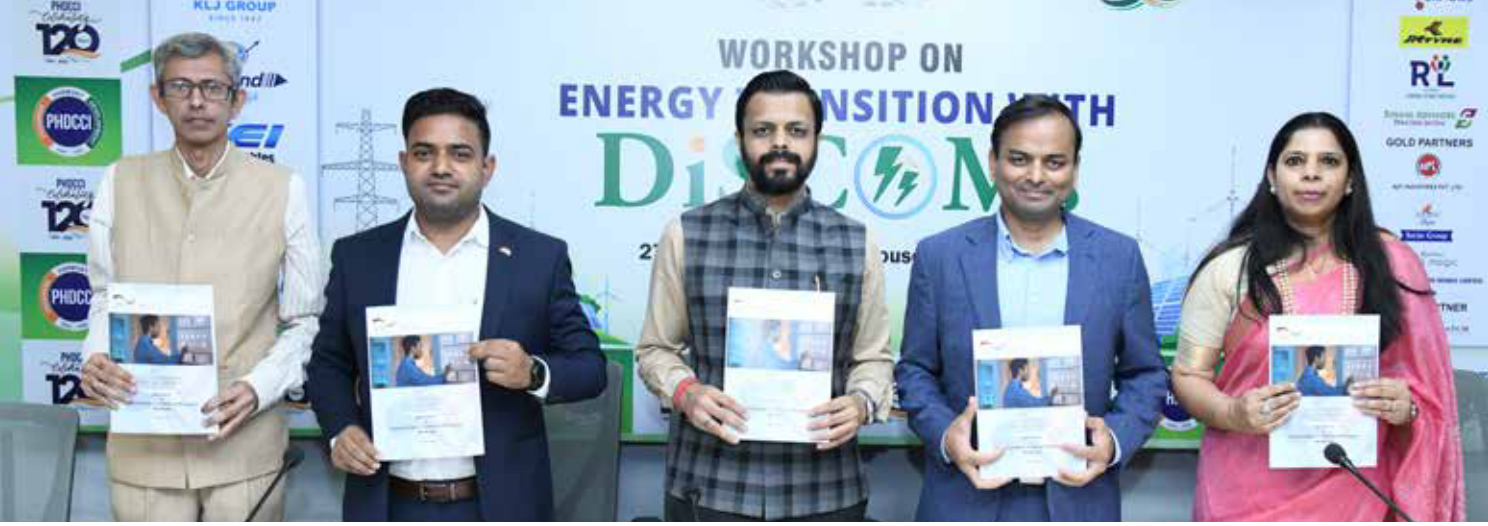
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ENERGY TRANSITION WITH DISCOMS

The Power Committee PHDCCI with GIZ as the Knowledge Partner organized a workshop on 'Energy Transition with DISCOMs' on March 27, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi.



Chief Guest, Mr. Abhishek Ranjan, CEO, BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd., in his address stated that DISCOMs are the link between grid and customers and have the most important role to play in sustainability in the power sector. He spoke about the Energy Trilemma – Energy Security-Energy Equity and Energy Sustainability with affordability. He gave a brief about BRPL's initiatives in promotion of RE and informed that they have now started installing energy storage projects in Delhi, which are essential for creating sustainable DISCOMs and are signing Green PPAs as also adding distributed RE. As a next step, he suggested District Cooling and Cooling-as-a-Service in new colonies to decongest the grid. He termed Peer-to-Peer power trading as a game changer and called for creating an energy trading system (UEI) on the lines of UPI to create equitable and sustainable power distribution in India.

Mr. Salil Gupta, Chair, Power Committee, PHDCCI, stated that despite significant reforms over the past decades, many DISCOMs continue to struggle with financial viability, operational inefficiencies, and the complex task of balancing social obligations with commercial sustainability. He announced that PHDCCI and GIZ will work together for the promotion of RE and smooth energy transition.

Mr. P R Kumar, Co-chair, Power Committee, PHDCCI & MD & CEO, Noida Power Company Ltd. said that DISCOMs should take a lead in RPO compliance for which grid infra needs to be modernised. DISCOMs have to act as an enabler for energy transition and collaboration between DISCOMs, industry, regulators and policy makers is required for creating financially strong and sustainable DISCOMs in India.

Mr. Kuldeep Sharma, Head – Energy Transition with DISCOMs, GIZ INDIA, gave an overview about the initiatives of GIZ in transforming DISOCMs in India. He informed that GIZ has worked with 13 states and 26 DISCOMs in India and has been supporting the decarbonisation journey in India in the transport and energy sector. He conveyed that India can only achieve net zero by 2070 goal if the DISCOMs are sustainable.

A handbook on Implementation of Demand Response Measures was also released at the workshop.

Speakers at the technical sessions included Mr. Kulbhushan Kumar, Partner, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP; Mr. Aniket Borse, Senior Consultant – Technology & Transformation, Deloitte India; Mr. Nirmal Dubey, Associate Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP; Mr. Anil Thomas, Principal Consultant, DNV; Mr. Anket Kapoor, CEO, Solarfix; Mr. Rishabh Dev Bajaj, Founder and CEO, Volt Energy; Mr. Sunil Bhatnagar, National President - Zero Emissions, International Federation of Electric Vehicles Association; Ms. Shubra Thakur, Country Director, Long Duration Energy Storage Council and Mr. Ajeet Singh, Associate Fellow, TERI.

Ms. Mili Dubey, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI moderated the inaugural session, while Mr. Punit Chaudhry, Secretary, PHDCCI, moderated the technical sessions.

GIZ was the Knowledge Partner, while TERI was the Supporting Partner for the workshop.



MAHARASHTRA'S GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CONCLAVE 2025

PHDCCI's Infrastructure and Road Development Committee, in collaboration with the Hydrocarbons Committee, PHDCCI Maharashtra State Chapter, and PHDCCI Railways Committee organized the Maharashtra Green Infrastructure Conclave 2025 on March 27, 2025, at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai. The conclave, themed "Viksit Bharat 2047 – Maharashtra's Green Yatra to USD 1 Trillion GSDP by 2028," served as a strategic platform to address key challenges and opportunities in Maharashtra's infrastructure sector.

The discussions emphasized the pivotal role of innovation in driving sustainable development, harnessing green and futuristic technologies to optimize resource allocation, enhance efficiency, and minimize environmental impact, and integrating sustainable transportation solutions to transform Maharashtra's logistics and connectivity ecosystem. The collective vision is to position Maharashtra as the first state in India to achieve the milestone of a USD 1 trillion economy by 2028.

Chief Guest, Mr. Pramod L. Bongirwar, Former Principal Secretary, PWD, Government of Maharashtra, underscored the importance of adopting innovative and futuristic technologies in infrastructure development.





He highlighted that sustainable construction practices, as seen in landmark projects, like the Maharashtra Mahasamriddhi Marg and Mumbai-Pune Expressway have significantly reduced project costs while minimizing environmental and societal impact.

Mr. Sudhir Hoshing, Chair, PHDCCI Infrastructure and Road Development Committee, emphasized the urgent need to tackle pressing environmental challenges, including rising temperatures, urban floods, depleting groundwater, and deteriorating air quality. He asserted that smart, sustainable solutions integrating nature with modern. The inaugural session was followed by the plenary session on the themes: Sustainable and Futuristic Technologies for Infrastructure Development; De-carbonization and Sustainable Urban Infrastructure; Sustainable Mobility & Multimodal Connectivity: Pioneering Green Infrastructure in Railways; Aviation & Logistics and Harnessing Growth through Maritime Infrastructure.

The conclave was moderated by Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI. This high-impact event reaffirmed Maharashtra's commitment to sustainable infrastructure, positioning the state as a frontrunner in India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047.



ADVANCING THE DRONE ECOSYSTEM TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT

PHDCCI Civil Aviation Committee organized a two day Bharat Drone Manthan 2.0, March 11-12, 2025 at PHD House. The Expo was themed 'Advancing The Drone Ecosystem Towards Viksit Bharat' & aimed at fostering Innovation, Indigenization, Investment & Industry Integration.

Mr. Shekhar Dutt, Member IIPA & Former Governor, Chhattisgarh ; Former Dy NSA & Secretary NSCS ; Former & Defence Secretary graced the inaugural session along with Mr. Piyush Srivastava, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India & Major General C. S. Mann, AVSM, VSM, Additional Director General, Army Design Bureau (ADB). Dr. Manish Pande , Director & Head of Project Analysis and Documentation Division, (PAD Division)-Quality Council of India; Mr. Michael Jain, Co-Chair, PHDCCI; Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & SG,PHDCCI & Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI.





Mr. Shekhar Dutt shared that at present, drones weighing less than 250 grams do not need permits or approval. He said we should evaluate whether this can be regulated, as such drones can be misused. Regulations are needed to prevent the exploitation of drones' offensive capabilities. He further said that drones have multiple uses and suggested using them for tasks such as estimating traffic jams and diverting traffic, cleaning solar modules, and monitoring the atmosphere. Mr. Dutt added that Drones have significant capabilities in defence, aerial monitoring, early warning mechanisms, and operations & while designing drones, one must consider the point of view of the user. This will help in designing drones accordingly and identifying areas that require changes and upgrades he opined.

Mr. Piyush Srivastava, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry of Civil Aviation, while complimenting PHDCCI for organizing the second edition of the Drone Manthan



shared that the drone industry is poised for a quantum leap and has an immense revenue potential. Further discussing on the 'Drone Didi' initiative, he emphasized how it empowers women and optimizes the utilization of fertilizers and pesticides. Mr. Srivastava also spoke about the innovative use of drones in the floods of Andhra Pradesh, land mapping by the Panchayati Raj Ministry, and highway surveys. Mr. Srivastava also appreciated the government's role as a market maker and informed that the private sector demand is not picking up at the same pace, despite the private sector being the biggest contributor to GDP. He further urged that the sector must recognize its potential. He assured the industry that the Government is focusing on the growth of this sector & rules for drone exports have been relaxed to promote indigenization for development and security requirements. Mr. Srivastava further requested everyone to ensure that regulations are not flouted and the industry works towards the indigenization of this sector.







"The military goal is to have a drone for every soldier and establish drone incubation hubs at all military stations," said, Major General C. S. Mann, AVSM, VSM, Additional Director General, Army Design Bureau. He said one must consider Counter-strength measures for Drones to contribute towards Viksit Bharat. Citing the example of the recent Ukraine-Russia conflict, drones became a game changer in warfare tactics due to their capability, flexibility, and versatility in operations. He opined that tanks have their own relevance, but the capability of drones is significant, and we need to use them for target strikes and precision attacks.

Major General C. S. Mann while talking about the challenges being faced in this arena, shared that the major challenge for the Indian Army is high-altitude areas, where operational and terrain conditions are very different & the batteries dry out very fast due to the peculiarities of the Himalayas and the varied atmosphere, with the machine's performance going down by 50%. He believed that the







industry will gradually be able to meet this requirement and improve drone performance in battlefields as drone stability is crucial in these challenging situations. Speaking on how drones can contribute towards the Viksit Bharat vision, he emphasised that we need to think beyond and consider counter-strength measures, for Viksit Bharat. And this vision will only be possible with Surakshit Bharat. He further emphasized on indigenization and national security issue to avoid vulnerabilities and evolve a framework that can mitigate security risks, as the capability exists, but the problem is awareness. He advised industry bodies like PHDCCI to map the entire industry's capabilities and create awareness through such events, while also considering an industry consortium approach.

Dr Manish Pande, Director & Head of Project Analysis and Documentation Division (PAD Division)-Quality Council of India, discussed on the conformity assessment framework to ensure due diligence in quality certification. He informed, the criteria include staking a lot of inputs from a multi-stakeholder committee and further briefed on the cybersecurity aspect, mentioning that they are in discussion with DGCA to look into it.

Mr. Michael Jain, Co-chair, PHDCCI presentedthe vote of thanks and discussed that immense prowess of drone for India is huge and the opportunities are immense, indigenization is a must and urged everyone to think large.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI, while discussing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, emphasized that technology is a key driver in realizing this vision and accelerating growth. He highlighted that India currently has around 65 million MSMEs and the third-largest startup ecosystem, with 110 unicorns—demonstrating immense entrepreneurial potential. He further noted that drones present new opportunities for innovation and development. He further discussed how drones can play a role in mapping afforestation, precision agriculture, and deforestation, while also have drone corridors in the logistics sector, serving the last mile & deliver critical medicines. The country is full of talented people, and this technology can play an important role and truly be one of our strengths, concluded Dr. Mehta.

Day 2 of the Bharat Drone Manthan was graced by Mr. Maneesh Kumar, Jt. DG , DGCA, Directorate General of Civil Aviation as the Guest of Honour ; Dr Manish Pande , Director & Head of Project Analysis and Documentation, Division (PAD Division)- Quality Council of India ; Mr. Smit Shah, President, DFI ; Mr. Brijesh Kumar Awasthi, JS, Min Of Agriculture & Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI. The session saw presentations from various partners & exhibitors. Wg Cdr Satyam Kushwaha (Retd), Founder & Director, Chakra Dialogues Foundation, the knowledge partner shared the objective & future focus of the foundation in this space. The Exhibitors & Partners were also felicitated by the Guest of Honour.

The two-day panel discussions saw the presence of various Industry stalwarts from the Armed Forces & Private Industry addressing the challenges & sharing their recommendations for the growth of this industry.

The expo also saw showcasing of the latest drones; drone technologies & the allied sector innovations & was visited by more than 400 people.



EVOLUTION OF CARBON CREDITS FOR MSMES - POST COP 29

PHDCCI organized a seminar on 'Evolution of Carbon Credits for MSMEs – Post COP 29' on March 5, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi for understanding Carbon Credits for MSMEs post COP 29.



Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI in his introductory address said that the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises can generate additional revenue from carbon credits while reducing their carbon footprint.

Dr J P Gupta, Chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI said that reducing emissions helps MSMEs align with global sustainability goals and corporate social responsibility initiatives. Also carbon credits are important for MSMEs because they offer financial, environmental, and strategic benefits.

Mr. Vinamra Mishra, Director (GA&TP), Ministry of MSME said that promoting carbon credits in India requires collaboration among multiple stakeholders, including the government, private sector, financial institutions, and civil society.

Dr. Anjali Jain, Consultant Grade-2, NITI Aayog said that MSMEs can sell excess carbon credits to large corporations and this will create an extra income stream while promoting sustainability. NITI Aayog has undertaken several initiatives to advance carbon credit mechanisms and support the country's transition to a low-carbon economy.

Dr R K Malhotra, President, Hydrogen Association of India said that India needs more Clean Energy and it is actively integrating carbon credit mechanisms with its green hydrogen initiatives to promote a low-carbon economy.

Mr. Rakesh Sarin, Co-Founder & Director, U Turn Carbon said that MSMEs should have a sustainable plan and should measure their ecological footprint.

Mr. Saurabh Diddi, Director, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, (BEE) Ministry of Power highlighted that BEE is actively involved in capacity building and engaging with stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of carbon markets.

Ms. Sunita Mantri, CMD, Enkay Enviro Services Private Limited said that many MSMEs lack comprehensive knowledge about carbon credit mechanisms and their benefits, leading to hesitation in participation. Also limited access to finance hampers the ability of MSMEs to invest in the necessary technologies for generating carbon credits.

Mr Umesh Sahdev, Co-chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI highlighted that process of verifying and certifying carbon credits can be intricate and resource-intensive, posing a challenge for MSMEs with constrained capacities.

There was a technical session which was chaired by Mr. Umesh Sahdev, Co-chair, Environment & Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI. Speakers included Mr Sagar Midha, Manager - Inside Sales, Logic Ladder, Mr Surendran D, Chief Commercial Officer, Maxbyte Technologies, Mr Archit Batra, Head - New Business Initiatives, Fair Climate Fund, Dr. Ajay Jha, CEO, Enkay Enviro Services Private Limited and Mr Mahendra Rustagi, Co-chair, Environment and Climate Change Committee, PHDCCI.



BUSINESS DELEGATION TO MAURITIUS

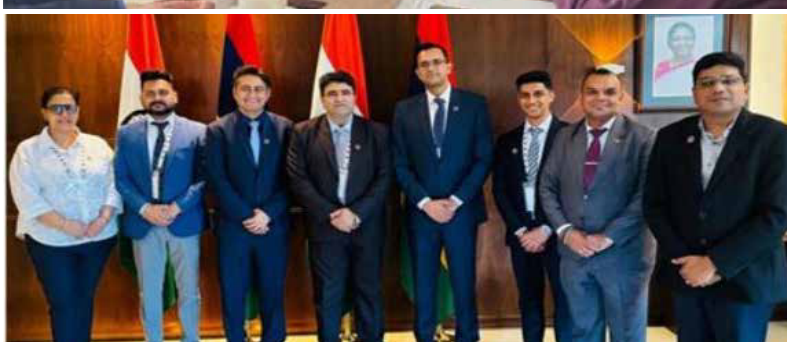
PHDCCI, International Affairs Division mounted a High Level delegation to Mauritius, March 23-26, 2025 to strengthen bilateral trade and economic ties with Mauritius, with a focus on the healthcare sector.

India and Mauritius share a long-standing and deep-rooted historical relationship. Their robust healthcare partnership was further reinforced in 2025 through an Enhanced Strategic Partnership at an opportune time following Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's state visit, March 11-12, 2025 to Mauritius.

The delegation met H.E. Mr. Anil Kumar Bachoo, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Government of Mauritius, Port Louis on March 24, 2025. He appreciated PHDCCI's enhanced cooperation in maritime security, trade, digital health and traditional medicine, AI, and cultural connectivity, highlighting the shared vision for sustainable growth and mutual prosperity.

The delegation met Mr. Sawan Singh Purmessur, Acting Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Health and Wellness on March 24, 2025, Port Louis, Mauritius. He discussed the expanding opportunities for collaboration between India and Mauritius in the healthcare sector.





The delegation met Mr. Vimarsh Aryan, Deputy High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, at the High Commission of India, Mauritius.The discussions focused on the growing potential in healthcare, medical tourism, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology.

Dr Drishty Singh Ramdenee, Secretary-General, Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry highlighted the strengthened partnership in healthcare and wellness sectors, underscoring the potential for collaborative initiatives and investment opportunities between the two nations.

At the luncheon meeting and B2B hosted by the Hindu Business Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Professionals (HBCCIP), Mr. Shardanand Beeharry, President, HBCCIP, highlighted the expanding opportunities in Mauritius' healthcare and wellness sectors.











At the interactive session hosted by Indian Business Council (IBC), on March 26, 2025, Dr. Suresh Nanda, President, IBC, highlighted the vast potential for Indian healthcare businesses in Mauritius, emphasizing telemedicine, pharmaceutical manufacturing, and holistic wellness solutions.

The delegation also attended a session with the Economic Development Board (EDB), Mauritius. Mr. Sanjay Bhunjun, Chairman, EDB, encouraged Indian businesses to invest in Mauritius' healthcare sector, focusing on pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and medical research.

The delegation visited Victoria General Hospital, Port Louis on March 25, 2025, wherein Mr. Dalip Chopra, Leader of the Delegation and Co-chair, International Affairs Committee for Africa, PHDCCI, emphasized on international healthcare collaboration. The hospital representatives showcased their expertise in specialized treatments, medical research, and patient care, highlighting the potential for joint initiatives to enhance healthcare services in both countries.

The delegation also met representatives of New Cancer Hospital, Port Louis, where Mr. Dalip Chopra emphasized India's advancements in oncology and digital health solutions.

The PHDCCI Business Delegation successfully reinforced India-Mauritius economic and healthcare collaborations, fostering partnerships in telemedicine, pharmaceuticals, and medical research. This visit reaffirmed India's commitment to Mauritius' healthcare sector and strengthened its outreach into Africa. As both nations continue to explore synergies, this partnership is set to contribute significantly to regional healthcare transformation and economic growth.



GI MAHOTSAV: PROMOTING INDIA'S HERITAGE THROUGH GI PRODUCTS

PHDCCI organized a three-day GI Mahotsav: Promoting India's Heritage through GI Products an initiative by the Ministry of MSME, March 21-23 2025 at Dilli Haat, New Delhi. The event featured products from 15 states, with diversified range of GI-certified products, including Bengal Kantha, Kashmir's Pashmina, Maheshwari Sarees, Chamba Rumal, Kangra Painting, Madhubani Painting, Black Pottery, Mysore Soap and Agarbathi, Kannauj Perfumes and many other traditional artisan products from different regions.

This GI Mahotsav marked a significant milestone in promoting GI Products of our country's rich cultural heritage and economic potential. Through collaborative efforts, the event brought together artisans, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders to showcase the diverse range of Geographical Indication (GI) products, highlighting their unique qualities and traditional craftsmanship.

Day 1: On this occasion, a conference of stakeholders including senior officials from the Government participated and addressed the exhibitors.





Dr Rashmi Singh, Principal Resident Commissioner, J&K in her inaugural address mentioned that she herself is a great proponent of GI products and complimented PHDCCI & the Ministry of MSME, for organizing this GI Mahotsav which has provided an excellent opportunity to the GI product manufacturers from all over the country to showcase and market their products.

She pointed out that this sector is relatively new, and not many people are aware of GI products. And thus it is crucial to promote these schemes through conferences to create awareness.



Prof. (Dr) Unnat P. Pandit, Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks (CGPDTM), RoC, GI & SICLDR, DPIIT, MoC&I in his address informed that as a GI registrar, it is truly a privilege to witness the exhibition of diversified GI products and interact with th artisans. He discussed that it has been 20 years since the GI Act was enacted, and so far, 650 GI products have been registered. He further highlighted that efforts are being made to bring GI products into every household through the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative and the GeM portal.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General, PHDCCI, while welcoming the dignitaries mentioned that India is proud of its incredible variety of GI-tagged products across multiple sectors. These include traditional textiles, handicrafts, agricultural goods, and food products, each deeply tied to the culture and heritage of their regions.

Mr Vinod Karwa, Chair, MSME Committee PHDCCI, appreciated the Ministry of MSME giving PHDCCI this opportunity to host the 3-day GI Mahotsav, bringing together the artisans and manufacturers of GI products from across the country.

Mr D P Goel, Co-chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI reiterated the importance of collaborative efforts in harnessing the full potential of GI products to drive inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Dr H P Kumar, Advisor, PHDCCI and Former CMD, NSIC highlighted the various government schemes and policies that have been initiated to promote new business enterprises and facilitate MSMEs to grow and build sustainable businesses.

Dr R K Bharti, Joint Director, HOO, MSME-DFO, Okhla, New Delhi, Ministry of MSME highlighted the importance of intellectual property rights and GIs which bring together cultural heritage and traditional art from different regions. He mentioned that the Ministry of MSME is providing various support services for the promotion of the GI product and this GI Mahotsav is a part of the Ministry's initiative.

Dr S S Acharya, CMD, NSIC offered to extend NSICs support services to GI participating units for their technology development and building competitive strength in the global market.

Day 2: The day-2 featured a technical Session on 'Legal aspects of GIs, Enforcement of GI' and also covered on-boarding of GI products on GeM platform. Mr. Santanu Mitra, Senior Economic Adviser, Ministry of Corporate Affairs graced the occasion.

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

address highlighted the importance of GIs and its role in boosting local economies, and ensuring consumers can make informed choices about authentic goods.

Dr. H.P. Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC and Advisor, PHDCCI chaired the technical session and mentioned that besides the objective of showcasing GI products for marketing, promotion, sales and marketing, this session would help participating GI units to connect with other stakeholders like banks, GeM, IPR advisors. He also apprised about PHDCCI's Intellectual Property Rights Facilitation Centre, whereby participants can seek assistance for various IPR related queries and registration.

Mr Gaurav Gogia from United and United IPR in his address, touched upon the various types of IPRs and the procedure for registration of GI and covered ways to enforce GI.

Mr Tushar Agarwal, from GeM in his address highlighted the importance of on-boarding products on GeM platform for public procurement. He also shared the pre-requisite for registration and explained steps to register in detail.

Day 3: Mr Vinamra Mishra, Director, Ministry of MSME graced the valedictory session, wherein he appreciated the 16 states that participated and exhibited 70 products from all over India. He encouraged the GI artisans to focus on their quality and price to penetrate in the International markets and assured the support of the Ministry of MSME. Further, he apprised that the Ministry will soon organize International GI programmes in India with the support of leading Industry Associations like PHDCCI and conduct Reverse Buyer and Seller Meets.

Dr Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI in his introductory address thanked the Ministry of MSME for their unwavering support in organizing the GI Mahotsav. He mentioned that India should have GI products in each district so that filing of GI products increase. He mentioned that PHDCCI IPFC helps in filing and registration of IP applications and asked MSME participants to take maximum benefit of the MSME Innovative Scheme.

Mr Vinod Karwa, Chair, MSME Committee, PHDCCI in his address highlighted the importance of GI tagged products and maintaining rich cultural heritage. He further informed that it is important to register more GI products to meet the target of registering 10,000 GI tagged products.

Mr Ashutosh Makup, Director, National Productivity Council in his address apprised the participants that skills are important to maintain the quality of traditional crafts. He mentioned that maintaining quality and keeping competitive pricing of products will help these crafts to scale up in the international markets.

The GI Mahotsav concluded with an exhibition, discussions, cultural performances, and networking opportunities.

CBIC issues instructions for processing applications for GST registration

Several grievances were received by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, regarding difficulties being faced by applicants during the GST registration process, mainly on account of queries raised by officers on the grounds of seeking additional documents. To resolve these grievances and to smoothen GST registration process, CBIC has issued instructions on April 17, 2025 (Instruction No. 03/2025-GST) to the officers for processing GST registration applications. Officers have been instructed to strictly adhere to the prescribed list of documents provided in registration application form. Requisite documents in specific cases to be uploaded with registration application form have also been delineated in the instructions. Officers have been directed not to issue notices based on presumptive grounds, minor discrepancies, or for additional documents that are not essential for processing applications. Officers have been also directed to seek approval of the concerned Deputy/Assistant Commissioner in cases where document apart from the listed documents is required to be sought. This will further facilitate in the process of getting GST registration, ease compliance burden, and promote ease of doing business.Follow the following links for detailed instructions:

HTTPS://TAXINFORMATION.CBIC.GOV.IN/VIEW-PDF/1000532/ENG/INSTRUCTIONS

PHDCCI

PHDCCI
CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY



- Water Audit
- Impact Assessment of CSR Projects
- Environment Social Governance (ESG)
- Electrical and Fire Safety Risk Assessments and Management
- Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)
- Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report/auditing (BRSR)
- GHG Inventory Preparation and Verification
- Occupational Health and Hygiene

For More Information Contact:

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Centre for Sustainability
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Mr. Mohit Kumar
Sr. Assistant Secretary
Email: mohit.kumar@phdcci.in
Mob: 9643695174

Ms. Shipra Shristy
Executive Officer
Email: shipra.shristy@phdcci.in
Mob: 7004728646



GLOBAL CONNECT WITH BHARATIYA RANG 2025

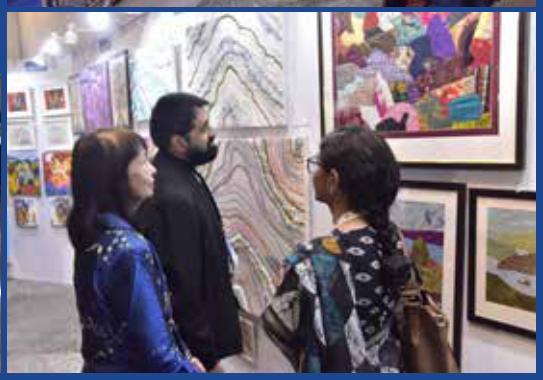
PHDCCI's (Creative Team) organized a spectacular art exhibition namely, 'Global Connect with Bharatiya Rang 2025,' that celebrated the vibrant spirit of Indian art. Held in collaboration with the 40th Ambassadors Meet at the Oval Mansion, Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Delhi, on March 7, 2025, the event brought together Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Diplomats, Government Officials, and Industry Members.

The exhibition showcased the remarkable works of 10 exceptionally talented artists from Delhi NCR, as well as fine arts students of Apeejay School International - An IB World School, Panchsheel Vihar, New Delhi, who were appreciated by PHDCCI's Leadership, former presidents, and esteemed guests. This cultural extravaganza not only highlighted India's rich artistic heritage but also demonstrated PHDCCI's commitment to promoting creative excellence.

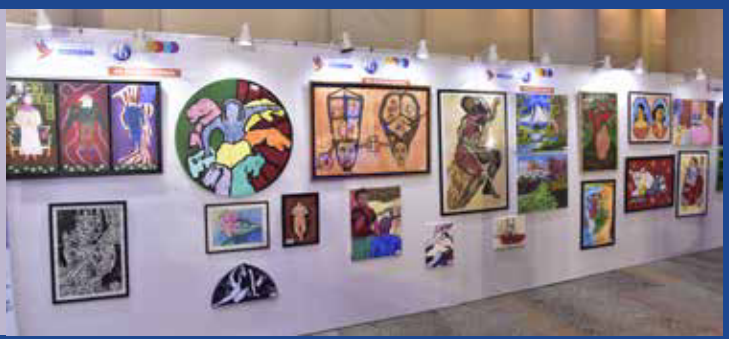
The 40th Ambassadors' Meet had participation of 125 diplomats representing 70 countries, Former Presidents of PHDCCI, senior government officials, Patron & Star Members of PHDCCI and Industry Stalwarts.

















Social Media Graffiti

Bhagirath Choudhary
@mpbhagirathbjp

आज पीएचडी चैंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री (PHD) द्वारा नई दिल्ली में आयोजित "राष्ट्रीय कृषि इनपुट कॉन्क्लेव 2025" (National Agri Input Conclave 2025) में सहभागिता की।

@phdchamber



MoS: Ministry of Agriculture Shri Bhagirath Choudhary with 25.7K followers mentioned us in a tweet

NDTV India
@ndtvindia

दिल्ली में टूरिज्म सस्टेनेबिलिटी समिट, हरित पर्यटन को अपनाना ही भारत का संकल्प

#Delhi | #Tourism | @chandn_bhandwaj

Translate post



NDTV India with 4.2M followers tagged us in a tweet

NDTV Profit
@NDTVProfitIndia

PHD Chamber of Commerce urges government to cut #gold are import duty to zero.

@Rish_Bhat reports



From ndtvprofit.com

NDTV Profit with 326.5K followers mentioned us in a tweet

Bharat Express
@Bhaarat Express

PHDCCI द्वारा GI-टैग उत्पादों की प्रदर्शनी आयोजन का किया गया सम्मेलन

#PHDCCI #GITaggedProducts #IndianHeritage #Exhibition #Handicrafts @MrigankPrabhak2 @phdchamber

Translate post



From bharatexpress.com

Bharat Express with 5.2K followers mentioned us in a tweet

Social Media Graffiti

India in Mauritius
@HCI_Portlouis

Boosting 🇮🇳-🇲🇺 healthcare ties! 🤝

@ahdchamber Business Delegation of leading Indian healthcare companies & hospitals is visiting Mauritius from 23-26 March 2025.

They met Acting High Commissioner @VinayshVyas, who highlighted healthcare opportunities in Mauritius, including advancements in e-Healthcare & 🇮🇳-🇲🇺 collaboration in the field of AYUSH.

The delegation is also engaging with @CCIMauritius, Mauritius Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Health, and other key stakeholders to explore further cooperation in the healthcare sector.

#IndiaMauritius #Healthcare #EHealthcare #Ayush

India in Mauritius with 28.9K followers mentioned us in a tweet

Investment Guru India
@InvGuruInd

Union Minister urges India Inc. to develop skills for mining critical minerals

investmentguruindia.com/newsdetail/uni...

@narendramodi #India #PrimeMinister #Industry @satishvidwayy @ahdchamber #HemantJain #InvestmentGuruIndia



Investment Guru India with 19.2K followers mentioned us in a tweet

Zee Business
@ZeeBusiness



Zee Business with 766.9K followers tagged us in a tweet

MPIDC
@MPIDC

Compliance Reduction & Deregulation in Madhya Pradesh

The Government of Madhya Pradesh organized a high-level meeting with the Government of India's Task Force on "Compliance Reduction and Deregulation" to improve the investment climate of the State. The session, chaired by Shri Show more



MP Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. with 5.1K followers mentioned us in a tweet



IP YATRA PROGRAMME ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

With the support of the Office of the Development Commissioner MSME, Ministry of MSMEs, and under the aegis of its MSMEs Committee and Chhattisgarh State Chapter, PHDCCI organized a two days, "National IP Yatra Programme,' March 12-13, 2025 on Intellectual Property Rights" at Raipur. The workshop aimed at creating a robust IP ecosystem in the state of Chhattisgarh and country at large—while encouraging MSMEs, Start-ups and other stakeholders of the Chhattisgarh State to register more IP applications and protect their innovations.

Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General, PHDCCI highlighted the importance of the IP Yatra Program and emphasized on the need for creating and registering innovations and intellectual property in the country. He stated that our country is catching up in IPR advancement by increasing the number of registrations which would help the Indian economy and Indian brands across the world. He further highlighted that India is a land of young population with tremendous talent and intellectual depth which should be harnessed for its commercial advantage.

Mr. Pradeep Tandon, Chair, Chhattisgarh State Chapter, PHDCCI



emphasized on the significance of Intellectual Property protection in today's world. He highlighted that IP rights including patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets are crucial for MSMEs, businesses, entrepreneurs, artists and researchers. He further stated that the "IP Yatra Programme" provides a platform for experts, legal professionals, industry leaders, and innovators to explore various aspects of intellectual property from legal frameworks to real-world applications.

Dr H P Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC and Advisor, PHDCCI apprised the innovators and entrepreneurs about the immense opportunities in this sector. He advised the MSMEs to file IP applications with PHDCCI Intellectual Property Facilitation Center (IPFC), free of cost. He emphasized that filing intellectual property rights with utmost confidentiality is crucial, and the Ministry of MSME provides significant support to all MSMEs.

Dr. Hulas Pathak, Head & Principal Investigator-CEO, RKVY RAFTAAR & Agri-Business Incubator, IGKV stressed on the importance of sharing knowledge, while protecting one's innovations. He pointed out that agriculture presents vast opportunities for MSMEs, Startups and innovators as it has a huge market for new products and research-based innovations. He mentioned that Indira Gandhi Agricultural University conducts extensive research in agriculture and related industries, providing numerous opportunities for innovation.

Dr Amit Dubey, Scientist, Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology, Government of Chhattisgarh said that research alone is not enough, its implementation is crucial. He noted that India has published

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

Mr. Irpate Kishor, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Raipur, Ministry of MSME shared his insights on the key schemes of the Ministry of MSME, including PMEGP, MUDRA Loan Scheme, Common Facilitation Centre, ZED Scheme, Lean Scheme and MSME Innovative Scheme. He further apprised the participants that the Government covers all expenses of MSMEs to gain international recognition, provided their products meet global standards.

The National IP Yatra Programme on Intellectual Property Rights proved to be highly beneficial for MSMEs in Chhattisgarh, equipping them with essential knowledge and tools to understand intellectual property, market trends, thus making them scale their businesses.

AWARENESS PROGRAM ON IP OUTREACH MISSION IN VIKSIT BHARAT

PHDCCI, with support of the Office of Development Commissioner), Ministry of MSMEs, and under the aegis of its Chhattisgarh State Chapter and MSMEs Committee, organized "One Day IP Awareness Programme (National IP Outreach Mission in VIKSIT BHARAT)" on March 28,, 2025 at Raipur. The workshop was graced by the presence of Dr Hulas Pathak, Principal Investigator & CEO, RKVY RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubator, IGKV and Dr Amit Dubey, Scientist, Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology, Government of Chhattisgarh.



In his welcome address, Mr. Nikkhil Agrawal, Member, Chhattisgarh State Chapter, PHDCCI highlighted the importance of intellectual property rights (IPR) in today's modern world, emphasising that in an era where knowledge and ideas drive industries, protecting intellectual property is more crucial than ever. He stated that patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets play a significant role in safeguarding innovations for businesses, entrepreneurs, artists, and researchers.

Dr Hulas Pathak, Principal Investigator & CEO, RKVY RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubator, IGKV, emphasized that while knowledge should always be shared, entrepreneurs must take charge of implementing their ideas. He pointed out that agriculture offers vast opportunities for innovation, as there is a massive market for new agricultural products. He mentioned that Indira Gandhi Agricultural University conducts extensive research on agriculture and other products, presenting numerous possibilities for innovation in this sector.

Dr Amit Dubey, Scientist at the Chhattisgarh Science & Technology Council, remarked that research alone is not enough; its implementation is equally important. He highlighted that India has presented over 400,000 research papers worldwide, the highest in the world. He drew attention to how Microsoft revolutionised the computer industry and how India is currently leading in Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications. He encouraged innovators and entrepreneurs to handle their own packaging and branding, stating that if another entity manages these aspects, they will reap the benefits instead. Also he detailed out the SCIPP Scheme of the Ministry of MSME.

The technical session was addressed by Mr. Ashish Verma, Assistant Manager, Agri Business Incubator, IGKV; Mr. Kuldeep Patel, Founder & CEO, FASAL BAZAR; Mr Davesh Patel, Founder, One CUP; Mr. Nipur Verma, Founder, Rice Bowl and Mr. Sajal Malhotra, Startup Founder, Atmeek Bharat.

Mr. Sumit Dubey, Resident Director, Chhattisgarh State Chapter, PHDCCI in his concluding remarks shared that the unwavering efforts by PHDCCI help to support the MSMEs and exporters of Chhattisgarh.



CHHATTISGARH INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPO 2025 (CITEX 2025)

In collaboration with the Ministry of MSMEs and under the aegis of its Chhattisgarh State Chapter, State Development Council, and Special Projects Division, PHDCCI organized the inaugural edition of the Chhattisgarh International Trade Expo 2025 (CITEX 2025) from March 20–23, 2025 in Raipur.

The Expo was inaugurated by Mr. Kishore Irpate, Assistant Director, MSME DFO (Raipur), Ministry of MSMEs, marking a significant milestone in strengthening the MSME and export ecosystem in Chhattisgarh.

As a flagship initiative, CITEX 2025 emerged as a uniquely focused trade platform, dedicated to empowering MSMEs and their linked export networks. The expo played a crucial role in enhancing business prospects for MSMEs, facilitating market linkages and creating synergies with large corporates as ancillary suppliers.

The expo featured impressive MSME representations across key sectors, includings handicrafts; furniture & toys; gems & jewelry; construction equipment; agro & food processing, AYUSH; education; green & alternate energy; hotel industry and adventure tourism.



With a vision to foster sustainable growth, CITEX 2025 was recognized as a transformative initiative that strengthened collaboration among stakeholders, ensuring local products and MSMEs finding the right market positioning. The expo provided a valuable opportunity for MSMEs to showcase their products to a wide spectrum of industry stakeholders and consumers, paving the way for business expansion and economic growth.

Looking ahead, CITEX will continue as an annual flagship initiative of PHDCCI, with a steadfast commitment to accelerating MSME growth and strengthening the export ecosystem in Chhattisgarh. Essentially CITEX is expected to be a single most impactful platform for Chhattisgarh's MSME community and other concerned industry stakeholders of different sizes to come forward for being part of a transformative platform.



3RD EDITION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE EXPO 2025

The third edition of Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicle Expo held from March 7-9, 2025 at Chandigarh was inaugurated by Mr. Amit Kumar, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, UT Chandigarh Administration on March 7, 2025.

During the inaugural address, Mr. Amit Kumar emphasized the significant role of electric vehicles (EVs) and solar power in addressing climate change. He further stated that Chandigarh has established itself as a "Green City" by actively embracing solar power. The adoption of solar panels by government buildings and residential sectors has significantly contributed to reducing the dependency on fossil fuels, leading to cleaner air and a healthier environment.



Dr. Rajesh Prasad, Zonal Manager, Punjab National Bank (PNB), Chandigarh, underscored the importance of energy self-sufficiency in national progress. Dr. Prasad highlighted India's leadership in solar energy and reiterated PNB's commitment to supporting green initiatives. He stated that PNB provides subsidized loans for solar projects and collaborates with solar companies at the district level to expand the initiative.

Mr. Madhusudan Vij, Chair, Chandigarh Chapter, PHDCCI, stated that almost 100 companies, including Maruti Suzuki and Mahindra, were showcasing their latest innovations in the three-day event, out of which around 60 companies were from solar energy segment and rest from Electric Vehicle and EV charging station domains.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Suvrat Khanna, Co-chair Chandigarh Chapter, PHDCCI, highlighted the transformative role of Electric Vehicles in promoting sustainable and low-carbon transportation.

The expo served as a significant platform to promote advancements in renewable energy and electric mobility, fostering collaboration and innovation in the sector.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DURING REV EXPO 2025

PHDCCI honoured Women Entrepreneurs in the field of green energy during the 3rd Edition of REV Expo on the occasion of 'International Women's Day; on March 8, 2025 at Chandigarh.

Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI, highlighted the remarkable progress made by women, not only within their families and society but also across various professional fields.

On this occasion, distinguished women entrepreneurs, including Ms. Kiranjit Kaur from J S Solartech India Pvt. Ltd., Ms. Enayat Mittal from Shriji Motors (Ampere EV), and Ms. Saakhi Puri and Ms. Asis Puri from Purisons (Kinetic EV Bikes), were honored by Mr. Naveen Seth and Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, Punjab State Chapter, OHDCCI for their exceptional contributions.

Ms. Kiranjit Kaur, JS Solartech India Pvt. Ltd. emphasized that empowerment begins with responsibility and urged women to invest in themselves.

Ms. Enayat Mittal, Shriji Motors (Ampere EV) shared her inspiring journey and expressed gratitude to PHDCCI for organizing the REV Expo.

On this occasion, JS Solartech launched its solar inverter, underscoring the role of women entrepreneurs in fostering strong networks that connect women across diverse sectors.



Ms. Saakhi Puri of Purisons (Kinetic EV Bikes) shared her pride in being the third generation to continue her grandfather's business.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director of PHDCCI, extended a warm welcome to women entrepreneurs, salaried professionals, and enthusiasts from various sectors.

At the Valedictory Session, held on March 9, Mr. Naveen Seth mentioned that the expo shall promote sustainable growth for businesses across the region.

Mr. Pranav Gupta, Co-chair. Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI expressed his gratitude to the Ministry of MSMEs for their support to the REV EXPO.

Mr. Suvrat Khanna, Co-chair of the Chandigarh Chapter, PHDCCI, highlighted the government's commendable policies aimed at creating a greener India.

Mr. Madhu Sudan Vij, Chair of the Chandigarh Chapter, PHDCCI, provided valuable industry insights into the electric vehicle and solar energy sectors in U.T. Chandigarh. He also underscored the role of local businesses and government initiatives in fostering a green, energy-efficient future for the Union Territory.

Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjeev Chawla, Additional Development Commissioner, Ministry of MSME highlighted the Ministry's progressive initiatives that aim to provide robust support to renewable energy and electric vehicle manufacturers across the country.

Event Partners were felicitated at the Valedictory Ceremony.

Adv. Lokesh Jain, Co-chair of the Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI delivered the vote-of-thanks to speakers, participants, and partners for their support and involvement in making the event a success.

INTERACTIVE SESSION ON EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

A PHDCCI delegation led by Adv. Lokesh Jain, Co-Chair, Haryana State Chapter participated in an interactive session on 'Ease of Doing Business' organized by Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Haryana on March 21, 2025 at Chandigarh.

The session was presided over by Ms. Vandana Gurnani, IAS, Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India and Mr. D. Suresh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Haryana.

Adv Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI emphasized the need for regulatory relaxations and support for older



industries while also highlighting the importance of addressing fire safety and pollution control challenges. He also stated the challenges of MSMEs for their pending payments.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI discussed PHDCCIs initiatives in conducting awareness sessions for various industries on regulatory compliances introduced by the Government of Haryana to enhance the ease of doing business. She further elaborated on the hand-holding support and facilitation activities undertaken by PHDCCI to create a conducive business environment in the region.

PHDCCI NEW MEMBERS MARCH 2025

STAR

Mr. Sanjay Kapoor
Managing Director
Russell Reynolds Associates India Pvt Ltd.

ORDINARY

Mr. Tushar Agarwal
Managing Director
Agroy Finance and Investment Ltd.

Mr. Akshat Jain
Director
Anekant Steel India Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Nitin Kathuria
Director
E-Risk Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Manu Arya
Partner
Nine

Mr. Arihant Sancheti
Director
PS Group Realty Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Tushar Singh
Whole Time Director
Sara International Pvt. Ltd.

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Pramod Kumar Narula
Partner
P. K. Narula & Co.

Mrs. Shraddha Deshmukh
Advocate
Shraddha Deshmukh, Advocate



NATIONAL LEVEL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AWARENESS PROGRAMME

PHDCCI organized the National Level Intellectual Property (IP) Awareness Programme, National IP Outreach Mission in Viksit Bharat at Jamshedpur on March 26, 2025.

Chief Guest, Mr. Aniket Sachan IAS, DDC-East Singhbhum praised PHDCCI for conducting such an informative seminar for the benefit of entrepreneurs.

Guest of Honor, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, General Manager, District Industries Centre- Jamshedpur deliberated on industrial policies of the government of Jharkhand.

Mr. AK Srivastava, Senior Member, Adityapur Small Industries Association said that MSMEs should utilize PHDCCI's forum and participate in India's development.

Ms. Vijeta Verma, Woman Entrepreneur pointed out that PHDCCI is known for its IPR Services, Water Audit Centre, Centre for International Arbitration and Mediation, Centre of Excellence in Green Hydrogen, Centre for Sustainability and Carbon Market Forum.



Dr Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, PHDCCI, Jharkhand in his welcome speech said that PHDCCI is working for improving the business environment and creating opportunities for its members by making innovation central to the culture.

At the Technical Session on the 'Overview of IPR, Prof (Dr) Dipak Kumar Shukla, Dean – Academics, Srinath University moderated the session. Panelists Mr. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, Jyoti Cero Group, Dr Shanta Singh, Director, S.S. Infotech, Jamshedpur, Mr. Sumit Kumar, Assistant Professor, Sai Nath University deliberated on various topics related to Intellectual Property Rights and facilitated registration of IP Rights and facilitation of reimbursement from the Ministry of MSMEs. In addition the workshop focused on "MSME Support for commercialization of IP (SCIP) Program" to encourage MSMEs to utilize their Intellectual Property assets effectively for business Growth.



ASHWAGANDHA CAMPAIGN - A HEALTH PROMOTER

Under the aegis of its Madhya Pradesh Chapter, in association with the Madhya Pradesh State Medicinal Plant Board (MPSMPB) and Department of AYUSH, Government of Madhya Pradesh organized a one-day Workshop on "Ashwagandha Campaign – A Health Promoter" on March 27, 2025 at Bhopal. The workshop was organized to raise awareness among farmers and entrepreneurs about Ashwagandha cultivation, processing and its potential for income generation. Ashwagandha, also known as 'Indian Ginseng', is renowned for its immunity-boosting properties, stress reduction, enhancement of mental strength, and overall health benefits. With the growing global demand for herbal and Ayurvedic products, Ashwagandha cultivation presents a golden opportunity for farmers and traders.



Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of AYUSH, & Secretary-CEO, Madhya Pradesh State Medicinal Plants Board (MPSMPB), Government of Madhya Pradesh shared that MPSMPB and Department of AYUSH have implemented the "One District, One Medicinal Plant" policy. The initiative aims to identify and preserve the native regions of medicinal plants. He emphasized that farmers should adopt medicinal plant cultivation to enhance their income. He urged young researchers and innovators to explore opportunities in this sector that can create new employment prospects as the annual demand for Ashwagandha in India is 7000 tons, whereas the current production is only 1500 tons, highlighting huge growth opportunities for farmers and entrepreneurs.

Mr. R G Dwivedi, Advisor, PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter delivered the vote-of- thanks to the guests. The session was moderated by Mr. Anirudh Dubey, Resident Manager, PHDCCI Madhya Pradesh State Chapter.

A poster presentation by research students was also held during the workshop.



PHDCCI'S 4TH EDITION MOMENTUM NORTH EAST- 2025

PHDCCI organized the 4th edition of Momentum North East 2025 at Maniram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati, March 21-23, 2025. The event aimed at fostering economic and industrial growth in the region. The event brought together key stakeholders from diverse sectors to deliberate on opportunities and challenges in the Northeast.



The event was supported by State Partner- Govt. of Assam, NABARD, ICAR, Jan Aushadhi (Dept. of Pharmaceuticals- Govt. of India) and Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited under the Ministry of Cooperation. India Today NE was the official Media Partner, while Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry was the International Partner.

Day-1

At the inaugural session, Mr. Bibhuti Dutta, Resident Director, NER, PHDCCI, welcomed the distinguished gathering and emphasized the Chamber's commitment to fostering regional growth through collaboration and innovation.

Mr. Kamal Pradhan, Vice President of Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, highlighted the potential for cross-border trade and economic integration between Bhutan and North East India, with particular mention of Gelephu Mindfulness City.

Mr. Loken Das, Chief General Manager, NABARD, underscored the role of agricultural financing and rural development in ensuring sustainable growth in the region.

Dr. Manoranjan Kalita, Director-School of Technology of Assam Don Bosco University, spoke about the critical need for industry-academia partnerships to drive technological innovation and skill development.

Mr. Sunil Deka, Chairman-Assam Trade Promotion Organization outlined key initiatives to enhance trade infrastructure and market access for local businesses.

Mr. Rupesh Pandey, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI concluded the session with a vote-of-thanks to the guests.

A cultural performance by the children of ILA Snehalaya Child Care Institution added a vibrant touch to the proceedings, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the region.

The event featured a technical session on Rural Tourism and Destination Management & Home Stay Hospitality in the region, moderated by Mr. Robin Kalita, IRTS (retd.) IRCTC, who set the stage by highlighting the growing potential of rural tourism and its role in boosting local economies.

Mr. Raj Basu, Advisor for Rural Tourism & Homestays, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, spoke on the prospects of Cross Border Tourism in North East India and the need for








infrastructure to facilitate seamless travel across borders.

Mr. Manoj K. Das, Former Director of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship and former MD of NERAMAC, addressed entrepreneurship opportunities in rural tourism and how local communities can benefit from innovative business models.

Ms. Jasodha Chettri, Assistant Resident Commissioner, Sikkim House, Guwahati, emphasised the importance of policy support and government initiatives in sustaining rural tourism in the region.

Ms. Bornali Borooah Chakravorty, Operations Centre Manager, TATA Strive Centre of Excellence, Guwahati, elaborated on Sustainability and Tourism, including how hotels can incorporate eco-friendly practices to support sustainable hospitality.

The event also featured a presentation on the government portal-Mera Yuva Bharat (an initiative by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) by Mr. Jayant Singhal, Programme Executor, and Mr. Rohit Kalra, Assistant Director, Department of Youth Affairs, who detailed the platform's objectives in empowering youth engagement and skill development.

Day-2

The theme of the day was- "Harnessing the Power of Cooperatives for Sustainable and Economic Development of the North East Region."

Mr. Rupesh Pandey, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI delivered the welcome address for the participants.

Eminent speakers at the session included: Mr. B. Kalyan Chakravarthy, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Labour Welfare Department, Assam government, Dr. M. Ariz Ahammed, IAS, Chairman, Assam Administrative and Pension Tribunal, Mr. J. P. Singh, Head – Cooperative Services, Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti, and Mr. Kamal Pradhan, Vice President, Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

At the technical session on "Advancing Growth in Dairy, Organic Products and Tea through Agricultural Cooperatives and FPOs" discussions focused on market linkages for agricultural cooperatives, credit and financing challenges for Farmer Producer Organizations, Government support schemes for rural and agricultural cooperatives, global export opportunities for organic products via cooperatives, banking institutions' role in cooperative financing, digital transformation and financial literacy in cooperatives, bank-cooperative collaboration for credit accessibility, microfinance and credit unions in the cooperative ecosystem.

Speakers for the session included Mr. J. P. Singh, Head – Cooperative Services, Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti, Mr. Khitish Hazarika, Assistant Manager – Business Development, NEHHDC, Mr. Prashant Bujar Barua, National Vice President, Sahkar Bharati, Mr. Nayan Jyoti Hazarika, Head, Swatantrata Diagnostics and Healthcare Services and Mr. Sandeep Shankar Pawar, Deputy Director, NCDC – North East.



CZECH REPUBLIC DELEGATION ON WATER & WASTE MANAGEMENT

PHDCCI organized an interactive session with a visiting delegation from the Czech Republic, focusing on Water & Waste Management on March 7, 2025 at PHD House, Chandigarh.

Mr. Karan Gilhotra, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI underscored PHDCCIs commitment to fostering international collaboration in addressing critical environmental challenges in the state of Punjab and adopting sustainable solutions for water and waste management.

Mr. Sanjiv Singh Sethi, MD, Gilard Electronics Pvt. Ltd., emphasized the session's objective of identifying new partnerships and sustainable solutions to tackle pressing environmental challenges.

Mr. R S Sachdeva, Managing Committee Member, PHDCCI underscored that Punjab, as an agrarian state, faces severe challenges related to water scarcity, pollution, and waste management, making it imperative to adopt innovative solutions.

Major Guneet Chaudhary, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic encouraged participation from stakeholders to address these challenges collectively.

The high-level delegation from the Czech Republic was led by Mr. David Surý, Director General for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic. He reiterated the Czech Republic's commitment to environmental sustainability.



H.E. Ms. Eliška Žigová, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to India, emphasized that Indo-Czech relations have reached new heights, driven by free trade agreements, digital transformation initiatives, and green technology investments.

Representatives from the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, Ms. Pavla Hosnedlová and Ms. Martina Foytlová, presented detailed insights on the Czech Republic's environmental initiatives and cross-cutting subsidy programs.

Dr. Manmohan Singh, Engineer-in-Chief (Retd.), Alpha Consultants, Advisors & Arbitrators, provided a global perspective on municipal waste management. He highlighted that India generates 1.5 lakh tons of solid waste per day, with 80% being dumped in the open and called for urgent intervention to improve waste management practices.

Czech industry leaders, including Mr. Michal Malat (CEO, Bonno/Filbec), Mr. David Lukac (Director, EKO-KOM), Mr. Robert Korinek (Director, T.G. Masaryk Water Research Institute), and Mr. Jai Kiran Sugunar (Managing Director, Elkoplast), shared their advanced technologies and best practices in waste management and water conservation.

Prof. (Dr.) Adarsh Pal Vig, Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, stressed the need to shift from a "use and throw" culture to a zero-waste society, where resources are reused and recycled at the source.

Dr. Sandeep Garg, MD, Eco Paryavaran Group, outlined the challenges in wastewater management,. and proposed sustainable solutions to overcome these challenges effectively.

Mr. Abhinav Sharma, CEO, Dross Management Systems & Energy Solutions Pvt. Ltd., introduced innovative waste management technologies, including the Dross Magic Machine, which converts waste into hygienic, eco-friendly by-products for fertilizers, solid fuel pellets, and other applications.



BUSINESS BEYOND BORDERS - AFRICA CALLING AMRITSAR

Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI and International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division of PHDCCI in association with ARISE IIP organized an Interactive Session on "Business Beyond Borders – Africa Calling Amritsar," to explore manufacturing opportunities in Africa on March 11, 2025 at Hotel Courtyard by Marriott, Amritsar.

While welcoming the delegates, CA Jaideep Singh, Convener, Amritsar Zone, Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI highlighted the significance of fostering stronger ties with Africa and the potential for mutual growth through enhanced trade and investment.

Mr. Vijay Shekhawat, Head, North India, ARISE IIP, delivered an insightful presentation on investment opportunities in Africa. He provided a comprehensive overview of Africa's emerging markets, key sectors for manufacturing investment, and the strategic advantages of entering this fast-growing continent.

Mr. Amit Kaushik, ARISE- IIP highlighted that Africa was the continent of the future and there were several countries specifically in West and Central Africa which were already doing sizable business with India. He also highlighted the various incentives & services offered by ARISE IIP to Indian investors.

Mr. Abhishek Banwara, Senior Secretary, International Affairs, PHDCCI, further elaborated on the role of PHDCCI in facilitating trade relations between India and Africa. He apprised the participants about various initiatives and partnerships that have already been established and the potential for further collaboration in the coming years.

Mr. Nipun Aggarwal, Co-Convener, Amritsar Zone, Punjab State Chapter of PHDCCI in his vote-of-thanks reaffirmed PHDCCI's commitment to fostering cross-border business relations and creating avenues for growth and investment for businesses in both India and Africa.

The session was moderated by Mr. Sumit Kumar, Assistant Secretary, PHDCCI, who provided an overview of the importance of international collaboration in today's globalized economy.

An open house was held during which various queries were raised and addressed by the representatives of ARISE and PHDCCI.

An exclusive B2B session was also held, where interested manufacturers explored the potential of investments in Africa in textiles and agro-processing.



LEVERAGING AI FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Industry Academia Alliance Forum of PHDCCI in association with University School of Business, Chandigarh University organized a symposium on Leveraging AI for Economic Development on March 3, 2025 at Chandigarh University.

Dr Sarwan Singh, Joint Director, NIELIT, Chandigarh emphasized that education serves as a catalyst for change, and the same holds true for Artificial Intelligence (AI). He highlighted the importance of upskilling and reskilling while fostering an adaptive mindset. Furthermore, he elaborated on the efficiency of AI in performing tasks within fractions of a second and underscored the vast array of AI tools available for various applications. However, he also stressed the necessity of using these tools responsibly and with caution.

Mr. Tarun Malhotra, Convener, Regional Cyber Security and AI Committee, PHDCCI discussed the various applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI), highlighting both its advantages and disadvantages. He addressed the rising incidence of cybercrimes associated with the proliferation of AI models and emphasized the growing threat posed by deep fake videos and other malicious uses of AI. Furthermore, he noted the increasing sophistication of AI-driven cyberattacks, which often remain unregulated due to the absence of specific legal frameworks governing AI. While acknowledging AI as a powerful tool for innovation, he also cautioned that it can be misused for unlawful activities.

Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist and Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI noted that Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a crucial pillar of the Indian economy, contributing approximately 8–9% of India's GDP. He also underscored that the digital revolution of the 21st century has played a vital role in supporting the Indian economy and emphasized that AI has the potential to enhance global supply chains, thereby strengthening India's manufacturing sector, while also providing a significant boost to the banking industry.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI emphasized the importance of equipping students for the emerging AI-driven generation. She highlighted upon the PHDCCI Industry-Academia Alliance Forum, an initiative designed to provide students with meaningful engagement opportunities, including various internship programs. Additionally, she addressed the fine line between the responsible use and potential misuse of AI, urging students to leverage AI for efficiency while avoiding complete dependence on it. Furthermore, she discussed the role of Public-Private Partnerships in establishing AI-enabled hubs, which would facilitate seamless collaboration between industry and academia.

The session was moderated by Prof.(Dr.) Nilesh Arora, Sr. Director, University School of Business & Global School of Finance and Accounting, Chandigarh University.

A MoU was signed between PHDCCI and Chandigarh University (CU), wherein Dr S P Sharma, Chief Economist and Deputy Secretary General represented PHDCCI and CU was represented by Dr G S Brar, Registrar, Chandigarh University.

150 students of University School of Business, CU benefitted from the panel discussion.



REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMPETITION LAW

Punjab State Chapter & SHE Forum Chandigarh of PHDCCI in association with the Competition Commission of India organized a regional workshop on Competition Law on March 28, 2025, at PHD House, Chandigarh.

Adv. Pooja Nayar, Chair, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh, while welcoming the delegates highlighted the relevance of competition law in the current business landscape.

Chief Guest, Ms. Ravneet Kaur, Chairperson, Competition Commission of India (CCI) in her address shared valuable insights into the CCI's role in promoting and maintaining competition within the Indian market. She highlighted the significance of trade associations in shaping industry standards and business conduct, and emphasized that competition compliance serves



as a powerful business enabler. Additionally, she spoke about the CCI's efforts to raise awareness among New Age markets, including digital platforms, e-commerce, quick-commerce, fintech, and AI-driven enterprises, encouraging them to proactively comply with regulations to avoid legal challenges..

Technical Sessions were held on 'Settlement & Commitment Mechanisms, including 'Competition Amendment Act 2023' and 'Competition Law Compliance.'

Adv. Lokesh Jain, Convener, Regional MSME Committee, PHDCCI, while proposing the formal vote-of-thanks, emphasized the need for ongoing education and dialogue on competition law for the growth and sustainability of businesses.



IP AWARENESS PROGRAMME UNDER NATIONAL IP OUTREACH MISSION IN VIKSIT BHARAT

PHDCCI's MSME Committee and SHE Forum in association with the Ministry of MSME organized a One-Day IP Awareness Programme as part of the National IP Outreach Mission in Viksit Bharat on March 28, 2025 at PHD House, Chandigarh with an objective to promote awareness about intellectual property (IP) protection and its crucial role in business growth, especially for MSMEs, Startups and Women Entrepreneurs.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI in her welcome address spoke about PHDCCI's ongoing efforts to support businesses and entrepreneurs, especially in the areas of innovation, research, and development.

Dr Dapinder Kaur Bakshi, Joint Director and Head, Research and Start-up Facilitation Division, Punjab State Council for Science & Technology discussed the crucial role of IP in the growth and protection of startups. She outlined the state's initiatives aimed at encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, especially in the technology and research sectors.



Guest of Honor, Mr. Sanjeev Chawla, Additional Development Commissioner, Ministry of MSME provided an insightful overview of the various government schemes available to MSMEs for IP protection.

Ms. Pooja Nayar, Chair, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh gave an overview of Intellectual Property Acts/Laws, explaining how businesses could safeguard their innovations through proper IP registration.

Dr Shweta Sen Thalwal, Founder, Integrum IP, delivered a presentation on the benefits of filing/ registering IPs, including protection against infringement.

Mr. Vinay Sharma, Principal and Product Owner, Iota Analytics, elaborated on 'Encashing IPR for Competitive Advantage & Commercialization of IP'. He outlined various strategies businesses can use to leverage IP for commercial gain, emphasizing the need to build IP portfolios that can generate revenue streams.

Dr Ati Priye, CEO – Incubator & Startups, CGC Division of Research & Innovation, Chandigarh Group of Colleges, Jhanjeri, discussed Why Startups Need to Protect Their IP, underscoring the importance of early-stage IP protection for startups, sharing examples of how startups can gain a competitive edge and safeguard their unique ideas through IP. He elaborated on Startups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) scheme and how Startups Can Avail Benefits Under the SIPP Scheme.

Ms. Gulrukh Kaur Sidhu, Member, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh, moderated the session and encouraged participants to consider IP as a strategic asset in their business models.

A Panel Discussion on IPR for Women in Business - Protecting Innovation & Growth was addressed by Ms. Pooja Nayar, Chair, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh; Ms. Pritika Kohli, Associate Partner, TT Consultants and Dr. Ruchi Singla, Director & CEO, RAS Intellect Solutions Pvt. Ltd. The panelists shared insights on the challenges and opportunities women entrepreneurs face in protecting their innovations.

The panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Shalini Joshi, Steering Committee Member, PHDCCI SHE Forum Chandigarh.

Dr Vibha Bawa, Steering Committee Member, PHDCCI SHE Forum, Chandigarh, proposed the formal vote-of-thanks to the participants.

During the event, an IPR Helpdesk Camp was organized by IPFC Chandigarh with the support of the Ministry of MSME. The helpdesk collected inquiries related to intellectual property right which were addressed by IPR Attorney, Dr. Shweta Sen Thalwal, Founder, Integrum IP, Mohali .



BUSINESS BEYOND BORDERS - AFRICA CALLING PANCHKULA

PCH (Punjab, Chandigarh & Haryana) Region of PHDCCI & International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division of PHDCCI in association with ARISE IIP organized an interactive session on "Business Beyond Borders – Africa Calling Panchkula," to explore manufacturing opportunities in Africa on March 12, 2025 at Hotel Bella Vista, Panchkula.

While welcoming the delegates, Adv. Lokesh Jain, Co-chair, Haryana State Chapter, PHDCCI highlighted the significance of fostering stronger ties with Africa and the potential for mutual growth through enhanced trade and investment.

Mr. Vijay Shekhawat, Head, North India, ARISE IIP, delivered a comprehensive presentation on investment opportunities in Africa. He offered a thorough overview of Africa's emerging markets, highlighted key sectors for manufacturing investment, and discussed the strategic benefits of entering this rapidly growing continent.

Mr. Amit Kaushik, ARISE- IIP emphasized that Africa is the continent of the future, noting that several countries, particularly in West and Central Africa are already engaged in significant businesses with India. Additionally, he outlined the various incentives and services provided by ARISE IIP to Indian investors.

Mr. Saurabh Munjal, Co-chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI reaffirmed PHDCCI's dedication to promoting cross-border business relations and creating opportunities for growth and investment for businesses in both India and Africa.

Mr. Abhishek Banwara, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI moderated the open house during which various queries were raised and addressed by the representatives of ARISE and PHDCCI.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI while moderating the session, gave an overview of the significance of international collaboration in today's globalized economy and discussed PHDCCI's role in enhancing trade relations between India and Africa.

An exclusive B2B session was also held, where interested manufacturers explored the potential of investments in Africa.



THE ROLE OF DIGITAL MEDIA AND AI IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIETY

The Regional Industry-Academia Alliance Forum of PHDCCI, in collaboration with the Department of Multimedia and Journalism, Chandigarh School of Business, CGC Jhanjeri, organized a panel discussion on 'The Role of Digital Media and AI in the Transformation of Society' on March 27, 2025, at CGC Jhanjeri. The event served as a dynamic platform for industry experts and academia to explore the evolving impact of digital media and artificial intelligence on society, highlighting both opportunities and challenges.

Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director, PHDCCI, moderated the discussion, emphasizing the growing need for a digital detox in today's fast-paced, technology-driven world. She underscored the importance of balancing digital consumption with well-being, encouraging individuals to be mindful of their screen time and adopt sustainable digital habits.



Mr. Tarun Malhotra, Convener, Regional Cyber Security and AI Committee, PHDCCI, provided valuable insights into the impact of AI-driven automation on job security, particularly in the media industry. He discussed how AI is revolutionizing various sectors by streamlining operations and enhancing efficiency, while also posing challenges related to employment, upskilling and adaptation.

Other speakers included Mr. Ashwini K Sharma, Managing Director, Rabab Music Production Pvt. Ltd; Ms. Anuradha Shukla, Former Editor, News 18; Mr. Ansh Grover, Cluster Content Leader/ Programming Head, Radio Mirch and Ms. Radhika Sidana, Executive Branded Content/Business Development, Bharat 24.

The discussion was highly engaging, fostering insightful conversations between industry leaders, academicians, and students, further strengthening collaboration between industry and academia.

ONE DISTRICT ONE PRODUCT (ODOP) - BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR MSMEs

A technical session on 'One District One Product (ODOP) – Business Opportunities for MSMEs' was also organized with the support of Industries Department, Government of Rajasthan during the Expo.

Mr. P N Sharma, Joint Commissioner, Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Rajasthan and Mr. Shailendra Sharma, General Manager, District Industries Center, Udaipur shared features of ODOP Policy of the Government of Rajasthan released in December, 2024, which offers attractive incentives for MSMEs engaged in manufacture of ODOPs. They also dwelt light on other policies of the Government of Rajasthan announced recently for the benefit of MSME participants present during the session.

Mr. Kapil Surana, President, Udaipur Marble Processors Samiti shared his vision for sustainable development of marbles, handicrafts which have been categorized as ODOP of Udaipur in the new policy.

Mr. Ram Singh Yadav, Program Manager-MSME Alliances, Yes Bank Ltd spoke about the policies and schemes of Yes Bank for meeting credit requirements of MSMEs.

Mr. Sharbik Das Kaashyap, Director, Sonali Biogas Pvt. Ltd. said that tremendous opportunities for biogas manufacturing plants exist, with attractive incentives announced by the Government of India under the SATAT Scheme.

Mr. Yogesh Ajmera, Marketing Manager, Indian Fence Machine informed about their cost effective Fence making machine and tremendous opportunities for use of wire fences in sectors, such as agriculture, highways, railway, etc. which will promote entrepreneurship in rural areas.







Dr Pawan Talesara, Hon. Secretary General, UCCI delivered the welcome address, while Mr. Prakash Chandra Bolia, Honorary Treasurer, UCCI delivered the formal vote-of-thanks to the guests.

Mr. R K Gupta, Resident Director, PHDCCI, Rajasthan Chapter moderated the program.



RAJASTHAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPO-2025

The debut edition of 5 days expo, Rajasthan International Trade Expo-2025 (RITEX) held March 19-23, 2025 in collaboration with Udaipur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI) at Udaipur was inaugurated by Mr. Ajay Pandya, Unit Head, RIICO, Udaipur and Mr. Shailendra Sharma, GM, DIC, Udaipur.

The dignitaries had a round of the Exhibition and interacted with various exhibitors and appreciated the display of products exhibited. Around 125 exhibitors from different sectors namely, Handicrafts, Engineering, Solar, Food Processing, Mining, Biogas, Homemade furnishing, Garments, Cosmetic & Beauty Products, Ayurvedic, etc. from different parts of India. National Jute Board of India participated in the Expo.

From UCCI, Mr. M L Lunawath, President, Dr. Pawan Talesara, Honorary Secretary General and other senior leadership were present during the inaugural session, while from PHDCCI, Mr. Jitendra Singh Rathore, Co-chair, Rajasthan Chapter, Mr. Mukesh Madhwani, Convener, Udaipur, Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, and Mr. R K Gupta, Resident Director, Rajasthan Chapter were present.









EXPLORING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN UAE

PHDCCI-Rajasthan Chapter & International Affairs and Trade Fairs Division organized an Interactive Session & B2B Meeting on "Exploring Business Opportunities in UAE - Bharat Mart Dubai-India's Gateway to the World" on March 25, 2025 at PHD House, Jaipur.

Welcoming the guests, Mr. Digvijay Dhabriya, Chair, PHDCCI, Rajasthan Chapter informed that the initiative i.e. Bharat Mart, Dubai is the need of the hour for Indian manufacturers, exporters and traders for exploring new markets and forging business tie-ups, which will increase export competitiveness of Indian trade and industry. The model is similar to the Chinese intervention of “Dragon Marts” set up in many places in the world, pushing export of Chinese goods across the World.

Mr. Amitesh Mishra, Director, DP World gave a detailed presentation on the activities of DP World based at Dubai, which is a leading provider of end-to-end supply chain solutions, helping trade flow across the globe. Mr. Amitesh gave a background of Bharat Mart initiative, announced during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to UAE last year for increasing



exports of Indian goods by providing them a State-of-Art Marketplace, which will help India achieving a 5 trillion USD economy and become "Viksit Bharat" by 2047.

Mr. Mishra gave a detailed account of infrastructure facilities being provided by them through various ports, cargo handling facilities and free trade zones for promoting bilateral trade with Middle East, Africa and Eurasia from Dubai, which represents a significant market. He informed that the project of Bharat Mart would be ready by 2027 at a very strategic location in Dubai close to Airport & Ports equipped with State of Art facilities for showcasing various products backed up with all logistic support and offering opportunities to manufacturers and exporters through various FTAs, UAE has entered with different countries. He informed that an Incubation Centre for manufacturers is already in place wherein hand holding services are being provided by DP World for three years at a very attractive and affordable cost. He called upon industry to come forward and take advantage of the initiative and other services being provided by DP World.

Mr. R K Gupta, Resident Director, PHDCCI, Rajasthan Chapter moderated the program.



RAJASTHAN TOURISM SAMMAN-2025

PHDCCI Rajasthan Tourism Samman-2025 (RTS) was organized on March 20, 2025 at Tathastu Heritage Resort, Udaipur.

Mr. B P Kalal, IAS, Managing Director, RSMML was the Chief Guest. Mr. Salil Bhandari, Former President, PHDCCI, Mr. Jitendra Singh Rathore, Co-chair, PHDCCI, Mr. M L Lunawath, President, UCCI, Mr. Mukesh Madhwani, Convener, Udaipur, PHDCCI-Rajasthan and Mr. Naveen Seth, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI were also present for the Samman Ceremony.

The eminent Jury under the Chairmanship of Dr. Lalit K Panwar, Former Secretary, Ministry of Tourism recommended 20 Samman in different categories and one special Samman "Destination of the Year-2025" to Udaipur City.

Chief Guest, Mr. Kalal accompanied by other distinguished guests felicitated the winners with a Trophy and a Samman Certificate.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest appreciated the initiative of PHDCCI for honoring those who have done exemplary work by adopting innovative and sustainable practices into their tourism units for the sustainable development of the sector in the State. He further hoped that the initiative of RTS would motivate others to follow sustainable and innovative practices.







Tathastu Heritage Resort, the Venue Partner was also felicitated.

Mr. R K Gupta, Resident Director, PHDCCI, Rajasthan moderated the program.



HIMALAYAN TOURISM SAMMAN AND CONCLAVE

PHDCCI Uttarakhand Chapter hosted the Himalayan Tourism Samman and Conclave at Hotel Madhuban, Dehradun on March 21, 2025.

This landmark event brought together industry leaders, environmental experts, and business pioneers to chart a sustainable future for tourism in the Himalayan region. With a focus on fostering cross-border collaboration, empowering local communities, and preserving the region's ecological and cultural heritage, the conclave set a new benchmark for responsible tourism development.

Mr. Hemant Kochhar, Chair of PHDCCI Uttarakhand Chapter delivered a welcome address, followed by insightful sessions on sustainable tourism by Ms. Deepali Dhuliya from Cushman Wakefield. Ms. Poonam Chand Additional Director, Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board spoke on government initiatives available in the sector. Ms. Shweta Bisht, Consultant discussed the importance of adventure tourism in the state, while Col. Ashwini Pundir, ex-Additional Chief Executive Officer of UTDB spoke on adventure tourism.









The Conclave 2025 concluded with a series of award recognitions celebrating the growth of tourism in Uttarakhand. The Jury recognized the Department of Forest, Government of Uttarakhand, as Sustainability Champion of the Year, Chopta-Tungnath-Chandrashila Himalayan Trek as Tourism Trailblazer, and Dehradun City as Destination of the Year.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE (FINANCE)



A PHDCCI delegation led by Mr. Hemant Jain, President along with Mr. Saket Dalmia, Former President, Mr. B K Sabharwal, Chair, Capital Market & Commodity Market Committee, Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General & Mr. Suresh Chandra Joshi, Joint Secretary met Mr. Pankaj Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State (Finance) on March 21, 2025. The delegation apprised the Minister about the various activities undertaken by the Chamber and also extended an invitation for being the Chief Guest at the PHDCCI 7th Annual Convention on Capital Markets & Commodity Markets scheduled for April 5, 2025 at PHD House, New Delhi. The Hon'ble Minister appreciated the work done by PHDCCI and very graciously accepted the invitation.

MEETING WITH HON'BLE MINISTER OF TOURISM, GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND



A PHDCCI Uttarakhand Chapter delegation led by Chair led by Mr. Hemant Kochhar along with Mr. Ritesh Singh, Resident Director and Mr. Rajiv Vaid Resident Officer met with Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Govt of Uttarakhand, on March 10, 2025. The objective of the meeting was to invite the Hon'ble Minister to be the Chief Guest for HITS 2025. Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj appreciated the initiative and assured to extend the support from the Government of Uttarakhand.

MEETING WITH PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, MSME, EXPORT PROMOTION & NRI DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI delegation of UP State Chapter comprising of Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair, Mr. Ajay Jain, Senior Member, Mr. Amit Gujral, Senior Member, Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director and Ms. Riddhi Garg, Resident Officer met Mr. Alok Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development, MSME, Export Promotion & NRI Department, Govt. of UP on March 12, 2025.The objective of the meeting was to present a representation on stamp duty to Mr. Alok Kumar and requested the logo of support of the UP Government & Invest UP for the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Energy Expo (UPEX) 2025, scheduled to take place in May in Lucknow.

MEETING WITH CEO, INVEST PUNJAB, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB



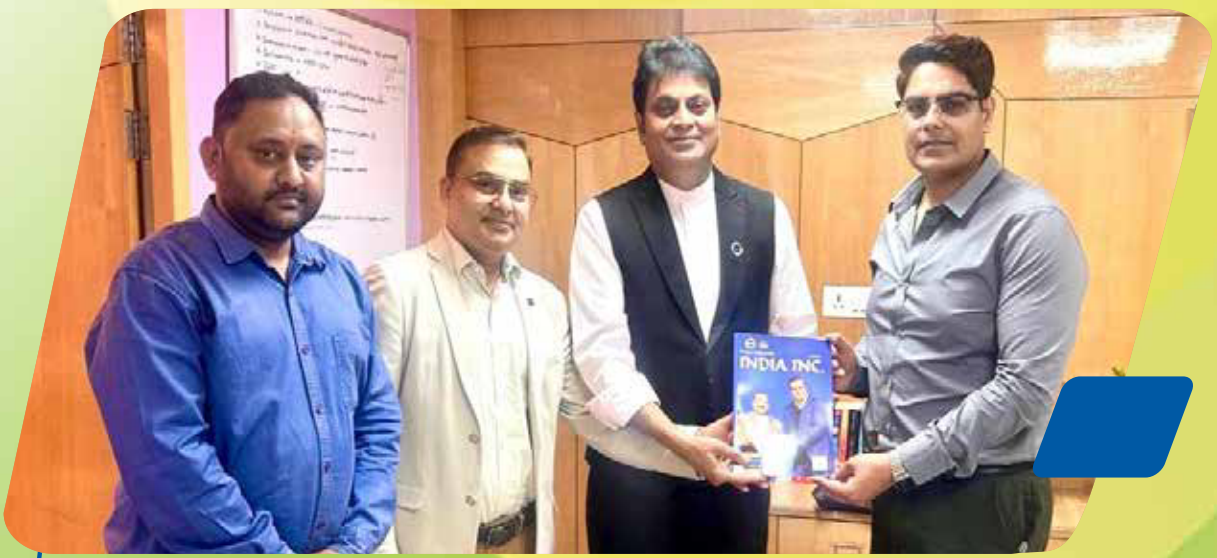
A PHDCCI delegation of Punjab State Chapter led by Mr. R S Sachdeva, Managing Committee Member along with Mr. Lokesh Jain, Convener, Regional MSME Committee, Mr. Supreet Singh, Convener, Regional Pharmaceutical, Health and Wellness Committee, Mr. Parv Arora, Convener, Regional Power and Renewable Energy Committee; Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director and Ms. Punya Bhatia, Resident Executive met Mr. Amit Dhaka, IAS, CEO, Invest Punjab, Government of Punjab on February 28, 2025 at Chandigarh. The delegation deliberated upon identifying major pain points and regulatory/ policy-level challenges faced by industries of Punjab along with strategic measures to promote key industrial sectors in the state.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, HEALTH, CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION



A PHDCCI delegation of Punjab State Chapter led by Mr. Supreet Singh, Convener, Regional Pharmaceutical, Health and Wellness Committee, along with Dr. Sudhir Batish, Mentor, Steering Committee on Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani, Ms. Bharti Sood, Regional Director and the Secretariat team met Mr. Ajay Chagti, IAS, Secretary, Health, Chandigarh Administration on March 27, 2025 at UT Secretariat, Chandigarh. The delegation apprised Mr. Chagti about the ongoing initiatives undertaken to foster growth in the AYUSH sector and opined that Ayush Sector needs to be promoted for the welfare of the society at large.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY, REVENUE DEPARTMENT, & RELIEF COMMISSIONER, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH



A PHDCCI Uttar Pradesh delegation led by Mr. Rajesh Nigam, Co-chair, Mr. Atul Srivastava, Regional Director along with Mr. Kaushik Fuloria, Resident Manager and Ms. Riddhi Garg Resident Officer met with Mr. Bhanu Chandra Goswami, IAS, Secretary, Revenue Department, & Relief Commissioner, Government of Uttar Pradesh on March 28, 2025. The purpose of the meeting was to update him on the upcoming activities of the Chamber and invite him as keynote speaker at the Uttar Pradesh Fire & Safety Expo and Conference, scheduled to be held in July, 2025, at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. The Relief Commissioner appreciated PHDCCI efforts to develop a world-class HSE culture, fire safety protocol, and disaster preparedness for better response.

PHD FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (PHDFWF)

HUNAR UNLIMITED 2025 ON VIKSIT BHARAT

PHD Family Welfare Foundation organized its flagship programme, Hunar Unlimited 2025, on 'Viksit Bharat' on March 12, 2025. The event, inspired by the Prime Minister's vision, was graced by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Sonal Mansingh as the Chief Guest. Ms. Goel highlighted PHDFWF's welfare initiatives and announced the opening of 10 new skill centres with Jaquar Foundation's support. Mr. Shamsher Kanwar encouraged beneficiaries to continue their learning journey. The event featured vibrant performances by students from PHDFWF skill centres, including dance, singing, skits, and instrumental music. An art competition judged by Ms. Nupur Kundu and a quiz competition added to the excitement. Around 300 attendees witnessed the inspiring showcase of talent and empowerment.





CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME IN KATWARIA SARAI SKILL CENTER

PHD Family Welfare Foundation organised a Certificate Distribution programme on March 5, 2025, at the PHDFWF-Jaquar Katwaria Sarai Skill Center. Ms. Anuradha Goel welcomed attendees, highlighting welfare initiatives and encouraging self-reliance. 80 students received certificates for completing courses in Beauty Culture, Tailoring, Computer Education, and English Speaking. The event celebrated their achievements and the impact of collaboration. The programme was attended by GB members of PHDFWF and senior officials of PHDFWF.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES (25 SKILLS CENTRES) DIFFERENT SKILLS COURSES FOR SPECIALLY-ABLED, WOMEN & YOUTH







FREE HEALTH CAMPS (11 MOBILE VANS) PHDFWF CONDUCTED 220 FREE GENERAL, EYE & DENTAL CAMPS

PHD RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (PHDRDF)

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

HEALTHCARE	EDUCATION	AGRICULTURE (Exposure Visit)	POND DEVELOPMENT	CHECK DAMS
				

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- With support from **05** partners, Total **09** check dams and **05** ponds are being established in **Rajasthan, Punjab, Maharashtra** and **Uttar Pradesh** with a water holding capacity of **>18 Million Cu Ft.** The completion of these structures will benefit **2,400** households with **13,312** beneficiaries.
- Total **53 OPDs**, **111** Health Camps, **03** Awareness Sessions and **03** eye care camps were organized in **Punjab**, **Uttar Pradesh, Bihar** and **Haryana** with support from **05** partners, namely Dhampur Sugar Mills Limited, Talwandi Sabo Power Limited, Magadh Sugar Mills, Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd. and Dharmpal Satyapal Limited. More than **9,301** patients were treated and provided medical services.
- **Donaldson India Filter Systems Pvt Ltd** supports **04** projects benefiting over **50,000** people. Two projects provided **03** water coolers and **07** desktop computers to **Vikas Sadan Gurugram's livelihood center**. Fourth project is to clean and maintain **10** existing wells in Mehrauli area to be used for drinking water for the community.
- **PHDRDF** and **IGT Solutions Pvt. Ltd.** has come together for installing a 20 KW Hybrid solar power plant under project 'Surya Shakti'. It will benefit more than **75000** population of **Pataudi** Block of **Gurugram** District. Now, this project is completed.
- **PHDRDF** partnered with **Padam Singh Bapna Foundation** to establish a computer lab in Govt. Senior Secondary School in Village **Kaler, Thanagazi, Alwar, Rajasthan,** which will benefit more than **400** students. PHDRDF also collaborated with **APT Research Pvt. Ltd.** to refurbish the school's sanitation facilities, benefiting more than **450** students.
- **PHDRDF** and **Gulshan Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.** have partnered for **"Unnati"**, upgrading the Govt. Senior Secondary School in **Kaler, Alwar, Rajasthan**. The project includes refurbishing classrooms, desks, benches, Mid-Day Meal kitchen, and installing a drinking water station. Over **450** students will benefit from this initiative.

SPECIAL EVENT

Inaugration of Check Dam

The **PHDRDF** and **RJ Foundation** have collaborated to establish water harvesting structure in Alwar. The inauguration ceremony was attended by key dignitaries, including Mr. Vikas Bhatia, Group CFO &Head (CSR), RJ Corp, Mr. S N Bhatt Sr. VP (Technical Operations) & Dr Kadambari and from PHDRDF Sanjay Choudhary, CEO and Brajmohan were attended the inauguration program.



Handing Over Ceremony

PHDRDF in partnership with **BSES Yamuna Power Ltd.** handed over Ligasure & 2D Echo Machine to Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital on **March 27, 2025**. On this occasion, **Dr Yogesh Kushwaha DMS - Medicine LBS hospital, Dr I P singh DMS - Surgery, LBS hospital** with their respective medical and paramedical teams, **Mr. Chandra P Kamat, Vice President-CSR, BSES, Ms. Kriti Khanna from CSR BYPL, Mr. Sanjay Choudhary, CEO, PHDRDF, Ms. Anjana, Team Lead, PHDRDF** and other team members of **BSES**, **PHDRDF** were present during the handing over ceremony.





Partners/ Donors

DHAMPUR	vedanta power	LBPL	Apt		corp	*Padam Singh Bapna Foundation*	Rotary Club of Delhi Premier
Donaldson	DS GROUP	GULSHAN	Anandana	MAGADH	IGT SOLUTIONS		Rotary Club of Delhi South Central

TRAI'S INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN CONSUMER PROTECTION AGAINST SPAM CALLS

Suman Jyoti Khaitan
Managing Partner, Suman Khaitan & Co. (Khaitan & Partners Advocates)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's ("TRAI") primary objective is to regulate the telecom sector and ensuring the protection of interests of consumers as well as of the service providers of the telecom sector.

Due to increased reliance on digital communication, consumers have been receiving a significant number of spam calls causing significant disruption for consumers and leading to increasing concerns about privacy. With the objective of creating a more streamlined and consumer friendly telecom environment, TRAI notified the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR) 2018, aiming to curb spam/unsolicited commercial communications ("UCC") and protect consumers from such disruptive calls.

However, due to advancement in technology, spammers have been successful in escaping the stringent measures imposed.

Recently, TRAI introduced amendments in TCCCPR 2018 ("the amendments") to further strengthen consumer protection against spam (UCC) calls. Salient features of the amendments are-

i. Ease of reporting spam and Revamped Complaint mechanism:

- The complaint mechanism of reporting spam (UCC) calls has been simplified, which includes that the customer will be able to make a complaint about spam/UCC within 7 days of receiving spam. Earlier, the limit was within 3 days.

A customer can make complaint through the following modes:

--Sending SMS to short code 1909; or Calling on 1909; or

Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)' or Mobile app developed in this regard; Web portal and Sending email to a designated email id of the Access Provider.

The complaint shall include the mobile number of the sender and the complainant, the date on which UCC was received and a brief about the UCC received.

-The access providers shall now take action against reported UCC from unregistered senders within 5 days. Earlier, the time limit was within 30 days.

-The criteria for taking an action has been revised. Earlier, the criteria was 'having 10 complaints against the sender in last 7 days' and now it has been revised to 'having 5 complaints against the sender in last 10 days'.

ii. Empowering customers

- In order to empower customers, the mechanism for opting out from promotional communication has been improved. Now, telecom operators are required to provide a mandatory option in the promotional messages using which a customer may opt out of receiving such messages.

- Message headers will now carry standardized identifiers to help consumers easily distinguish between promotional, service, and transactional messages. Customers will now be able to identify the type of commercial message received by just looking at its header since "-F', "-S", "-T", and "-G" will be suffixed to the message header for identification of promotional, service, transactional, and government messages, respectively.

- A separate category has been created for messages sent by the Government to ensure that customers do not miss important Government communications.

iii. Stringent measures against spammers/senders of UCC

- Any call made or message sent to deceive or attempt to deceive customers has been classified as UCC to the extent any misuse of telecom resources is concerned, thereby, allowing quick regulatory action against the telecom resources of the sender of such communication, including disconnection and blacklisting.

- Senders are now restricted from using normal 10-digit numbers for telemarketing, a new 1600 series is designated for transactional and service calls, etc.

iv. Stringent provisions to ensure compliance of regulations

- Stringent provisions, in terms of financial disincentives, to ensure compliance of regulations have been enforced where the service providers fail to implement the regulations.

- Access providers have been to enter into a legally binding agreement with all the registered Senders and Telemarketers, wherein their roles and responsibilities as well as the actions that can be taken against them mandated in case of non-compliance shall be incorporated.

v. Strengthening the ecosystem:

- In order to flag potential spammers in real-time, access providers are required to analyze call and SMS patterns based on parameters such as unusually high call volumes, short call durations, and low incoming-to-outgoing call ratios.

- Senders and telemarketers are mandated to undergo physical verification, biometric authentication, and unique mobile number linking during registration. To ensure that violators are quickly identified and penalized, it is now mandatory for operators to maintain comprehensive records of complaints and sender details.

Spam calls are a menace and growing concern for people. The amendments introduced by TRAI reflect a clear intention to enhance consumer protection in the telecom sector. There is a need to continuously revise the provisions to keep up with the growing advancements, Hence, the amendments will prove to be effective keeping in view the growing concerns of breach of privacy due to spam (UCC) calls.



HUMAN-MACHINE COLLABORATION WITH INDUSTRY 5.0 FOR RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Suraksha Gupta, University of the Arts, London, UK

Manufacturers recognise that sustainability goals can be achieved by using clean technologies with renewable energy and adoption of waste management protocols. Non-availability of universally standardized technologies create compatibility issues and adoption of technologies for automation fuels insecurity amongst workers due to the notion of jobs being lost by humans to machines. Hence, interoperability of technology with the emotional security of workers working on the machines becomes important for successful and sustainable automation. Interoperability becomes a challenge when workers with limited access to training are required to be a participant in automation. Automation prepares industry to address needs of Industry 5.0, but sometimes leaves workers behind as they might not be technologically ready.

The notion of reduction in the number of jobs for humans in a manufacturing setup due to automation becomes misleading with the benefits offered by digitised human-centric production systems. These systems can enable human operators to interact with machine data for adjusting parameters based on their intuition. The discussions about the centrality of human involvement in digitalization explains how interaction between human and computer can foster innovation. It reveals that the collaborative relationship between humans and machines uses human intuition to build the capacity to customise innovation. Artificial intelligence (AI) driven insights and flexible production systems combined with human intuition, can enable manufacturers to create innovative products that can be mass-customized. Mass customisation serves the fluctuating needs of diverse stakeholders with individuality, without disrupting the supply chain. Therefore, responding rapidly to the need for customization within an ongoing continuous production line, necessitates the use of advanced analytics based human-centric adaptive modular systems that use real-time data. Adaptive systems apply human intuition with technologies like generative AI and machine learning with virtual and augmented reality. Leveraging advanced technologies with human intuition, is therefore essential

for integrating modular capacity to offer mass customisation in an automated production system.

Industry 4.0 focused on automation and highlighted the critical role of connectivity in fostering evidence-based, data-driven decision-making supported by technological advancements. Industry 5.0 takes this a step further, demonstrating how ethically integrated technology, coupled with human creativity and the requisite skills, can facilitate a seamless transition towards sustainability. Therefore, Industry 5.0 integrates the skills of humans with their intuition for creating value that pushes sustainability oriented operations. It envisions a harmonious ecosystem where advanced machines and humans collaborate to co-create value for a diverse set of stakeholders. In this ecosystem, intelligent robots are referred to as 'Cobots'. These Cobots enhance capabilities of humans, rather than replacing human labour, by fostering a balance between automation and personalization. Cobots complement problem-solving skills of human beings by empowering them to innovate by being creative. Industry 5.0 proposes that the human touch in a Cobot-Human relationship, offers flexibility with a personalized and resilient approach. Therefore, Industry 5.0 is recognised as a philosophy of collaboration useful for personalizing, in a manner that satisfies stakeholders, and helps manufacturers preserve efficiency amidst disruptions to ensure that production remains resilient.

Implementing Industry 5.0 requires a strategic roadmap that includes audits of existing processes and assessment of digital maturity of the production unit. In a digitally mature ecosystem, a strategic approach to collaboration between advanced technologies and humans can offer environmentally



conscious, adaptable, and continuously evolving structured modularity. Modular designs within an integrated digitised manufacturing environment can offer feedback loops that foster smart agile manufacturing. The loops identify synergies required for innovation by engaging creativity, adaptability, and optimization to work in unison, thereby ensuring sustainable growth within a dynamic industrial landscape. Within this space, Industry 5.0 thrives on collaboration, innovation, and sustainability with resilience through a human-centric approach.

While the vision of Industry 5.0 offers immense potential, simultaneously, it also reveals requirements from industries related to technological infrastructure and human talent with STEM eudcation (Science,Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), who can trust technology, understand vulnerability of consumers and their sensitivities around data protection and cybersecurity, are ready to adopt, instead of being resistant to new approaches offered by Industry 5.0 for higher productivity with a work-life balance. Role of support provided by the government in the form of incentives and subsidies will become important for successful implementation of Industry 5.0 by companies who are unable to afford automation and digitalisation. Another tool to facilitate the transition of the SME sector into Industry 5.0 will be public-private partnerships that can successfully facilitate innovation, inline with social requirements related to ethics, fairness, accountability and transparency in use of technology for automation. The gap between needs of the manufacturers, their stakeholders and capabilities of relevant technologies can be bridged by collaboration between industry and universities. Curriculum with training offered by universities when aligned with the needs of industry 5.0 will create a sustainable human-centered ecosystem for industries.



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 a make difference in the way you do your business.

- **Lakshmipat Singhania Auditorium: (Capacity : 300)**
  A newly designed, aesthetically architectured 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 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 paxs 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.

For Conference Facilities, please contact: Ms. Rachna Thakur, E-mail: conf.booking@phdcci.in Tel.: +91 9891890800

MEDIA BUZZ

COVERAGE IMPRINTS

BW BUSINESSWORLD

MoS Calls For Adoption Of New Tech In Mining To Upskill Workforce

BW Online Bureau | Mar 21, 2025

Minister Of State For Coal & Mines

PHDCCI and SCMS to collaborate on skill development programs, focusing on AI, IoT, and sustainability for the mining sector's future



ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

SAFEGUARD DUTY MOOTED ON SELECT ITEMS FOR 200 DAYS

...but DGTR Proposes 12% Levy on Imports

Developing nations, except China, Vietnam, exempt

Our Bureau

New Delhi: The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has recommended imposition of a 12% provisional safeguard duty on certain steel products for 200 days to protect domestic players from a surge in imports.

Following the move, shares of major steel companies climbed up on the bourses, with state-owned SAIL ending the day 3.90% up on the BSE, while Tata Steel gained 2.35%, JSW Steel 1.38% and Jindal Steel & Power 0.86%.

"The proposal came following an investigation on a complaint from Indian Steel Association into the sudden surge in imports of non-alloy and alloy steel flat products.

"The domestic industry has claimed that the imports increased due to 'certain unforeseen developments' such as multiple trade protection measures against steel products by various World Trade Organization member countries, excess capacity and slowing demand in China, Japan, Korea and Asean, besides changes in Asean's steel sector.

"The DGTR found that there is a recent, sudden, sharp and significant increase in the imports of these products into India, causing and threatening to cause serious injury to the domestic industry.

"The imports of the PUC (product under consideration) originating from developing countries except China and Vietnam shall be exempt from the levy of safeguard duty," the DGTR said in a notification.

"The safeguard duty on steel import would lead to higher input cost for MSMEs and impact their competitiveness in the global markets but at the same time, provide a leg room to domestic steel manufacturers to increase their bale to their investment to improve their profitability," said Hemant Jain, president, PHDCCI.



Hot Metal

DGTR initiated probe in Dec '24	Covers period from Oct 1, '23 to Sept 30, '24.
Wake-up call	
US' 25% tariff on steel, aluminium levied March 12	Various WTO members bring in trade protection measures
Excess capacity & slowing demand in China, Japan, Korea and Asean	

NDTV | Profit

Traders' Body Urges Government To Cut Gold Ore Import Duty To Zero

PHD Chamber of Commerce also requested Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to remove customs duty on import and the expiry date from the exemption.

Industry association PHD Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday wrote to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, requesting the ministry's intervention in cutting the import duty on gold ore concentrate to zero to ensure the industry's sustainability.

In a letter, PHDCCI Secretary Ranjeet Mehta said that the disparity in import duty structures between gold and copper ore concentrates is "severely impacting the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of this nascent industry."

PTI

Copper demand to grow 7 pc in India propelled by clean energy projects: PHDCCI

NEW DELHI: (Mar 30) Propelled by growing consumption in the renewable energy sector and infrastructure development, copper demand is likely to rise about 7 per cent in the country in the coming years, according to industry officials.

Policy initiatives such as construction of industrial corridors, housing for all Indians, national highway development projects, and energy transition projects are driving the demand for copper and it is anticipated to increase significantly, PHDCCI President Hemant Jain said.

अमर उजाला

पर्यटन क्षेत्र हमारे देश का विकास इंजन : शेखावत



The Earth News

Experts urge businesses to leverage patents, GI tags, & MSME initiatives for sustainable growth



thehindu businessline.

PHDCCI seeks permanent zero import duty on gold ore concentrate



COVERAGE IMPRINTS

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Tourism industry has the potential to become the largest contributor to GDP: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Synopsis
Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said that the Indian economy is growing at a rapid pace, and likewise, the country's tourism sector has immense potential to grow at a similar pace.



Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Wednesday highlighted the crucial role of the tourism industry in driving India's economic growth, stating that it has the potential to become the largest contributor to the country's GDP (gross domestic product) growth in the coming years.

The Statesman

Sustainability in tourism has to be 'everybody's business': Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 2 MARCH

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister for Tourism, addressed the sustainability challenges in the Tourism sector, and urged the industry to collaborate with the government.

"Until and unless it becomes everybody's business, we will not be able to solve this problem," the minister said.

The minister added that the tourism sector's situation and conditions present both opportunities and challenges.

"10-15 years ago, when it was discussed that climate impact would be a big challenge, people neither took it seriously nor acted upon it, the adverse consequence of that is evident today. The challenge of climate is now knocking on our door."

"If timely action had been taken, the situation could have been better. The same situation now exists in tourism, and we need to act," he said.

The Minister was speaking at the Tourism Sustainability Summit 2025 organised by PHDCCI in collaboration with FH&RAI with the theme Mainstreaming Sustainability in Tourism.

Suman Billa (IAS), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, emphasized the need to design tourism growth in a mindful manner.

He added that tourism is a rapidly growing sector and that the industry is at the beginning of a long-term growth cycle for tourism and hospitality.

Billa stated that growth itself is not the challenge, but rather the direction in which it progresses, and stressed that tourism should not be viewed merely as an economic activity but as a shared responsibility.

He emphasised that if sustainability is the goal, there is a need to rethink the approach by building resilient, inclusive, and future-ready infrastructure.

Further, Sheo Shekhar Shukla (IAS), Principal Secretary (Tourism) & Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, informed that Madhya Pradesh has a Responsible Tourism vertical within its state department.

He highlighted that the state is home to 498 State Protected Monuments, 290 ASI Protected Monuments, and 14 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, establishing it as a significant historical and cultural destination. Further, he mentioned that efforts are underway to develop 50 new destinations and 200 cultural sites to enhance the tourism landscape.

Speaking on environmental aspects, he highlighted that Madhya Pradesh has the highest forest cover (25%) in India, 12 National Parks, 9 Tiger Reserves, and 3 Biosphere Reserves.

दैनिक भास्कर

आइडिया का कराएं आईपी निबंधन, तभी लाभः डॉ. रंजीत

कानपुरी रिपोर्टर



'छोटे शहरों के युवा भी स्टार्टअप के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। उनके पास समाज में बदलाव के लिए नए-नए आइडिया, डिजाइन और विचार हैं। इस पर ध्यान देते अपने अधिकार के लिए आइडिया, विचार, डिजाइन व कलात्मक रचनाओं का इंटलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी राइट के तहत रजिस्ट्रेशन कराना जरूरी है।' यह बातें पेटेन्टी फैसर और कानपुर एंड इंडस्ट्रीज के महासचिव डॉ. रंजीत मेहता ने इंटलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी राइट पर आयोजित कार्यशाला में कहीं। वे मुख्य अतिथि थे। इसमें उद्यमेदार केयर जुलजी, छात्रसंघ अध्यक्ष प्रदीप टंडन, रश्मि कुमार, डॉ. हुमरा पठान, डॉ. अमित दुबे, राजीव पस. और प्रवीक सिंह मौजूद रहे।

हमारे पास अनुभवी टीम

डॉ. रंजीत मेहता ने कहा कि युवाओं के पास आइडिया तो है, लेकिन अनुभव की कमी है। हमारे पास पेशेवर, पेटेन्टेस, रिसर्चस्कूलर से जुड़े अनुभवी लोगों की टीम है। छात्रसंघ में आईजीकेवी, कडीसा विवि, इन्क्यूबेशन सेंटर्स जैसे संस्थाओं के साथ मिलकर हम स्टार्टअप, आइडिया व आईपी राइट जागरूकता के पर काम कर रहे हैं।

Bhaskar English

Delhi Budget 2025: BJP's first budget after historic win – key expectations, reforms, and revenue projections

Key Focus Areas for Delhi Budget 2025-26

The upcoming budget is expected to prioritize economic reforms, ease of doing business, compliance streamlining, and strengthening digital tax infrastructure.

According to Hemant Jain, president of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), critical areas of focus should include AI-driven financial services, improved ease of living, and advancements in education and healthcare. Additionally, the budget should emphasize employment opportunities for women, adoption of green technologies, and investments in wastewater treatment for sustainable development.

The Daily Guardian

PHDCCI is organising 3-day 'GI Mahotsav' to raise awareness on GI



City Lifestyle — Navbharat Times 03

PHD Family Welfare Foundation hosts its Annual Flagship Programme 'HUNAR UNLIMITED 2025 on Vikas Bharat' Showcasing Talent of its beneficiaries



NBT नवभारत टाइम्स

महानगर में आज



COVERAGE IMPRINTS

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Farmers should use tech to enhance soil quality, boost agricultural productivity: Union Minister Bhagirath Choudhary



Union Minister Bhagirath Choudhary praised the tireless efforts of scientists, industrialists, and farmers, which have enabled India to become self-sufficient in grain production.

Bhagirath Choudhary, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, on Monday stressed the importance of soil testing for farmers to grasp the specific needs of their land. Speaking at the National Agri Input Conclave 2025 organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in New Delhi, Choudhary pointed out that research centers and farmer producer organisations (FPOs) are readily available to support farmers. By leveraging these resources, farmers can make informed decisions, optimise resource utilisation, and ultimately enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability.

ANI
South Asia's Leading Multimedia News Agency

Coal & Mines MoS Satish Chandra Dubey asks industry to train employees for expertise in minerals sector

ANI | Updated: Mar 21, 2025 19:29 IST

New Delhi [India], March 21 (ANI): Satish Chandra Dubey, Minister of State for Coal & Mines on Friday asked the industry to train its employees to drive the required expertise in the minerals industry.

The Union Coal MoS said that the government is making continuous efforts to bridge the gap in the skilling.

Speaking at the PHDCCI's Conclave on Creating Future Ready Manpower for the Mining Sector, Dubey stated that with 65 per cent of India's population being young, I urge the youth to contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat.

the hindu businessline.

Develop drones that can operate at high altitudes: Maj Gen CS Mann

Our Bureau
New Delhi



Major General CS Mann

Major General CS Mann, Additional Director General of the Army Design Bureau, on Tuesday urged the defence industry to develop drones that meet tough operational conditions at high-altitude areas, including reduced performance of machines and frequent drying up of batteries that drive the unmanned systems.

Speaking on "Advancing the Drone Ecosystem Towards Viksit Bharat" — a topic at PHDCCI's Bharat Drone Manthan-2.0 — Major General Mann stated that the industry will gradually be able to meet the requirement and improve drone performance in the battlefields where terrain conditions are very different.

'NEED DURABILITY'

Batteries dry out very fast due to the peculiarities of the Himalayas and the varied atmosphere. The machine's performance goes down by 50 per cent, so drone stability is crucial in these challenging situations, he said.

He stated, "Our military goal is to have a drone for every soldier and establish drone incubation hubs at all military stations."

"In the recent Ukraine-Russia conflict, drones became a game changer in warfare tactics due to their capability, flexibility and versatility in operations. Tanks have their own relevance but the capability of drones is significant, and we need to use them for target strikes and precision attacks. Electronic warfare serves purposes such as communication, diffusion and reconnaissance of areas affected by chemical and radiological effects," he said on drone technology.

UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

Piyush Srivastava, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry of Civil Aviation, informed that the private sector demand is not picking up at the same pace, despite it being the biggest contributor to the GDP. He further urged that the sector must recognise its potential.

Expressing confidence that the drone industry is poised for a quantum leap and has immense revenue potential, Srivastava stated that the government rules for UAV exports have been relaxed to promote indigenisation for development and security requirements.

Shekhar Dutt, Member IIPA, called for regulation of drones weighing less than 250 grams which, as of now, do not need permits or approval. Such drones could be misused for offensive capabilities, he cautioned.

businessline.

Germany's GIZ, PHDCCI to collaborate to promote renewable energy

Updated - March 28, 2025 at 07:25 PM

Salil Gupta emphasised that energy transition is not merely a technological shift but a comprehensive transformation of the energy ecosystem

Industry body PHDCCI said on Friday that it will collaborate with GIZ (German Corporation for International Cooperation) to promote the expansion of renewable energy (RE) and a smooth energy transition.

BW BUSINESSWORLD

As Infrastructure Buckles Under Population Boom, Can India Catch Up?

> "This influx has not been met with adequate expansion in infrastructure. Urban infrastructure, such as roads, sanitation, transportation, and energy supply, is overwhelmed by the increasing demand. Long-term consequences of failing to address infrastructure demands include economic stagnation. Businesses are less likely to invest in areas where infrastructure is poor, which could deter both domestic and foreign investments," stated Hemant Jain, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI).

Traffic congestion remains a major issue, reducing workforce efficiency as people spend hours commuting instead of engaging in productive activities. By 2036 Indian cities will house 600 million people—40 per c of the population—up from 31 per cent in 2011,

CNBC TV18

India Q3 GDP Data Highlights: India's growth rate outshines global peers, says CEA

India Q3 GDP Data Live: India's remains resilient amid geopolitical challenges, says PHDCCI

Despite geopolitical headwinds India's growth at 6.2% in Q3 FY 2024-25 reflects India's resilience and the effectiveness of policies, said Mr. Hemant Jain, PHDCCI, in a press statement issued here today. The growth is largely driven by the strong performance of agriculture and allied sectors, which saw a growth rate of 5.6% in Q3 FY25. This rebound is expected to boost farmers' income and further enhance agricultural productivity and rural growth, said Mr. Jain.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA













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