



FTCCI *Review*

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THE FEDERATION OF TELANGANA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Vol.I. No. 34 | September 09, 2020



**Remembering former President and Bharat Ratna
Shri Pranab Mukharjee**



SPEED

SIDBI-Loan for Purchase of Equipment for Enterprise Development

Target Customers

Those who seek finance for purchase of machinery from OEMs but do not get an attractive rate of interest

Eligibility

- New to SIDBI: upto Rs.1 crore
- Existing: upto Rs. 2 crore
- 3 years vintage
- 2 years cash profits/stable sales
- No operating losses
- Greenfield allowed with co-borrower

Quick Sanction

- Quick turnaround time
- Loan sanction within 3 days of submitting information/ documents

Other Aspects

- Repayment period of 2-5 years
- RoI- 9.25%-10% p.a. as per internal rating
- Leased premises- Right to Access required
- Pvt. lease also covered subject to conditions.

Key Attractions

- 100% finance based on 25% FD (interest bearing)
- Attractive RoI
- No promoters' contribution

Coverage

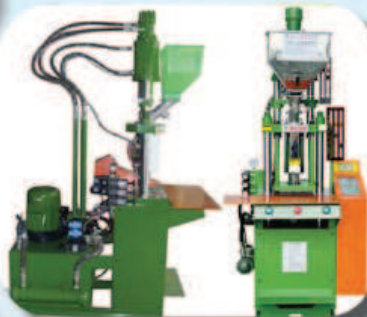
- Machines purchased from identified OEMs
- Expanding in same line of business

Application

- One-page application
- Standard KYC checks and due diligence
- Simplified scoring model

Quick Disbursement

- Short set of loan documents
- Disbursement within 4 days of sanction.
- Direct payment to OEM



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FTCCI *Review*

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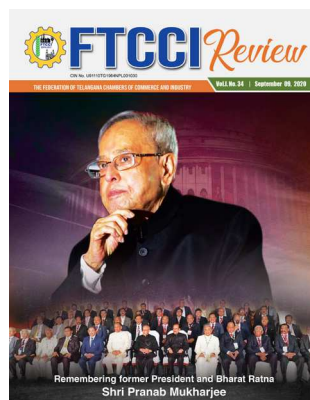
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offering write to us at
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Congratulations



Kondapally Bhaskar Reddy

Senior Vice-President

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry at its Annual General Body Meeting held on July 25, 2020, elected K.Bhaskar Reddy as Senior Vice President for the year 2020-21.

K Bhaskar Reddy hails from Suryapet District of Telangana State, graduated in Dairy Technology from Osmania University and completed his Executive MBA from Indian School of Business (ISB) – Hyderabad. He is the founder and Managing Director of Creamline Dairy Products Limited, Hyderabad.

Creamline Dairy has operation across southern states and 11 processing plant with the capacity of 1 million liters per day. Its milk and dairy products are sold under the popular brand name “JERSEY”. The Company has achieved a turnover of Rs. 1200 plus crore for the financial year ended March, 2019. Creamline Dairy Products Limited has become a subsidiary company of Godrej Agrovet Limited in 2015.

He has been conferred with the Entrepreneur of the Year 2001 awarded by Hyderabad Management Association, Hyderabad. He is an active member of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and Chairman of combined A.P. & Telangana State. Also the Chairman of Agriculture and Agro Based Industries Committee at FTCCI. He had been Chairman of Andhra Pradesh Association of Deaf & Dumb during the year 1995-2005.



Anil Agarwal

Vice-President

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry at its Managing Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2020, unanimously elected Anil Agarwal as Vice President for the year 2020-21.

He served as Managing Committee member for a decade and also chaired various expert committees of the Federation.

Anil Agarwal is a commerce graduate from Osmania University. He has joined family business of Iron and Steel in the year 1988. He served as a Director in M/s. Dhanlaxmi Iron Industries Pvt. Ltd. which is into Manufacturing of TMT Bars. Subsequently he became Managing Director of M/s. Jeevaka Industries Pvt. Ltd., which is into Manufacturing of Structural steels with Forward and Backward integration of Steel. He has got rich experience in Steel Making.

He loves travelling and is a sports enthusiast.



Dear Members

The full impact of the pandemic triggered national lockdown is reflected in worst contraction in GDP as the country witnessed its biggest GDP crash

in over 40 years, contracting by 23.9% on a yearly basis in the first quarter (April-June 2020) of the financial year '21.

The Covid-19 struck India at a time when the economic conditions were subdued on account of global slowdown and stress in domestic financial system. It is evident that as the world emerges from the current crisis, the next few years are likely to be marked by lack of buoyancy in growth. In these circumstances the industry and businesses needs to be very resilient and government also must have a long term strategy in place to cope up with various challenges. The stock markets, which is a economic barometer has gained much of lost ground and recovered, foreign investors are once again showing interest to invest in India resulting in our currency appreciation from Rs 75.50 to 73 against US Dollar.

The industry and exporters are facing the risk of de-globalization and in these most uncertain times the government's decision to cap export incentives under MEIS scheme at Rs.2 crore per exporter on outbound shipments made during September-December, 2020 is going to "seriously" affect exporters. These benefits are part of the export competitiveness and therefore the sudden change will affect exporters' financially. It is also a matter of concern that government put a cap of Rs 5000 crore for Sept-Dec quarter and that if claims exceeded this limit, the ceiling may further be revised downwards. This will create huge uncertainty and we appeal to government to extend the MEIS till March 31, 2021, co-terminus with existing Foreign Trade Policy.

The Toy industry has now huge potential to grow and Federation request the government of Telangana to encourage the entrepreneurs and incentivize them to enter into the industry. The time is right to set up an industrial park for toys

manufacturing units.

I must emphasize that digitalization will play a big role in reshaping retail and MSMEs in the economy. For instance, using aggregator apps, hyper-local vendors like our neighborhood kiranas and vegetable vendors are now able to provide door to- door services either via contactless payments or on an aggregate payment model. The government of Telangana has recently launched an online portal called 'kiranalinker.in' to help all kirana stores in the State to become digitized free of cost and offer their services to community through online payments and home deliveries. We request the members to use the facility and also to spread the word among business community for them to benefit from the facility.

We are actively interacting with government to address the grievances of industry and business community and submitting representations on various issues such as disbursement of incentives, property tax Amnesty Scheme announced by the govt, power supply issues etc. The details are given in inside pages.

Federation has formed a Committee on Health and Disaster Management to facilitate various services to members related to health and I appeal to members to use the services for the benefit of their family members. The Federation is engaging with policy makers through webinars and is conducting online skill development courses for the members to update their knowledge. We are very pleased to inform you that there was tremendous response for two courses - one on "Compensation and Benefits Management" for HR professionals and one on GST commenced on 4th S

I am extremely pleased to inform that FTCCI has opened a "Business Facilitation Centre" at GMR Air Cargo terminal, Shamshabad to provide various services to exporters and to lend its support to the industry and government in promoting economic growth and cross border trade. Let us all work together for strengthening and promoting industrial progress.

Ramakanth Inani
President



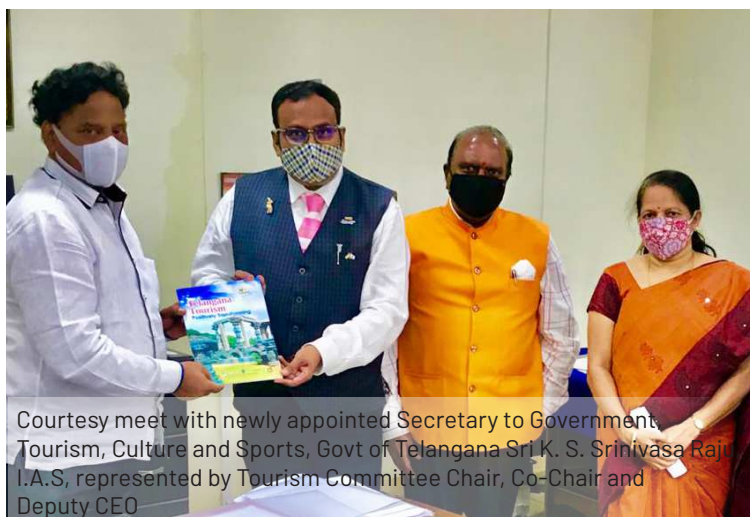
FTCCI Office Bearers at Welspun Flooring Factory visit led by Mr Sreesha Bharghav, VP Laisoning, Welspun Flooring along with Mr S K Joshi, Former Chief Secretary and Mr Saurabh Kumar, CEO, GMR AirCargo



Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI presenting "FTCCI-Centenary Book" to Mr. J.S. Chandrashekar, IRS., Principal Commissioner of Customs, Hyderabad



Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI addressing at the 43rd Foundation Day Celebrations of AP Mahesh Co-Op. Urban Bank Ltd.



Courtesy meet with newly appointed Secretary to Government, Tourism, Culture and Sports, Govt of Telangana Sri K. S. Srinivasa Raju I.A.S, represented by Tourism Committee Chair, Co-Chair and Deputy CEO



Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI presenting "FTCCI-Centenary Book" to Mr. Govinda Rajulu Chintala, Chairman, NABARD.

Inauguration of FTCCI Business Facilitation Centre at GMR Air Cargo Terminal



September 3, 2020

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) established a FTCCI Business Facilitation Centre on September 3, 2020 at GMR Air Cargo Terminal.

Considering the demand and to facilitate the exporters during the unprecedented times of pandemic, FTCCI Business Facilitation Centre (FTCCI-BFC) situated at GMR Air Cargo Terminal, Shamshabad, is set up to provide business services, update on the happenings and disseminate the activities of FTCCI, so that the entrepreneurs/exporters can leverage the services of FTCCI, for their growth and development.



The centre was inaugurated by Mr. J.S. Chandrashekar, IRS., Principal Commissioner of Customs, Hyderabad Customs Commissionerate, in the presence of Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, Mr. K. Bhasker Reddy, Sr. Vice President, Ms. Khyati Naravane, CEO, FTCCI and Mr. Saurabh Kumar, CEO, GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo.

Mr. J.S. Chandrashekar, IRS., Principal Commissioner of Customs, Hyderabad Customs Commissionerate while delivering the keynote address appreciated FTCCI for its efforts and initiative in bringing the services at the doorstep of importers and exporters. He stressed that apart

from following the footsteps of Delhi, Mumbai & Chennai, Hyderabad needs to think out of box and make the experience

seamless for exporters so that more exports can take place from Hyderabad. We should think ahead of times which should help business grow much faster.

Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President expressed that after 103 years of the federation, it is first-ever 'Business Facilitation Centre' outside FTCCI Office, aimed to assist trade & industry by issuing Certificate of Origin & Export Document attestation, Visa Recommendation & Foreign Travel Reference services and place of shipment at airport itself.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Saurabh Kumar, CEO-GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo expressed his happiness to have the FTCCI Business Facilitation Centre as part of their integrated Air Cargo Ecosystem. He mentioned about the concept of Cargo Village created by GMR to bring-in all related air cargo service providers, authorities and trade in a single location for easy access and quick turn-around time. They are one of the few Cargo Terminals in the Country to have Regulators, Industry Bodies, Agents, Forwarders and Certification Agencies under the same roof.

Mr. Gopi Donti Reddy, Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Mrithyujai, Deputy Commissioner, Hyderabad Customs, Mr. Tulasi Prasad, President, Custom House Agent, Hyd., Mr. Adil Khan, President, Customs Brokers Association, Hyderabad, Mr. Purshottam Singh Thakur, Head-Operations and Ms. Parul K, Head-BD & Marketing, GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo also participated in the inaugural ceremony as a special guests.

FTCCI Recommendations



Put forth to State & Central Governments

Gist of Representations / Recommendations

To,
Sri Jayesh Ranjan, IAS
Principal Secretary
Department of Industries and Commerce
and ITE&C Government of Telangana

Sub: Status of Disbursement of Incentives-reg

Ref:G.O RT No. 69, dt. 27-07-2020 of Industries & Commerce Department

As on 05-03-2020, the total amount of sanctioned incentives pendin (General, Gen-PHC, SCP & TSP) for release is Rs. 2455.863 crore to 28,100 of units.

Government of Telangana vide GO RT No 69 accorded administrative sanction for an amount of Rs. 380.41 crore from the BE provision 2020-21 towards meeting the 1st quarter under Head of Account.

We understood that instructions were given to disburse the substantial portion of sanctioned amount to few industrial units belonging to Cotton & Textiles sector, Ferro Alloys and Others.

FTCCI being a nodal agency receiving many queries from our members on the sanction of incentives and wish to represent those queries as below:

- 1)Would the govt be kind enough to share the rationale behind the release of this Rs. 380.41 crores only to a select few industries as the list does not seem to be on age wise priority?
- 2)When would the Rs. 1500 crore budget allocated for industrial incentives in BE 2020-21 be released for disbursement?
- 3)When can the industries expect the incentives disbursement as per seriatim?

To,
Sri Shaktikanta Das
Governor,
Reserve Bank of India

Sub: Request for extension of moratorium to MSME's up to 31st December 2020

The present moratorium is ending on August 31st, 2020 and due to non-availability of any surplus fund, MSME's are facing the trouble to repay. Many MSME are staring at the prospect of payment of EMI's with added interest to their loan amounts. Any forced recovery of EMI's at this hour will threaten the survival of industry and may lead to more production and revenue loss effecting the economy and employment.

FTCCI requested RBI to extend the moratorium period till December 31st, 2020 to enable MSME recover from revenue and production losses and sustain in the market.

To,
Sri. K. Taraka Rama Rao,
Hon'ble Minister of Industries, MA & UD,
ITE&C Government of Telangana

Sub: Request for Extension of Date of Filing of claim of incentives for the period October 2019 to March 2020 (second half year of 2019-2020) by a period of three months

As per the Industrial Promotion Policy guidelines, the last date for filing of claim of incentives such as power subsidy, interest subsidy under pavalavaddi, reimbursement of SGST for the second half of the FY 2019-20 is 30th of September 2020.

Keeping in view the difficulties faced by industries because of COVID-19 Pandemic, FTCCI requested Hon'ble Minister to extend the last date for filing of application for claim of incentives for the second half of FY 2019-20 by a period of three months, i.e. instead of 30th Sep 2020 to Dec' 31, 2020. This principled act of the government will surely help the Industrial units that are currently facing difficult times to submit their claim applications and save them from missing out on the incentives.

Sub: OTAS Scheme- waiver of 90% arrear interest on Property Tax till the FY 2019-2020 – Request for resolving the long pending grievances of Industrial Property Tax Payers- reg

Ref: 1. G.O. Rt No. 306, MA & UD Department, Government of Telangana, 28/7/202

2. G.O. MS No. 88 Dated 5/3/2011, Government of AP

3. Lr No. 29/CTI/CTS/GHMC/2020

The Department of MA and UD, Govt of Telangana has approved One Time Amnesty Scheme (OTAS) proposed by Commissioner, GHMC, to incentivize the Property Tax payers and ordered waiver of 90% accumulated arrear interest on Property Tax (Ref.1) and is being extended to all IALAs through TSIIC.

The cases filed against the revision of Property Tax vide G.O MS No 88 are still pending in the Court and the matter is subjudice. Under these

circumstances, the pending tax arrears from industrial property owners cannot be cleared unless the issue of abnormal revision is resolved and settled.

It is also to bring to your notice that there are wide disparities in the tax rates among the different IALAs in the State, and the increase in property tax rates has impacted the units differently located in different IALAs. This is because of the wide gap between the tax rates of IALAs situated in the same region and we request you to bring parity in the tax rates between various IALAs.

FTCCI requested Hon'ble Minister to look into the matter and direct the concerned authorities to resolve the grievances of industrial property owners.

To,
Sri Guntakandla Jagadish Reddy
Hon'ble Minister of Energy,
Government of Telangana

Sub: TSTRANSCO demand for Grid Development activities-reg

There are certain issues that are hindering the expansion/establishment of new units and one such area is "Power Connections". It has been brought to the FTCCI notice that the TS TRANSCO is putting undue burden on the entrepreneurs seeking 132KV or higher HT Connections by demanding for constructing additional lines in lieu of grid development from one sub-station to the other. The additional cost to be incurred for grid development is putting away the entrepreneurs from expanding/establishing the industrial units in the state.

Therefore, Requested request you to relook into the matter and take a positive decision in favour of entrepreneurs. The present crisis warrants for more support to industry to improve revenue and create more employment opportunities, benefitting all.



Coal India's fuel supply to power sector drops about 20 per cent in Apr-Jul

State-owned Coal India's fuel supply to the power sector registered a decline of 19.5 per cent to 126.30 million tonnes (MT) in the April-July period of the ongoing fiscal in the wake of slump in coal demand. Coal India Ltd (CIL) had despatched 156.86 MT of fuel in April-July last year, according to the latest data of the coal ministry.

The despatch of coal by CIL in July fell 12.4 per cent to 32.76 MT, from 37.41 MT supply in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal, it said. The coal despatch by Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) almost dropped by 47.2 per cent to 9.68 MT in the first four months of the current financial year, from 18.32 MT of fuel supplied in the corresponding period a year ago.

The coal supply by SCCL last month dropped to 2.40 MT from 4.33 MT in July 2019. Coal India accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output.

Demand for domestic coal is likely to be subdued in the second quarter of the current financial year due to lower demand from end-user industries amid the COVID-19 pandemic along with high inventory at power stations, India Ratings had said in a report.

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/coal/coal-indias-fuel-supply-to-power-sector-drops-about-20-per-cent>

DISCOMs leave 16.8GW green power projects in a limbo as tariffs crash

State electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) are hesitating to

sign contracts after large clean power projects were awarded, as they spot cheaper tariffs elsewhere, a trend that could hurt India's image of a rules-based regime, and its future as a green economy.

Solar and wind energy projects totaling 16.8 GigaWatts (GW) worth a potential investment of around Rs.60,000 crore are in limbo, two people aware of the development said, as steadily falling tariffs prompt cash-strapped DISCOMs to shop for cheaper rates.

DISCOMs typically sign power supply agreements (PSAs) with intermediary procurers such as state-run Solar Energy Corp. of India (SECI), which in turn sign power purchase agreements (PPAs) with project developers. States' reluctance to sign PSAs is now leading to a further delay in signing PPAs. India's solar power tariffs hit a record low of Rs.2.36 per unit at a SECI auction in June. Renegotiating auctioned tariffs could hurt India's ability to attract global investors and damage the sanctity of India's tendering process, at a time the country is running the world's largest green energy programme. This also comes against the backdrop of the Andhra Pradesh and Punjab governments seeking to renegotiate clean energy contracts for operational projects.

The Union power ministry has proposed setting up an Electricity Contract Enforcement Authority to enforce PPAs in the draft amendments to the Electricity Act, 2003. To be sure, the covid-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown have worsened DISCOMs' already precarious finances.

"Revenues of power distribution companies have nosedived as people are unable to pay for the electricity consumed while power supplies, being an essential service, have been maintained... The liquidity of the power sector is not expected to improve in the short term, as economic activity and power demand will take some time to pick up," a government statement said.

Debt financing for green energy

projects has also been drying up, with large banks declining to fund projects that have committed to sell power at less than Rs.3 per unit. Banks are wary of lending to developers as they suspect viability of projects promising power at rock-bottom rates.

The development also assumes importance given the rapid pace of clean energy capacity addition by India. India now has 34.6GW of solar power and 38GW of wind power and seeks to produce 100GW from solar projects and 60GW from wind power plants by March 2022.

<https://www.livemint.com/industry/energy/discoms-leave-16-8gw-green-power>



Solar, wind energy projects of 21,142 MW capacity under construction in India

Solar and wind energy projects of over 21,142 Megawatt (Mw) are currently under construction in India over and above the 88,000 Mw already installed generation capacity based on the two clean resources.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the country's apex power sector planning body, said in a report the projects are getting built across key resource-rich states including Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh and were bid out under multiple schemes. The report also said the government had tendered projects with 31,500 Mw capacity of which 23,246 Mw capacity projects were awarded to developers.

These projects were tendered under

programmes such as the Solar Energy Corporation of India's 2-GW ISTS-connected scheme, 750 MW Rajasthan projects, 150 MW grid-connected floating solar PV plants, 750 MW Kadapa solar park project, the CPSU scheme's tranche-I of 2 GW and tranche-II of 1,500 MW, and nine tranches of SECI's wind schemes.

The data of under construction renewable energy projects shared in the report also showed time over-runs across multiple projects. Mahindra Renewables' 250-MW project in Rajasthan -- to be developed in Jodhpur and bidded under the 2-GW ISTS-connected solar project scheme -- has been rescheduled to 31 January 2021 from the earlier date of 25 October 2020. Similarly, ACME's Deoghar solar project had an original scheduled completion date of 8 November, 2020, which has now been shifted to 7 January, 2022. CEA said the data shared in the report was collected from SECI, MNRE and RE developers.

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com>



EV industry needs more incentives

The Telangana state government will have to dole out more incentives if it intends to attract more investments in the Electric Vehicle space.

Speaking at the CII 'Make in Telangana' session on 'Accelerating EV manufacturing in India: Future of Electric Mobility', Executive director of Olectra Greentech Ltd, said the state government giving 20 per cent capital subsidy with a cap of Rs 30 crore is inadequate to capture large-scale

manufacturing in the state.

EV manufacturers coming in the state, many ancillary units too will be set up and the government must try to ensure that the both the anchor as well as ancillary units also come up beyond Hyderabad.

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/telangana-ev-industry-needs-more-incentives/77795417>



For the sixth year, no power rate hike for Delhi

Delhi has yet again been spared an increase in electricity rates by the regulator, sixth year in a row. The new tariff schedule will be applicable from 1 September.

The tariff levels for the year to March will remain unchanged primarily because the regulator didn't consider any revenue increase for the distribution firms—BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd (BRPL), BSES Yamuna Power Ltd (BYPL), Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL), and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on account of the coronavirus pandemic.

While the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) increased the pension trust surcharge from the 3.80% to 5% for the erstwhile Delhi Vidyut Board employees, it waived off the 20% surcharge under time of day (ToD) tariff for September 2020 to provide relief to consumers.

"However, due to outbreak of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) which has been declared as a pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) (GoNCTD's Notification No.F.51/DGHS/PH- IV/ COVID19/2020/prsecyhw/2393-2407 dated 13/03/2020), the Public Hearing

which was scheduled on 18/03/2020 was cancelled," the DERC said in a press statement.

At the moment, electricity rates as approved by DERC for domestic consumers start at Rs.3 per unit for consumption of up to 200 units, going up to Rs4.50 per unit for 200-400 units, Rs6.50 per unit for 400-800 units, Rs7 per unit for 800-1200 units, and Rs8 per unit for consumption beyond 1200 units. "The Commission has waived off existing provision of 20% Surcharge under ToD Tariff for September 2020 in order to facilitate Non-Domestic, Industrial, Public Utilities and Domestic Consumers (optional) etc. in this COVID-19 situation," the statement added. While India's electricity demand is recovering amid gradual lifting of the lockdown, it is yet to reach the pre-pandemic days. Delhi's electricity demand touched an all-time high of 7,409 MW in July last year.

"In order to promote pollution free transportation and clean environment, the Commission has decided to continue with the subsidized tariff rates for E-Rickshaw/E-Vehicle category," the statement said.

This comes in the backdrop of the Delhi government's announcement of incentivizing purchase of electric vehicles with benefits of up to Rs 30,000 for two-wheelers and Rs 1.5 lakh for cars.

"Tariff for charging stations for E-Rickshaw/E-vehicle on single point delivery as notified in this Tariff Schedule shall also be applicable for charging of batteries at swapping facilities provided that such swapping facilities are exclusively used for swapping of batteries of E-Rickshaw/E-Vehicle only," the statement added.

Delhi's policy on electric vehicles (EVs) focuses on two-wheelers, four-wheelers, shared transport vehicles, and commercial vehicles to lead the change to electric mobility. The government aims to have 25% of the cars registered to be EVs by 2024.

<https://www.livemint.com/industry/energy/for-the-fifth-year-no-power-rate-hike-for-delhi-11598623466336.html>

GST shortfall: States told to borrow under special window



Even if states choose the first option, which means the revenue gap is not fully bridged this year, their compensation entitlement for this year would be protected but would be paid to them from the cess collected after the five years of GST have lapsed. The borrowing plan is valid for this year only and the GST Council would review the revenue position next fiscal.

The Centre's reasoning is the extra deficit of Rs 1.38 lakh crore is due to the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, which, as finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman put it, is an "extraordinary Act of God situation"

The Centre on Thursday presented two options before the states to bridge their estimated goods and services tax (GST) revenue shortfall of Rs 2.35 lakh crore (after taking into consideration the compensation cess fund) in FY21, both involving the states themselves borrowing from the market in the year. The loans will be serviced via the proceeds of the relevant compensation cess, which will apply on the specified demerit goods for a year or more beyond the current end date of FY22.

The options, as revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey explained to reporters after the 41st GST Council meeting here, are the following: 1) States borrow Rs 97,000 crore, which is the estimated shortfall, only "on account of GST" under a special window to be facilitated in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at a 'reasonable G Sec-linked interest

rate'; 2) they borrow the entire Rs 2.35 lakh crore.

The Centre's reasoning is the extra deficit of Rs 1.38 lakh crore is due to the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, which, as finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman put it, is an "extraordinary Act of God situation". The states have been asked to convey their choice to the Council in seven working days.

The estimate of the GST shortfall implies the Centre expects the gross monthly GST revenue for August-March period of this fiscal to be around Rs 90,000/month, only marginally higher than Rs 87,422 crore collected in July.

In the first four months of this year, the gross GST receipts were way below 'targets' largely owing to the Covid-19 pandemic and averaged at just Rs 68,100 crore. This has already caused a shortfall of around Rs 1 lakh crore for the states for the period (assuming 50% of the gross receipts are for states after I-GST settlements),

against the 'protected' revenue level, after factoring in Rs 22,930 crore collected as compensation cess.

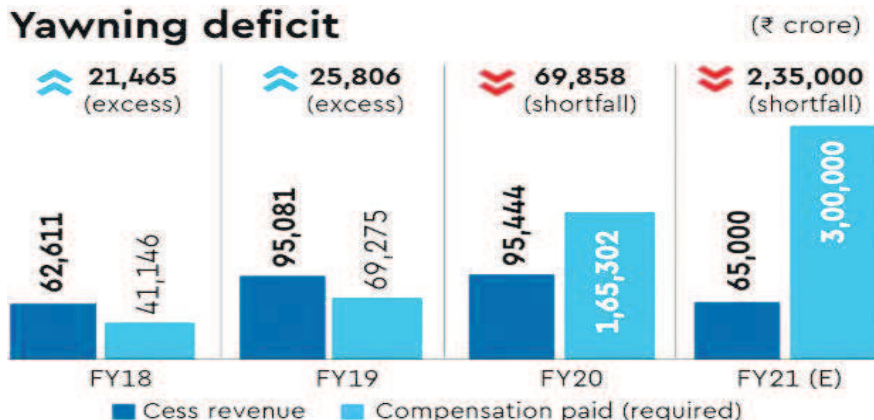
The first option comes with the incentive of 0.5% unconditional FRBM relaxation for states. In May, the Centre raised the net borrowing limit for state governments liberally from 3% of G-SDP to 5% to make available an additional Rs 4.28 lakh crore to all the states combined, given the revenue dip caused by Covid-19.

While 0.5 percentage point of the extra borrowing window will be available to all states unconditionally, many reform riders are attached to the balance facility. The Centre would rather expect the states to choose the first option and may consider relaxing the conditions to encourage them to do so.

There is actually little room for the government to raise the consolidated government borrowing level; the Centre itself had announced a sharp 54% increase in its FY21 gross borrowing target to Rs 12 lakh crore from Rs 7.8 lakh crore planned initially. The Centre is also contemplating another dose of fiscal stimulus, even though it is keen on reducing the extra budgetary cost of it by re-jigging the expenditure.

Even if states choose the first option, which means the revenue gap is not fully bridged this year, their compensation entitlement for this year would be protected but would be paid

Yawning deficit



to them from the cess collected after the five years of GST have lapsed. The borrowing plan is valid for this year only and the GST Council would review the revenue position next fiscal.

"We shall facilitate the process (by) talking to the Reserve Bank and getting it at a G-Sec linked (proportionate number of years) rates for all the states so that each state doesn't have to go running for the loan and face different situations," Sitharaman said. She said

that the Centre will facilitate borrowing so that all states can avail loans, at roughly the same interest rate.

On the question of which entity would act as the guarantor for the loans, Sitharaman said: "It is based on the GST Council's decision and the loans are tied to the cess collection after the fifth year. So there are all these instrumentalities through which the lender would be assured."

The government is estimating the cess proceeds in the current year to be Rs just 65,000 crore, against Rs 95,444 crore collected last year. It is unclear at this stage if the financing of the market borrowings by the states would require applying the cess on more items and/or increasing the cess rates.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/gst-shortfall-states-told-to-borrow-under-special-window/2067647/>

India's economic growth slips 23.9% in Q1 of 2020-21

Owing to a strict nationwide lockdown due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) during the bulk of the first quarter of the financial year 2020-21, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the April-June quarter (Q1) slipped by a sharp 23.9 per cent, as per provisional estimates released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on Monday. The GDP had expanded by 5.2 per cent in the corresponding quarter of 2019-20.

The June quarter GDP data is the worst contraction in the history of the Indian economy mainly because the central government on March 25 had ordered a complete lockdown of most of the manufacturing and service sectors owing to the spread of COVID-19. Only essential services such as food items and medicines were allowed during this period as the country tried to curb the spread of the virus across the country. The GDP for the preceding January-March quarter (Q4) of 2019-20 had witnessed a growth of 3.1 per cent.

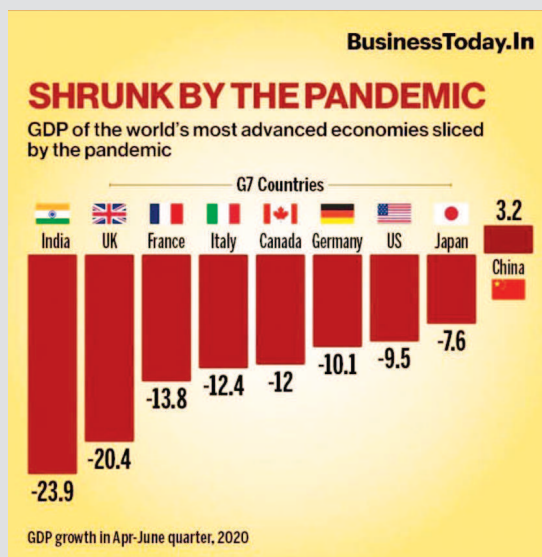


the National Statistical Office (NSO), all key sectors except agriculture witnessed contractions, with construction witnessing a drop of a whopping 50.3 per cent while the manufacturing industry saw a 39.3 per cent fall. Apart from these two industries, electricity, gas, water supply and other utility services slipped 7 per cent. Trade, hotels, transport, communication and services related to broadcasting contracted 47.0 per cent.

Economy seeing V-shaped recovery, says Chief Economic Adviser

Chief Economic Adviser KV Subramanian told PTI the first-quarter economic performance was "driven primarily due to an exogenous shock that has been felt globally". The World Economic Outlook, he said, had highlighted countries across the globe where GDP per capita would decrease the most since 1870 — once in one-and-a-half century event. "Which is what we are going through," he said. He also added that the country was witnessing a V-shaped recovery as the economy unlocks. "Despite local lockdowns, e-way Bills are at 99.9% year-on-year. Have to keep in mind that the pandemic will have its ebb and flow and that is not a short term uncertainty," he told the media outlet.

<https://indianexpress.com>



As per the government data, the gross value added (GVA) at basic price at constant terms during the June quarter shrunk 22.8 per cent. The GVA at Basic Price at Current Prices slipped 20.6 per cent in Q1 2020-21. As per the data by

SPECIAL *Feature*



Highlights of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann ki Baat

In his monthly 'Mann ki Baat' address, Mr. Modi spoke on a range of issues but kept the focus on the theme of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 30, 2020 called upon start-ups and entrepreneurs to "team up for toys", pointing out that India's share in the Rs.7 lakh crore global toy market is minuscule. He asserted that the country has the potential to be a hub for the industry.

"You will be surprised to know that the global toy industry is of more than Rs.7 lakh crore. Such a big business, but India's share is very little in this. Now, just spare a thought for a nation which has so much of heritage, tradition, variety, young population. Will it feel good to have such little share in the toy market?" he asked. "To my start-up friends, to our new entrepreneurs I say team up for toys. For everybody it is the time to get vocal for local toys."

Mr. Modi praised farmers for proving their mettle during the pandemic. Ahead of Teachers' Day, he appreciated the role of teachers in imparting education through technology and innovation and urged them to teach students about local events and heroes of the freedom struggle as India approached 75 years of Independence in 2022.

Mr. Modi also said September would be "Nutrition Month" like the previous, with the government now making it into a mass movement and building an agricultural database of crops grown in each district and their related nutritional value.

We need to cut down on the use of land, water and fertilisers'

It's time to focus on soil health, says 2020 World Food Prize winner Rattan Lal

"Soil sciences was a promising area when I entered (the field) in the late 1960s and remains just so and not popular as we get into the 2020s. But the bestowing of the World Food Prize for my work is a clear recognition of its crucial role in agriculture," says Rattan Lal, winner of the 2020 award.

In a way, the \$250,000-award, considered the Nobel Prize for Agriculture, is the crowning glory for the 75-year-old Indian-American soil scientist, who hails from Haryana. It follows the prestigious World Agriculture Prize (2019) and the Japan Prize (2018) for Soil Technology. Lal, a Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science and founding Director of the Carbon



Management and Sequestration Center at the Ohio State University (OSU), has already created an endowment at the university. Very soon, he intends to start another with the WFP money. The entire focus will be on promoting soil science, he said.

Says Lal: "We use more land, water and fertilizers than required now. We have to decrease and not increase all

these." For example, the land under cereal crops should be reduced to 500 million hectare from the present 700 million hectare. Water used for irrigation has to be brought down by a third. This is possible through drip irrigation. Use of fertilizers and pesticides should be reduced by improving soil health — all these while ensuring higher productivity and making agricultural practices nature-friendly.

On Green Revolution

Lal feels that his winning the award is not only a recognition of the 700 million small farmers across the globe but also the soil-centric approach of the Green Revolution. "It was a miracle... a Godsend, as production quadrupled. We had the PL-480 from the US and with it weeds too. But it was seed-centric."

After a decade at least, a shift towards soil health and improvement should have happened. It has not changed much even now. The heady mix of seed-water-chemical

in excess over decades has had a disastrous impact on soil health. India and developing nations must improve productivity and sustainability by improving both soil and environment. It's no longer a question of either or, he asserts.

On corporate farming

Lal says the core issue is managing land well, be it a small farmer, a corporate or a farm cooperative. One solution is to wean away people from agriculture and towards industry, especially in India where 60 per cent are dependent on farming. Second is to reverse land fragmentation by some novel thinking.

He says more money, of course, is needed for research and education. But the question is how best it can be utilised. We need a holistic approach to make agriculture more natural, resource-based and sustainable. For this, a certain mindset is needed, he adds.

5 key investment lessons from world's third richest man

Warren Buffett, one of the most successful investors in the world. The chairman and the chief executive officer of investment firm Berkshire Hathaway. Berkshire Hathaway is the fourth largest in the world, with assets worth \$819.7 billion, according to Forbes

His most famous advice for investors is — "Rule No. 1: Never lose money. Rule No. 2: Never forget rule No.1."

Here are five investment lessons from 'Oracle of Omaha'

"Never invest in a business you cannot understand."

The golden rule of Warren Buffett is that one should invest in those businesses that they understand. Buffett has always invested in sectors that he believes in. When economic condition is uncertain, stick to what you know. One should always be rational and stick to homework when researching businesses in which to invest. "Buy a stock the way you would buy a house. Understand and like it such that you'd be content to own it in the absence of any market," he said.

If you're not investing, you're doing it wrong

Holding on to cash is a bad investment. One should not keep too much liquidity. Investors should always look for ways to generate returns from existing assets "Today people who hold cash equivalents feel comfortable. They shouldn't. They have opted for a terrible long-term asset, one that pays virtually nothing and is certain to depreciate in value," Buffett said.

Stick to your long term plans

"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago," Buffett said. One should always look at the long term plans while investing. Buffett's

mantra is — "Only buy something that you'd be perfectly happy to hold if the market shut down for 10 years." As Buffett says, "Decide a business is worth investing in because it will last, not because it's doing well right now."

Invest in yourself

"I insist on a lot of time being spent, almost every day, to just sit and think. That is very uncommon in American business. I read and think. So I do more reading and thinking, and make less impulse decisions than most people in business."

Credit cards debt

Millennials, this is for you. Buffett has earlier advised people to avoid using credit cards as a piggy bank. "I don't know how to make 18%. If I owe money with 18% interest, the first thing I would do with any money I have is to pay it (credit card due). It's gonna be way better than any investment idea I have got," he said.

"You can't go through life, borrowing money at those rates and be better off. So, I encourage everybody and it's contrary to Berkshire's interest in certain cases and in the world with love in the credit cards... I would suggest to anybody that the first thing they do in life is that they can get something else later on, but don't be paying even 12% to anybody just pay that off..." said Buffett.

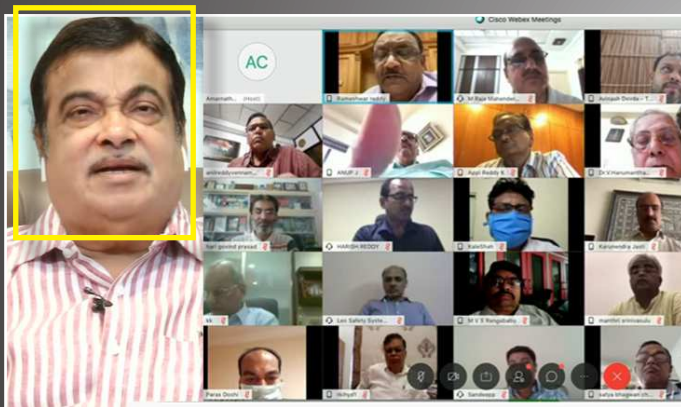




FTCCI Webinars



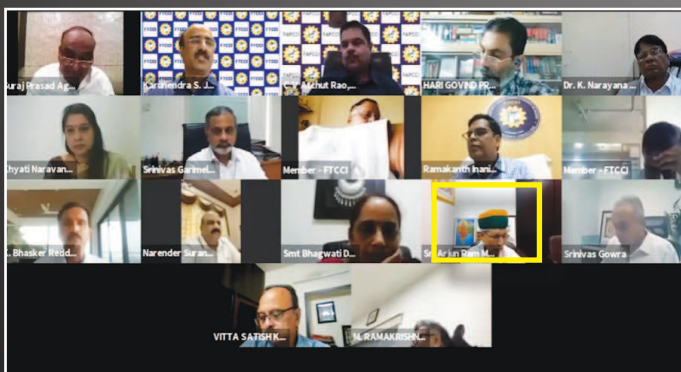
Video Conference of Shri Anurag Thakurji,
MOS Finance with FTCCI Members
May 2, 2020



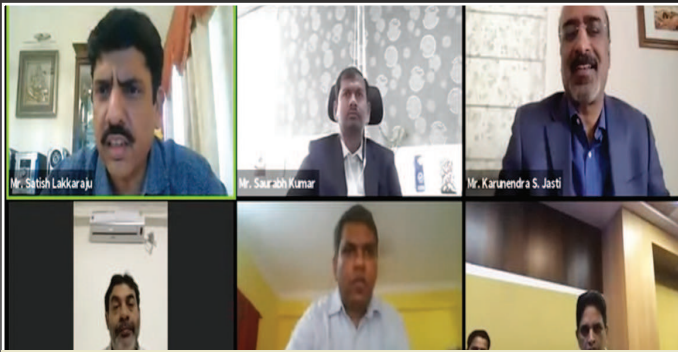
Interaction of MSMEs in Telangana with
Shri Nitin Gadkari ji, Union Minister for MSMEs
May 11, 2020



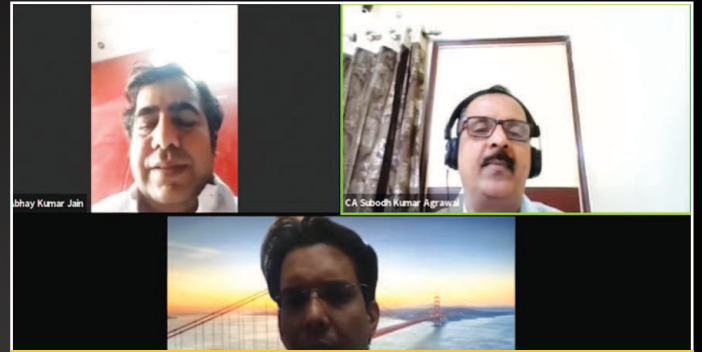
Interaction with Mr.G.Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Union
Minister of State for Home Affairs, GOI on
Understanding MHA Guidelines
May 6, 2020



Atmanirbhar Bharat with Sri Arjun Ram Meghwal
I.A.S (Retd.) Minister of State for Heavy Industries &
Public Enterprises and Parliamentary Affairs, GoI
June 22, 2020 :



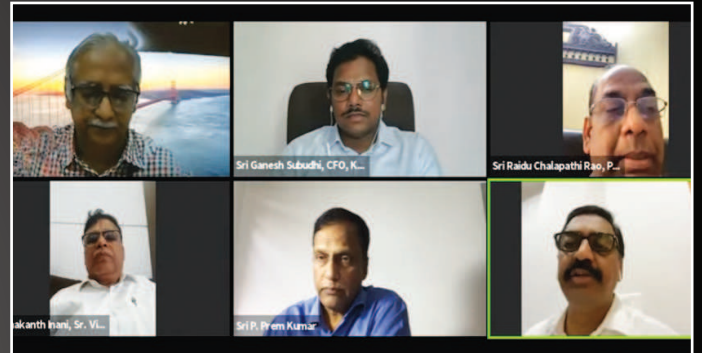
EXIM trade during Lockdown of
Pandemic COVID-19
April 1, 2020



COVID-19 impact on Insolvency
and Bankruptcy Code
April 14, 2020



COVID-19 Lockdown
Issues in Employee Wages, PF & ESI
April 8, 2020



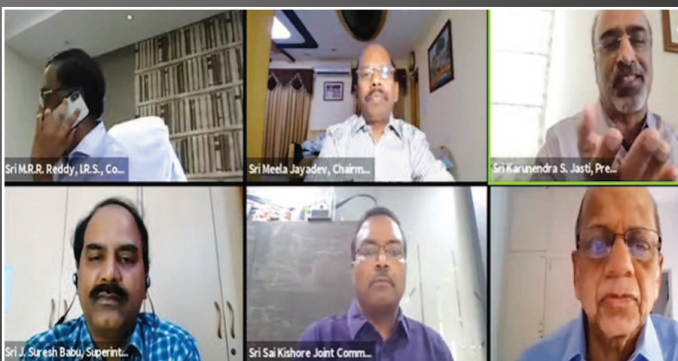
Facing the Global Pandemic -
The Way forward for Real Estate
April 18, 2020



Study Circle Meeting on "Concessions and
Waivers to Businesses due to COVID-19"
April 8, 2020



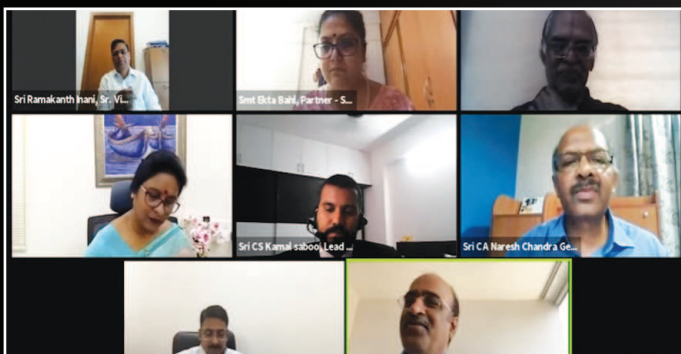
Supporting Agriculture & Horticulture in COVID-19
Practical Approaches and Strategies
April 22, 2020



Easing of Statutory Compliance under GST
in view of Covid-19 Lockdown
April 13, 2020



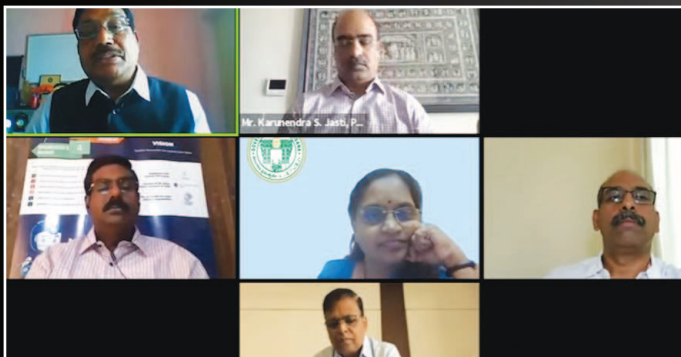
Travel & Hospitality
April 25, 2020



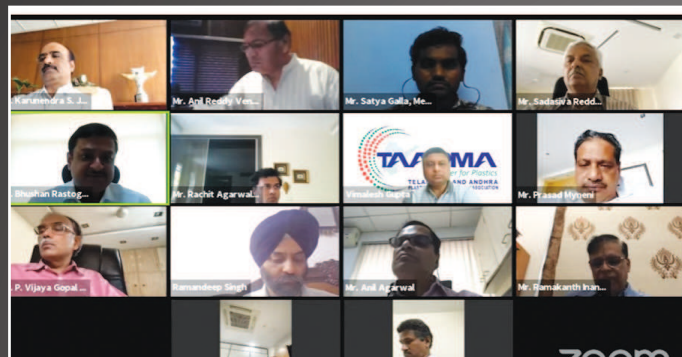
Force Majeure clause and It's Impact
in view of COVID-19
April 27, 2020



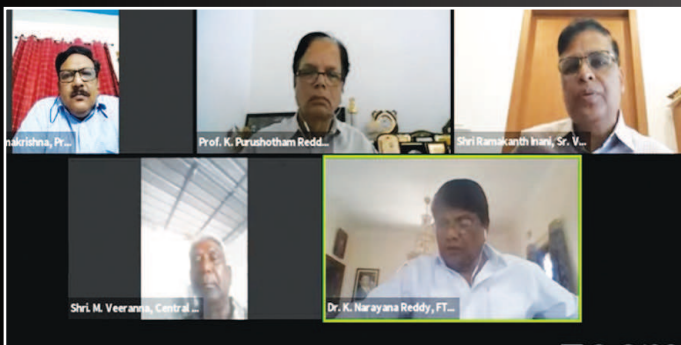
Digital Footprint - Importance in Financial
and Reporting Framework
May 15, 2020



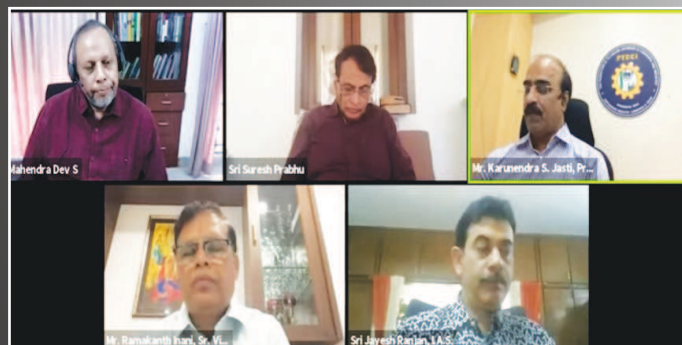
Impact of COVID-19 Cyber
Security & Data Protection
April 30, 2020



Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2020 :
May 21, 2020



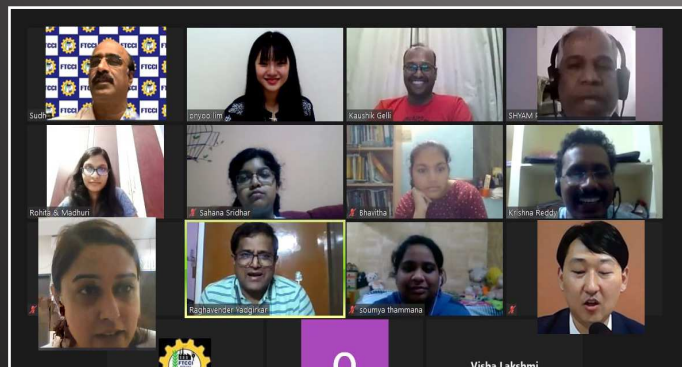
Looking Beyond COVID 19
and the Future of Climate Change
May 4, 2020



Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Economy
June 6, 2020



Impact on Labour law
compliance including payment of
Wages, EPF and ESI-AP:
May 13, 2020



Inauguration of Certificate
Course in KOREAN Language
June 12, 2020



Webinar on "Interim order of Supreme Court on Lockdown Wages- Impact on Industry"

Members are aware that the Supreme Court has given an Interim order dated 12-06-2020 providing interim measures that can be availed by all the Private Establishments, Industries, Factories and Worker Trade Unions etc.

FTCCI is organizing a webinar on the said order of the Supreme Court on Lockdown Wages and its Impact on Industry to create awareness of the Order and the guidelines stated.

Date: June 23, 2020 | Time: 4:00 PM.

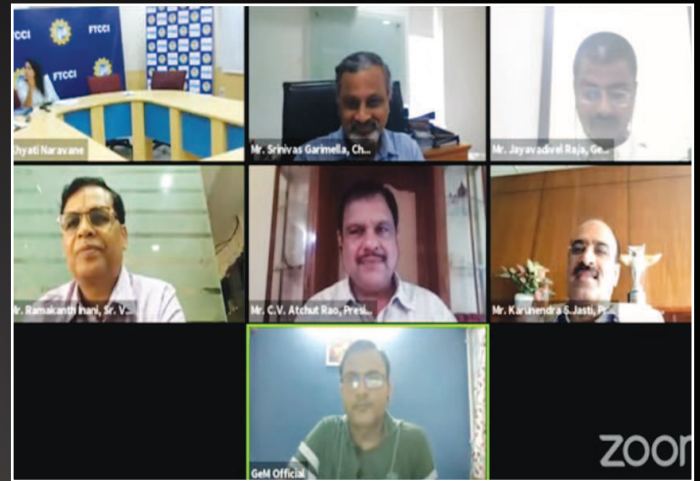
Speakers:

Sri R. Chandra Shekaram, Joint Commissioner of Labour, Ranga Reddy Zone, Govt of Telangana

Sri C. Niranjan Rao, Advocate, High Courts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Registration Fee: Rs.300/- (incl. taxes)
Register Here: <https://forms.gle/3ggiaDn8FTNNM3eu5>

Interim order of Supreme Court on Lockdown Wages Impact on Industry June 23, 2020



Training Programme on Government e-Market place (GeM) functionalities for MSME's and Startups July 3, 2020

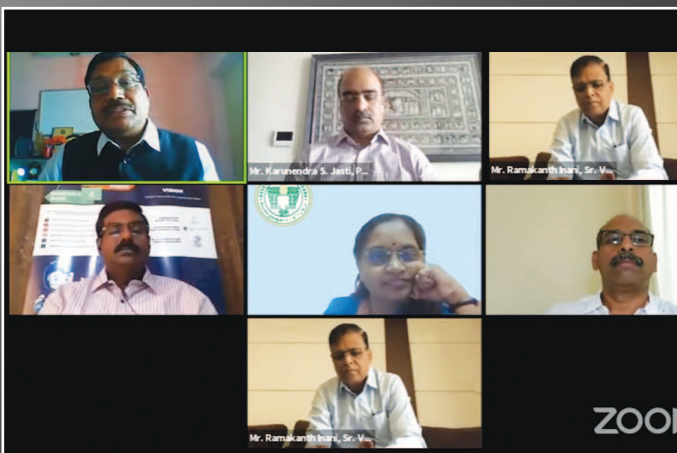


Credit facilities for MSMEs under "Atmanirbhar Bharat" with SBI June 26, 2020

COVID-19 Pandemic and Insurance Industry Response July 20, 2020



"Appointment and Qualifications of Arbitrator: Changing Scenario" by Sri Murari Raghavan, Advocate, High Court, Madras August 7, 2020



Cyber Security Framework and Solutions for SMB's with Cyber Security Centre of Excellence. June 30, 2020

FTCCI Mentorship Series 1: For Women Entrepreneurs, Startups and MSMEs



(July 12, 18, 25 & 27, 2020)

The ladies wing of the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) under the leadership of Chairperson Bhagwati Devi Baldwa launched its first Mentorship Series programme for women entrepreneurs to make them ready for business challenges of COVID-19 crisis.

Bhagwati Devi Baldwa initiated and curated mentorship series exclusively for women with the objective to

empower women entrepreneurs across the state of Telangana. The four day series programme was held on July 12, 18, 25 & 27, 2020 and provided handholding support and guidance to women entrepreneurs on — legal way to start/ run new business ventures, government incentives and subsidies for new/existing business, loan and finance facilities from banks and other financial institutions, new business opportunities and methods for entrepreneurs and MSME Schemes

for clusters, IPR, export virtual marketing.

The mentorship series was conducted by C S Kanika Gupta who has more than 8 years' experience in secretarial, legal, finance, govt. projects areas. Worked as a consultant for MSE-CDP Scheme of Ministry for MSME and successfully submitted about 9 projects to the Govt. Awardee of UP-State Women Entrepreneur Awards in Service (legal) category for two consecutive years 2016-17 & 2015-16.

Chairperson Bhagwati Devi Baldwa moderated the sessions and also facilitated question & answer session on all four days to guide the women entrepreneurs.

22 women entrepreneurs benefitted from the programme and were given a certificate of participation. The committee will continue to support and handhold the participants in the near future. Karunendra S Jasti, President, along with Ramakanth Inani, Senior Vice President and K. Bhasker Reddy, Vice President, FTCCI addressed the women entrepreneurs on the inaugural day.

Khyati Amol Naravane, Chief Executive Officer, Nisheetha Dixit Agarwal, Co-Chairperson, Ladies Wing - Women Empowerment Committee, FTCCI interacted with women entrepreneurs during the course of the sessions.

Three day Training Program on India's EXIM Trade Post COVID-19- Road Ahead

July 29 to 31, 2020

FTCCI organised a Three day Online Training Program on "India's EXIM Trade Post COVID-19- Road Ahead" from 29th to 31st July, 2020.

Ms. Khyati Naravane, CEO, FTCCI gave a brief overview of the training program and the spoke on the various exports programs organized by FTCCI. She mentioned that the COVID-19 pandemic represents an

unprecedented disruption to the global economy and world trade. Considering it as the need of the hour, FTCCI has curated three day Training Program on "India's EXIM Trade Post COVID-19- Road Ahead" with the objective to keep members abreast about doing EXIM business in the new normal.

Sri Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI said that Export Import is an important sector as India makes rapid strides in global trade. With the rapid growth of

international trade in various countries, several highly rewarding opportunities have opened up for participants in export import business. The COVID-19 crisis has opened up huge opportunities for Indian products to capture a major share of exports given the anti-China sentiment permeating global relations in trade. This provides an opportunity for business to take steps for diversifying production and encouraging domestic manufacturing

to help businesses to secure raw materials. He urged the participants to leverage the benefit from this important event and explore the business opportunities more particularly in international trade.

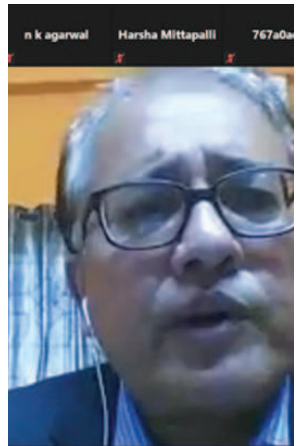
The Technical sessions were dealt by Dr. Surendar Singh, Senior Deputy Director, Engineering Export Promotion Council on India's Foreign Trade – Challenges Ahead, Dr. Amiya Chandra, ITS., Zonal Development Commissioner, Kandla Special Economic Zone, Ministry of Commerce &

Industry, Govt. of India on EXIM Trade Post Covid 19 – Policy Measures, Strategies and Repositioning of brand, Sri J. Shyam Stan, Regional Head – Sales, Elite Trade & Relationship Group, ICICI Bank, Sri Shailendra Singh, Chief Manager – Markets Group, ICICI Bank and Sri Snehasish Behera, Manager – Markets Group, ICICI Bank on Forex Risk Management and Hedging, : Prof. M

Chandra Sekhar, People CMM Lead Assessor, MacLead

Certifications Pvt. Limited on Quality Assurance and Quality Standard, Sri Debasish Mukherjee, Consultant and Trainer - Logistics & Supply Chain, GITAM University on Logistics and Mr. Himanshu Singla Founder and CEO on Online Trouble

Shooters on eCommerce and Digital Marketing.



29th | 30th | 31st
July, 2020 | 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm

Speakers



Dr. Amiya Chandra, ITS
Zonal Development Commissioner,
Kandla Special Economic Zone,
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India



Dr. Surendar Singh
Senior Deputy Director
Engineering Export Promotion Council



Mr. J. Shyam Stan
Regional Head – Sales, Elite Trade &
Relationship Group, ICICI Bank



Mr. Shailendra Singh
Chief Manager-Markets Group
ICICI Bank



Mr. Snehasish Behera
Manager – Markets Group,
ICICI Bank



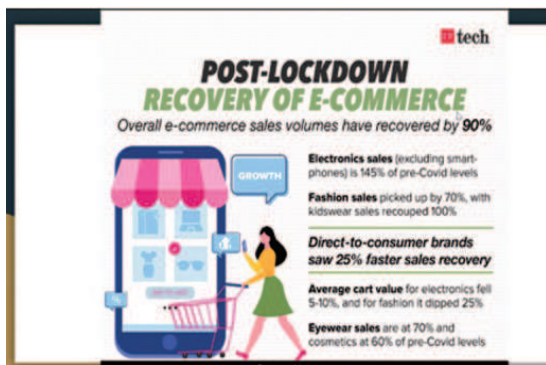
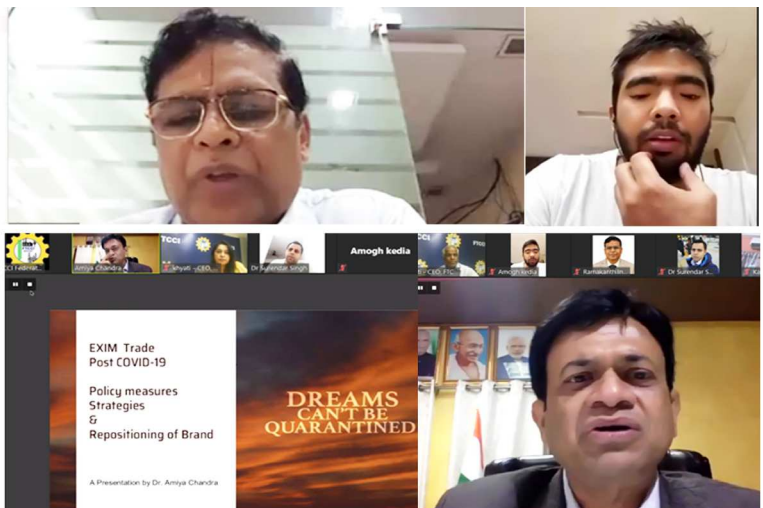
Prof. M Chandra Sekhar
Master Trainer in Quality,
Engineering Staff College of India



Mr. Debasish Mukherjee
Consultant and Trainer – Logistics &
Supply Chain, GITAM University



Mr. Himanshu Singla
Founder and CEO
Online Trouble Shooters



Industry Specific Accounts - ESCROW

- An arrangement to help parties perform contracts and avoid disagreements
- A depositor, an escrow agent, a beneficiary are involved in an ESCROW agreement.
- The depositor is required to entrust money or property with an escrow agent.

Funds held in ESCROW can be

- Down payment for the purchase and sale of real property
- Legal settlements,
- Rent security deposits,

Contemporary issues in International Arbitration

July 31, 2020

Sri Ramakanth Inani, President-FTCCI, in his Address said that as a part of our institution's numerous efforts to acclimatize the Trade and Industry to these unprecedented times, we are glad to associate with CNICA (Council for National and International Commercial Arbitration) in organizing this webinar on "Contemporary Issues in International Arbitration". Since the "New York Arbitration convention" in 1959, International Arbitration has provided a faster and less expensive solution than litigation, facilitating sustainable development.

Sri Abhay Kumar Jain, Chairman, ADR and IBC Committee of FTCCI participated in the Webinar.

Sri D. Anand, Secretary CNICA in his welcome address said that In the case of a party going insolvent before or during international arbitration proceedings, courts in reliance of domestic insolvency laws should not prevent the institution or continuation of such proceedings.

Mr. Rajat Rana, Senior Associate, International Arbitration and Litigation Group, Alston and Bird, New York and



Ms. Radha Raghavan, Of Counsel, International Disputes, Draper & Draper LLC, New York, explained the overview of the corruption claim and the problems created by the corruption defense for foreign investors and also touched upon useful tools for discovery in international Arbitration

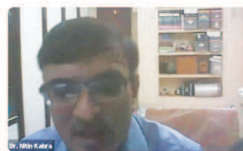
Treating COVID-19 and Managing Health

WHO IS LIKELY TO DEVELOP SERIOUS DISEASE ?

- Most people infected with the covid-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring any special treatment.
- People likely to develop serious illness and die :
 - Older people
 - Those with underlying medical conditions :-
 - Heart Disease
 - Lung Disease
 - Diabetes
 - Hypertension-(High BP)
 - Cancer
 - people who are Immunocompromised (such as those with HIV)
 - the severely obese
 - people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis

Most deaths have been among older people
 Death certificate mentioning Covid-19 in England and Wales to April 24

Age Group	Death Toll (approx.)
Under 65	1,000
65-74	10,000
75+	100,000



Indian pharmaceutical companies especially from Hyderabad are making concerted efforts in producing affordable low-cost medicines and vaccines to fight against this pandemic. Mr. Inani stressed that the crisis has made a deep impact on Indian businesses and the subsequent disruptions in all activities will have a long-lasting impact on all sectors.



August 1, 2020

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry has organised an Online Session on Treating COVID - 19 and Managing Health on August 1, 2020.

Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President,

FTCCI in his welcome address opined that India's fight against the COVID-19 outbreak has been unique and praiseworthy. However rising number of Covid-19 patients is making people panicky and there is a need to ramp up measures to contain the virus and chalk out a roadmap. He mentioned that

Prof. Dr. Nitin Kabra, MD, DM., Chief Cardiologist, Gandhi Hospital gave a detailed presentation on Treating Covid-19 and Managing Health.

Dr. Kabra shared the information about the current Indian scenario of the COVID-19 cases. He explained the

different modes of spread of Covid-19 and how it enters into human body & route of infection.

Dr. Kabra expressed that most of Corona virus cases are mild and most people infected with the covid-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring any special treatment - Oxygen therapy represents the first step for addressing respiratory impairment and Intensive care is needed to deal with complicated forms of the disease.

Some of the precautionary measures Dr. Kabra suggested in mild cases are staying at home in isolation, avoid sharing personal items with other people in the household, wearing triple layer medical mask & discarding it only after disinfecting it with 1% Sodium Hypo-chlorite, following respiratory etiquettes all the time and often washing hands with soap and water or cleaning with alcohol based sanitizer and strictly following the physician's instructions & medication advice. He also stressed that minimum 15 days

are required to discontinue home isolation.

During his presentation Dr. Kabra also mentioned in detail about Telangana Govt. - Home Isolation Kit and listed some of the COVID Testing Centres.

Mr. K. Bhasker Reddy, Senior Vice President proposed vote of thanks.

Members of Managing Committee, Past Presidents, Expert Committees, Members of FTCCICEO Forum and Staff of FTCCI participated and interacted with Prof. Dr. Nitin Kabra.

Webinar on Appointment and qualifications of Arbitrator

August 7, 2020

Sri Ramakanth Inani, President FTCCI in his address said that as a part of our institutions numerous efforts to acclimatize the Trade and industry to these unprecedented times, we are glad to associate with Council for National and International Commercial Arbitration and CNICA Mediation Centre (CNICA) in organizing this webinar on "Appointment and Qualifications of Arbitrator- Changing Scenario".

He said that the appointment of an arbitrator is a crucial and mandatory procedural requirement to set the arbitral process into motion. The

arbitrator should be chosen carefully because of his special knowledge of the subject matter which is in dispute. He must give attention to the facts in dispute placed before him and his decision should be practical and impartial and in the best interest of justice, good conscience, and equity.

Sri Abhay Kumar Jain, Chairman-ADR and Legal Affairs Committee- FTCCI also participated in the Webinar.

Sri D. Anand, Secretary CNICA welcomes the participants.

Sri Sarvanan, Chairman CNICA in



his welcome address said that the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 was amended by the Arbitration and Conciliation Amendment Act, 2015 (the "2015 Amendment Act") and the Arbitration and Conciliation Amendment Act, 2019 (the "2019 Amendment Act") to accelerate India's vision of becoming an arbitration hub. Consequently, the 2015 Amendment Act and the 2019 Amendment Act have also significantly changed the procedural law for the appointment of the arbitrator.

Sri Murari Raghavan, Senior Advocate-High Court- Madras shared his wisdom and enlightens the audience on New Amendments.





Strategic interventions of Central and State Government for mitigation of COVID-19 crisis



August 12, 2020

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry has organized a video conference with the Dr. Smt. Tamilisai Soundararajan, the Hon'ble governor of Telangana on Strategic interventions of Central and State government for mitigation of COVID19. We are very privileged and honored for the presence of the Hon'ble Governor of Telanagan via video conference.

Mr. Ramankanth Inani, President, FTCCI has delivered the welcome address by saying that, India's fight against the Covid-19 outbreak has been unique and praiseworthy, however despite this, the rising number of Covid patients is making people panicky and there is a need to ramp

up measures to contain the virus and chalk out a roadmap for economic revival. He complemented that, Indian pharmaceutical companies especially from Hyderabad for making concerted efforts in producing affordable low-cost medicines and vaccines to fight against this pandemic.

Mr. Bhasker Reddy, Senior Vice President, FTCCI has introduced the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana Dr. Smt. Tamilisai Soundarajan.

Participating as the Chief Guest in the video conference from the Raj Bhavan, the Governor said "the commerce and industry sector was showing lot of resilience in overcoming the crisis and has been sustaining the livelihoods of the millions of people."

Referring to the interventions by the Centre, Tamilisai Soundararajan said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken 'right decisions at the right time' to contain the spread of Covid-19 and thus saved many precious lives.

The Governor said that India, which faced the shortage of PPE kits and other equipment, is now exporting PPE kits, N95 masks, ventilators and other life saving medicines to various other countries through the sustained efforts of the government.

"India is conducting around 7 lakh Covid-19 tests a day and it will soon achieve the target of carrying out at least 10 lakh tests a day. The governments are implementing three-pronged strategy of aggressive testing, comprehensive tracing and efficient

treatment," she added.

Expressing anguish over the non-compliance of preventive measures like maintaining physical distance and mandatory wearing of mask even by a section of politicians, the Governor said that wearing of masks would effectively prevent the spread of virus by at least 80 per cent.

"The Rs.20-lakh-crore Aatma Nirbhar package, special emphasis on MSME

and agriculture sectors and welfare of migrant labourers were some of the major interventions of the governments," she pointed out

She also talked about the strategic actions of State Govt., by mentioning that state Govt. which has ramped up the testing with more than 100 testing labs and also providing 51 government hospitals for COVID-19 treatment and approximately 55 private hospitals are

approved for COVID-19 treatment, more than 40 are in Hyderabad.

"The main intend of the state government should be Test, Trace and Treatment; this will help in mitigating the spread at much faster pace", she said.

Later, the session was followed by Vote of thanks proposed by Khyati Naravane, CEO, FTCCI, and ended up the event with national anthem.

Interactive Online Applied Philosophy Session on Eternal Wisdom - Achieving Success with Harmony by Vinayji



August 14, 2020

Shri Vinay Ji is an established Philosopher, Thinker and Self-Management Expert, whose eloquent oration translates complex Vedic Principles into simple tools for day to day living.

He has explained about "Nishkam Karma". Nishkam Karma is the central theme in the Bhagavad Gita.

He explained about the Renunciation in the Gita and said that it does not refer to renunciation of action but performing one's duties with a detached mind and without thought of worldly gain devoting all action to God only. This dedication is the most important component of renunciation. Giving up the fruits of action is hailed as the sure path to salvation. Renunciation of Action" is difficult to Achieve without "Performance of Action".

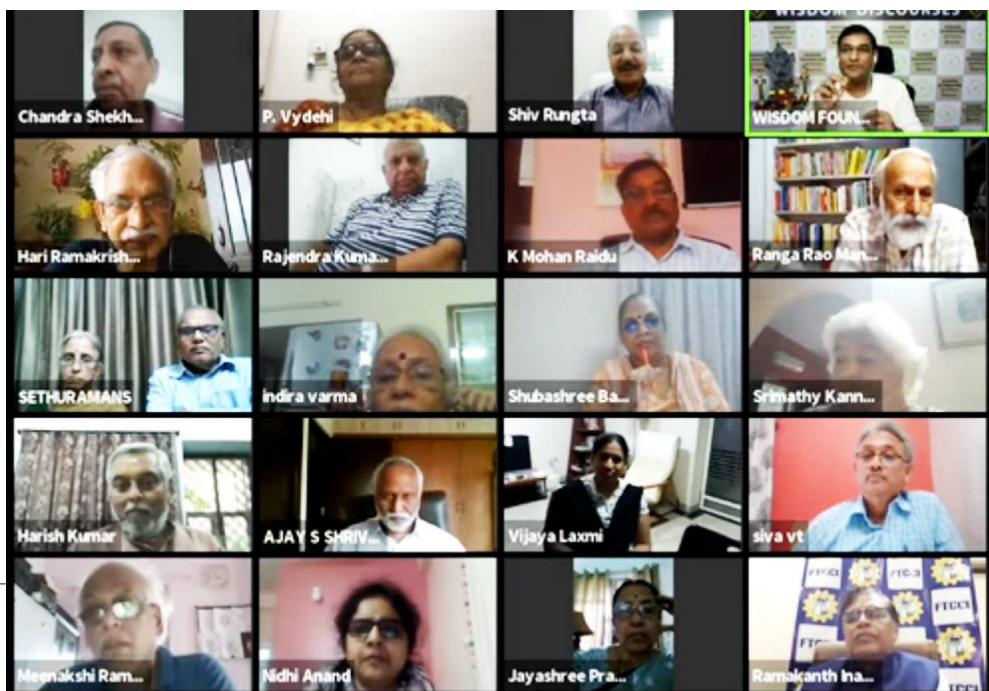
He interacted with participants and clarified the queries in a detailed manner of voting examples.

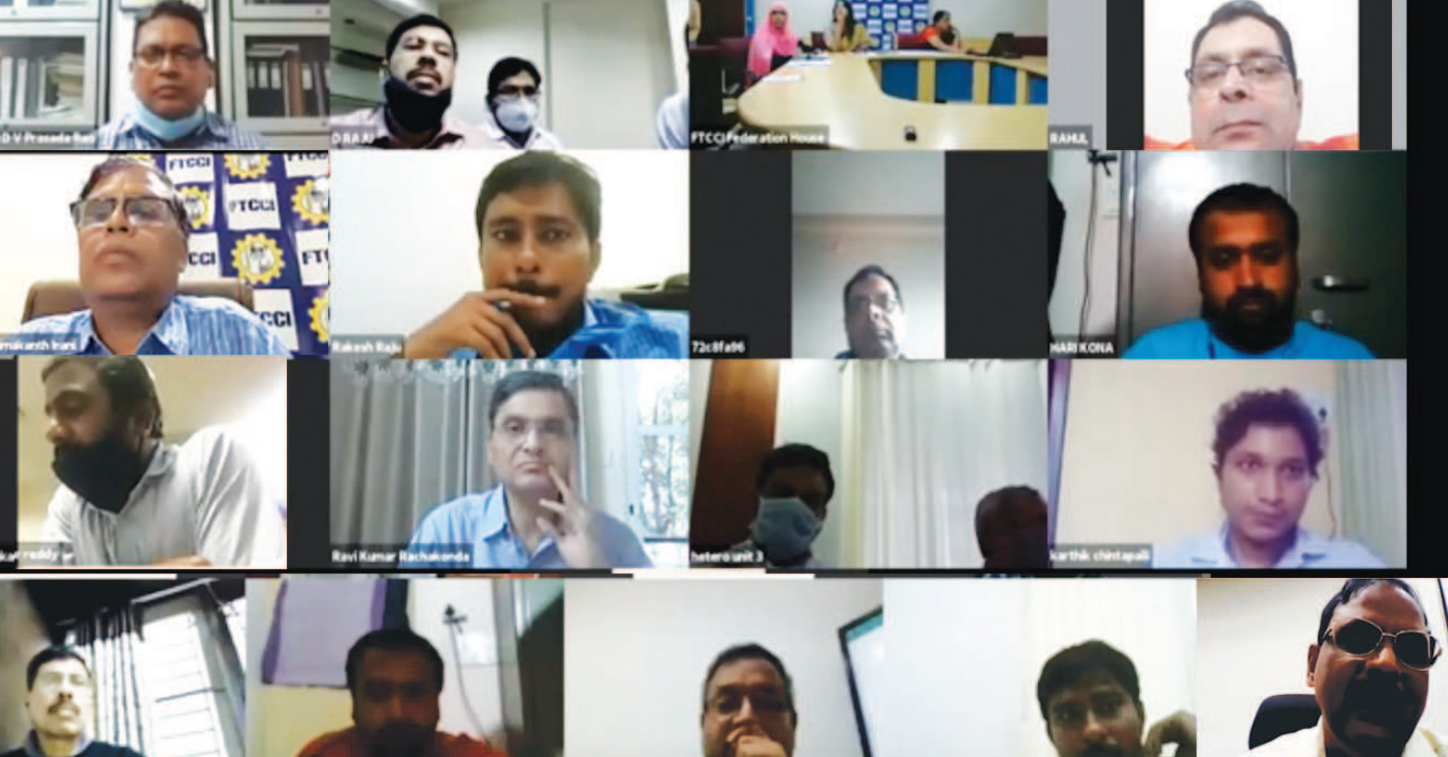
Sri Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI

in his welcome address stated that India is a sacred land in the universe where the astonished Vedic culture and civilization is full of renovated spiritual practice and knowledge. There are many civilizations in the world have deceased with the flow of time, but the Indian Civilization even unchanged. This ancient glorious history of India is now a myth in the age of modernization.

Sri K. Bhasker Reddy, Senior Vice President, Sri Anil Agarwal, Vice president, Sri Shiv Kumar Rungta, Past president, Smt. T. Sujatha, Dy. CEO, Members of Managing Committee Members & Past Presidents and Members of FTCCI participated in the session.

The session was well attended by more than 70 participants.





Online Certificate Course on Compensation and Benefits Management

August 19, 20, 25 & 26, 2020

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry, has organized the first online certificate course on Compensation and Benefits Management (C&BM) commenced on 19th, 20th, 25th and 26th August, 2020. Ramakanth Inani, president of FTCCI started the session by welcoming all the speakers and participants. He said that a good compensation is essential for every industry and helps to give proper return to the workers for their contributions to the organization.

Mr C R Rama Krishnan, Ex-Director-People Processes, Dr. Reddy's Labs, Hyderabad has explained on the topics related to C&B System and Designing a C&B System. He explained about the three major monthly compensation models such as Traditional, Cafeteria and Mixed/

Combination. He also explained on post evaluation and grades and ideal utilization of pay grades by emphasizing on requirements for designing grades and usage of pay scale elements i.e., Minimum Level, Mid Level, and Maximum Level etc.

Mr. K V Raghava Reddy, HR Manager at Hetero Drugs Ltd, elucidated on "Pay Performance and Variable Pay". He explained in detail the traditional variable pay, compensation philosophy and stated that to determine on total rewards 3P approach i.e., Position, Person and Performance should be followed. He clarified to the

participants the difference between Fixed and Variable Pay, and the advantages and disadvantages of variable pay. He gave many illustrations to the participants and also explained the plant score card.

Dr Mallikharjun Nagineni, Head of Human Relations - API & OSD Operations India, Mylan Laboratories Ltd explained on the topics related to "Compensation budgets, Benefits philosophy and total rewards" in third and fourth session. He enlightened the participants on the Annual compensation review, explained some of the major elements to consider reviewing the compensation budgets. He also explained the methodology to measure the compensation budget components and how to keep a check on them. He talked about the benefits philosophy & policy and also the pros and cons relating to the policy. Later he also explained the total rewards overview.

In all the four days, the sessions were followed by Question and Answers where delegates have actively participated and clarified their extent of understanding by asking questions.



Adopting mediation into a community based model: win-win for all



August 28, 2020

FTCCI jointly with Council for National and International Commercial Arbitration (CNICA) has organized a webinar on Adopting Mediation into a Community based Model:: win-win for all on 28th August, 2020 at 4-30pm.

Sri Ramakanth Inani, President -FTCCI in his address said that in today's world of rapid social, political, technological and economic changes, leading to

rising conflicts, ADR system mainly Mediation process is considered as much faster, less expensive, more empowering and procedurally satisfying solution than the judicial system. Adapting mediation into a community based model aims to teach people to resolve conflict by cooperation, negotiation and mediation, thereby empowering the participants, relieving court caseloads and preventing escalation

of disputes. Sri Abhay Kumar Jain, FTCCI & Chair: ADR and Legal Affairs Committee, FTCCI also participated in the webinar. Sri Sarvanan, Chairman-CNICA welcomed the participants and said that the Mediation is not new to India. Lord Krishna is the greatest mediator in Mahabharata. Sri D. Anand, Secretary, CNICA introduced the speakers to the participants.

Distinguished speakers Mr Abe Qadan, Lecturer at University of Sydney and Ms. Marilyn Waugh, Director-First Step Mediation, enlighten us further about the prospects of community based mediation. They said that community mediation starting in the United States in the 1960s, to 79 community mediation centre's in America in 1980, growing to at least 250 centre's in 1990, this movement now has over 600 service centre's in the United States alone. They further said that building meaningful community capacity and changing conflict patterns are the most powerful tools provided by community mediation programs.

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry

REQUIREMENT OF AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

We're Hiring!

Key Responsibilities & Duties

- ✓ Responsible for all the activities of the Expert Committee (s) viz.,
- ✓ Conducting the Expert Committee Meetings, organizing Workshops/Seminars under the Committee;
- ✓ Submitting Representations to the Government (s) on various issues impacting the industry/members in the industry segment,
- ✓ Liaison with the Government
- ✓ Collecting the required data for preparing the reports and papers
- ✓ To reach out to various organizations/banks/individuals and the Government for getting financial support to bring out the various publications either in the form of advertisement or grant
- ✓ To get Sponsorships and delegates for the events

Competencies :

Communication skills and Operating Microsoft Office

Academic Qualifications :

Post Graduation, preferably in Economics/Management

Work Experience & Skills :

Minimum 5 to 7 years in a reputed organization

Reporting to: CEO / Chairman of the concerned Expert Committee

Salary: As per the Market / Negotiable

Applications are invited from suitable candidates
via e-Mail to secretariat@ftcci.in by 21st September, 2020

Expectations of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Sector Post COVID19



September 3, 2020

Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) has partnered with Federation of Telangana Chambers of commerce and Industry (FTCCI) for conducting webinar on 'Expectations of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Sector Post COVID19'. Shrikanth Sinha, CEO, TASK welcomed the guests and introduced Panel Members.

Ms. Alka Arora, Joint Secretary (SME), Govt. of India, Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Key Note speaker of the webinar. She highlighted that all sectors are trying to rebuild themselves out of the pandemic. The MSME sector is especially, with new revised definition and Udyam registration will help the Govt. to track the number of enterprise and enable to formulate policies more effectively.

Mr. R. Ravi Kumar, Chair of HR & IR Committee, has spoke that the MSME is the biggest hiring sector in the country and significant driver of the

growth of the Indian economy. He expressed that Covid-19 has done good to MSMEs in that it taught industry not to go for ambitious expansions and unnecessary expenditure by taking loans and to be realistic and rational in their projections and planning. The statics show that there are 6.34 crore MSMEs in India and at least 15 per cent of MSMEs have either shut shop or are in grave danger of shutting down their business due to pandemic. He stressed on point that the students have to work on up skilling themselves and utilize the time to learn new skills apart from their subject matter.

Mr. Srinivas Garimella, Chair of Industrial Development Committee, have highlighted about the Survey conducted by FTCCI on Industry Impact post Covid-19. Despite the present drop in GDP, slowly the economy will see a spur especially MSME sector will have double the growth in the coming months. We will definitely see a change out of the pandemic in terms of access to finance, access

to market, self-reliance, Skill Up gradation etc he said. The government of India announcement of Atmanirbhar Bharat, Vocal for Local to bring self reliance in most of the commodities that are imported, will surely make an impact on industrial progress in the country. He suggested to provide more of hands-on training to students instead of classroom teaching.

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of commerce and Industry was very happy to associate with the Telangana Academy of Skill and Knowledge (TASK) and it was suggested by FTCCI panelists to create a job portal in association with TASK for students and employers in order to facilitate finding suitable jobs for their career enhancement.

FTCCI commend the efforts put in by TASK and Government of Telangana for organizing such a helpful webinar series for all the students, to understand better the outside market in the present pandemic and enhance their skills accordingly.



FTCCI Expert Committees

Nominations Requested

FTCCI has reconstituted the following Expert Committees for the year 2020-21 to discuss, debate and concretize the expert views on various issues brought to its notice of State/National importance.

Also the Committees will hold various brainstorming sessions / workshops / conferences to interact with policy makers.

- 1) Agro, Food Processing & Rural Development
- 2) Industrial Development
- 3) Human Resources, Industrial Relations and Skill Development
- 4) Information Technology & IT Enabled Services, Communications, Electronics
- 5) Energy (Power & Renewable Energy)
- 6) Pollution & Environment
- 7) Banking, Finance & Insurance
- 8) Tourism, Hospitality, Media & Entertainment (MICE)
- 9) Direct Taxes
- 10) Corporate Laws & Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)
- 11) GST and Customs
- 12) International Trade
- 13) Logistics
- 14) Infrastructure, Real Estate and Smart Cities
- 15) Capital Markets & Investor Protection
- 16) Ladies Wing/ Women Empowerment
- 17) Legal Affairs & Alternative Dispute Resolutions (ADR)
- 18) Membership Development (MDC)
- 19) Healthcare and Disaster Management
- 20) Trade, Commerce & Chamber Networking

Members interested to serve on the committees as members may send their applications by email : **secretariat@ftcci.in** in the prescribed format printed on or before **September 15**.

Note :

- ▶ Member should be on the Rolls of FTCCI as on May 31, 2020
- ▶ One person from an organization may opt for not more than two committees
- ▶ Two or more persons belonging to a member Organization should not apply for membership of the same Committee.
- ▶ More than one person from a member organization can apply for membership of different Committees.



Application for Membership of Expert Committees 2020-21

Applicant Full Name :

Designation :

Name of the member Firm /

Company:.....

Mailing address :

PIN Code :

FTCCI Membership No.

Panel :.....

e-mail :

website :

Fax :

Telephones (with STD code)

Cell No :.....

Name of the Committees interested

(in order of priority):.....

1)

2)

I hereby assure that i will attend the expert committee meetings regularly and actively participate in its programs and projects.

Signature of the Applicant

Date :.....

How to predict Consumer behavior in a post-COVID-19 World

*Katerina Folkman



As 2020 has “blessed” us with a plethora of unexpected challenges, lending institutions have deployed analytics on two main new tasks:

- (1) Anticipate changes in customer payment behavior, to contain portfolio risk, and
- (2) gain new insights on the future borrowing needs, to ensure quick and safe “Back to Market” return.

The borrowing and payment patterns have changed across all customer and small business segments. The interesting challenge for analytics was to figure out whose risk has truly increased, and which segments have emerged as “new prime”, even stronger than before the pandemics. For example, some of the “prime” category A salaried customers have lost their jobs due to lay-offs, while hustling self-employed individuals showed greater ability and willingness to pay, capturing the wave of new customer needs.

Analytics help identify new trends e.g. lower income stability, job losses in households, lesser confidence in future income streams, decreased contractibility due to relocations. Additional insights come from digital channels (e.g., online applications or “my account” pages), tracking such granular customer behavior as misspelling of one’s own name or hesitations while selecting duration of the loan.

In order to deal with uncertainties, lenders have revised their risk analytics approach, redefining the weights in existing models and adding new moratorium-driven variables. They also define new high-value target segments, looking into changing future customer lifetime value.

Interestingly, the borrowing needs of the customers have changed too. Due to uncertainty about the financial future, fewer customers are interested in traditional rigid lending products e.g. 3-year personal term loans. However, many

more expressed a new need for flexible digital instruments. Such customers might be less committed to fixed monthly EMLs, but need more “rainy day” options like credit lines.

The new trend of “mindful spending” has certainly brought down discretionary spending, but at the same time, increased the needs for “new essentials”.

Homebody health-conscious customers spend more on broadband, home renovations to make home offices, preventive care, nutrition and vitamins, among other new essential categories. This helps lenders sharpen the new “back to market” approach for business loans, targeting small business customers in thriving industry clusters. It also helps find new low risk – high value customer borrowers, who have new and different borrowing needs.

“Maintain hope and focus on growth” is a new motto for many of us in the second half of 2020, in both personal and professional lives. While aggregate macroeconomic growth is low, we believe it is the best time to grow in a differentiated manner. Companies, in order to position themselves for such growth, need to react faster and continuously track a “new high risk” in traditional segments.

Additionally, the focus should be on new emerging “new high value” customers whose earnings and businesses are only going to grow, even in this new post-pandemic era.

*Head - Analytics, Clix Capital



Monetary policy in the **Pandemic**

*Ajay Shah

There is a great deal of concern about the path of monetary policy, given that headline inflation has breached the required range, from 2 to 6 per cent consumer price index (CPI)-based inflation, in seven of the last eight months. The inflation data, however, reveals a surge in prices in April 2020, which was also the month where the lockdown hampered supply. As supply constraints ease, inflationary pressures are likely to ease. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is on the right track in seeing through these short-term fluctuations and looking at forecasts of inflation about 12 to 18 months ahead. The de facto policy rate has been cut steadily from 7 per cent to 3.23 per cent over the last 18 months, which is the wise path.

While the inflation target is at 4 per cent, the permissible range runs from 2 to 6 per cent. For seven of the last eight months, headline inflation (the year-on-year change in the CPI) has gone above the upper bound of 6 per cent. This is the cause of considerable concern. The inflation-targeting framework, which was set up in February 2015, has worked very well so far. These eight months are the first episode where the framework has not worked.

Monetary policy impacts the economy with a lag of about 12 to 18 months. Therefore, a simple reading of the inflation crisis from December 2019 to July 2020 would suggest that the policy rate was too low in the period from June to December 2018, that the MPC in those months failed to anticipate this surge in inflation in the future. The policy rate peaked at 7 per cent in September 2018 and then the

rate cuts began: Perhaps this timing and the scale of the cuts were excessive.

Conventional headline inflation measures the change in the CPI over a 12-month period. It is useful to break this down to a set of 12 month-on-month changes, which is made possible through seasonal adjustment. When we examine this data, there was a surge of inflation from September 2019 to December 2019, where month-on-month inflation had values of 9.67, 7.28, 10.04, and 22 per cent. This subsided in the following months.

After this came the lockdown. The peak intensity of the lockdown was in April 2020. The lockdown has had an adverse impact upon supply chains. There have been shortages of many goods. Under these new supply/demand conditions, prices have risen to clear the imbalance between supply and demand. This explains a lot about current inflation. If one value (+20.82 per cent in April) was not in the data, the 11-month average is now at 5.5 per cent. Monetary policy acts on horizons of 12 to 18 months; the MPC should not have paid great heed to such transient factors.

The easing of the lockdown began from April 18. This process is now well underway all over the country. It is likely that the supply situation eased in August and will ease further when the kharif crop comes in. By September, headline inflation is likely to be lower.

Turning to the conduct of monetary policy, there are many instruments through which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) influences monetary conditions, i.e. the short-term interest rates. These instruments include the repo and reverse repo rates, open market intervention, currency trading, etc. The best summary statistic that portrays the true state of monetary policy is the 91-day treasury bill rate in the secondary market.

This rate dropped from the recent peak of 7 per cent in September 2018 to 3.23 per cent in July. This is a total rate cut of 377 basis points, which works out to an average cut of 17 basis points every month. By and large, this reflects a sensible assessment of the difficulties in the economy. Looking beyond the temporary dislocation associated with lockdowns, conditions in the economy may be difficult for a sustained period, and this reduction of interest rates is consistent with keeping inflation within the desired range. At a value of 323 basis points, the short rate is now negative in real terms, even when compared with the 4 per cent CPI target.

The bottlenecks lie in financial policy. When the RBI cuts rates, this has a low impact upon the economy. While monetary policy is pursuing the right objective (4 per cent CPI), it is at present relatively ineffectual.

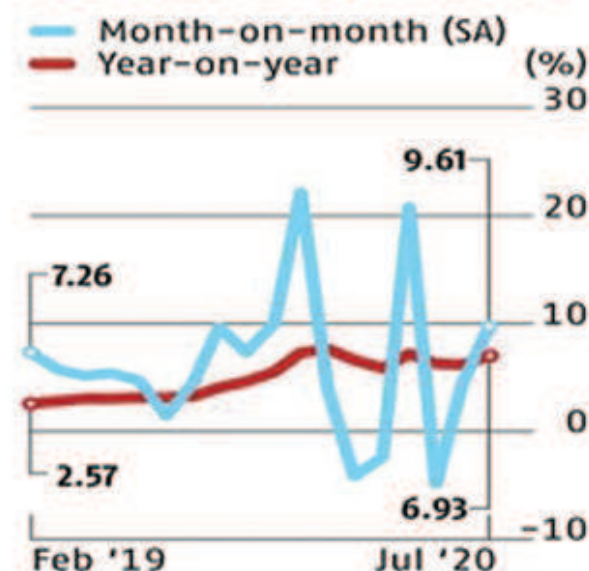
As an example, when banks are stressed, they are extremely cautious, they are loath to borrow at low rates and lend into the economy. This has induced a decline in the growth of bank credit. In the recent period, the growth of bank credit peaked (YoY) in December 2018, at about 15 per cent and

has declined ever since. The latest value for July is 5.64 per cent. From December 2019 onwards, this growth rate has been near zero in real terms, with a slightly negative value for July 2020. If banking regulation had been better, banks would not have been in such a frame of mind.

Similarly, the bond market has retreated to a few trusted issuers; most borrowers are cut off from plausible bond market access. As a consequence, the cost of borrowing remains high, even though the de facto policy rate is at 3.23 per cent. If financial markets regulation had been better, there would have been a viable bond market, and this would have helped private and government borrowing.

These problems reiterate the need for financial sector reforms. There is considerable knowledge in hand, about why banking and the bond-currency-derivatives nexus in India do not work well. The full work programme that would address these problems has been developed. The difficulties that we have faced, in the context of the pandemic, in macro/finance policy would be diminished if this work makes progress. We require institutional reform in financial regulation on a scale comparable to what was done with institutional reform in monetary policy.

TRACKING CPI RATE



*Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/monetary-policy-in-the-pandemic-120082300912_1.html

Measures to make Indian solar manufacturing the global best



While India does have a target of achieving 175 GW by 2022, the recent pandemic has had an adverse effect on the sector like any other. With demands dropping and exports becoming impossible, domestic manufacturers have been facing the heat with lesser demands

***Mr D. V Manjunatha**

With growing conversations around clean energy, the demand for transition to renewable energy had been on the rise. Over the last few years, we have witnessed that the Indian solar module manufacturing segment holds immense potential. However one of the key roadblocks in India's massive adoption of clean electricity is making distribution companies profitable, ease of business/ installation or putting solar plants either on ground or on roof. On the manufacturing side as a country, Solar panels cost in solar projects was more than 80 per cent in the past which is now reduced to 60 per cent of the project so we are not importing solar panels. We are importing 60 per cent energy for the next 25 years or more for that plant's future generation. So as a country we need to take a call on whether we want to keep importing this energy or make it in India, which is very much possible.

While India does have a target of achieving 175 GW by 2022, the recent pandemic has had an adverse effect on the sector like any other. With demands dropping and exports becoming impossible, domestic manufacturers have been facing the heat with lesser demands. So at this time we are producing much more than the demand, Hence this is the best situation to restrict foreign imports and boost the Indian manufacturing sector thereby supporting our Honourable

Prime Minister's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat. As per reports by ORF, India has been one of the largest exporters of solar modules till 2011 but due to the lack of concrete policies and required support, it did witness a downfall as the country was not able to bridge the demand supply gap. We as a country could not focus manufacturing and R&D in the last few years which we can now.

Some of the key measures to be considered to make India equivalent to her global counterparts can be:

1.Higher Import Duties:

While the recent proposal of 15 per cent safeguard duty for another one year is a positive step towards the growth of the Indian solar module manufacturing sector, however, it is not enough. In order to aid the domestic manufacturers to grow exponentially and showcase their true potential, at least 50 per cent Basic Customs Duty (BCD) is required. This will encourage local production and competition between local players, thus boosting the domestic manufacturers will bring huge employment and R&D. The history has shown that any negligible duty is going to be countered by China with high incentives and benefits to exporters dropping prices drastically.

2.Make manufacturing as focused engine for growth with ease of working

Our honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat and push to boost Make in India initiative has been a much needed step towards making India an economically self-reliant country. Today we import many things which can be easily manufactured in India or we were manufacturing, but it is not viable to manufacturer as import is cheaper, with this prevailing situation we will not be able to achieve our goal

Our country has proven its entrepreneurship skills, then why we are not able to compete with foreign players, needs to be thought upon carefully. India is one of the largest markets in the world in terms of solar, so market is there too, but when we compare ourselves with other countries who are exporting to us, our cost of power, interest rate , transport cost , ease of doing business number of hours Indian entrepreneurs spend for nonproductive activities is very high. We lack inflow of investment in core industries basic raw materials and infrastructure, thus making imports cheaper for us than manufacturing. We strongly believe that now is the time to bring the change by promoting locally manufactured modules and reinstate the country's position of being one of the largest suppliers of best in class modules by focusing mission manufacturing.

3.Clarity in policies and long term minimum 10 years vision in place

Return on investment in manufacturing takes much longer, so an investor will look for 6 to 8 years clarity in policies before investing. Today we have large number of PPAs for which module of approx. 45000 to 50000 MW needs

Our honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat and push to boost Make in India initiative has been a much needed step towards making India an economically self-reliant country

to procured, but all these can be imported from china under grandfathering scheme, and same support for local manufacturers is not available so this goes against our mission of becoming Atma Nirbhar or make in India

At module level the value addition in manufacturing is more than 50 per cent in India, still benefits are given for imports to developers on the other hand if they buy modules from India they will not get these benefits.

Another example is ALMM which was to be announced and a deadline was given a year ago, relying on which investments were planned, and suddenly ALMM was withdrawn such uncertainties hampers investors' confidence.

We all know that we could not get investors in India for manufacturing in last 12 years, although lot of buzz is done around make in India initiative, we need to think and take actions on various fronts like SEZ vs DTA or inverted structure of GST or import duties on machineries or free import form FTA countries, speed of decisions and executions makes us second choice of investors

There was a recommendation for 70 per cent safeguard duties which were reduced to 15 per cent making it unattractive for any investment in manufacturing. We need to take some tough decisions as a country if we want to stop the import of energy and gain energy security.

We are certain that if correct manufacturing policies are put in place, then there is no roadblock for the country to achieve economies of scale and also penetrate into the global market with the best in class module supply and also meet India's demand for solar energy.

**Vice President,
All India Solar Industries Association*

‘Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020’

The government has come out with norms for the enforcement of ‘rules of origin’ provisions for allowing preferential rate of customs duties on products imported under free trade agreements. The new norms have been framed with a view to checking inbound shipments of low quality products and dumping of goods by a third country routed through an FTA partner country.

The Department of Revenue has notified the ‘Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020’ which would “come into force on September 21, 2020”.

These rules “shall apply to import of goods into India where the importer makes a claim of preferential rate of duty in terms of a trade agreement,” it said.

The “rules of origin” provision prescribes for the minimal processing that should happen in the FTA country so that the final manufactured product may be called originating goods in that country.

Under this provision, a country that has inked an FTA with India cannot dump goods from some third country in the Indian market by just putting a label on it. It has to undertake a prescribed value addition in that product to export to India. Rules of origin norms help contain dumping of goods. India has inked FTAs with several countries, including Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and ASEAN members.

Under such agreements, two trading partners significantly reduce or eliminate import/customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech had stated that the government would review ‘rules of origin’ requirements, particularly for certain sensitive items, “so as to ensure that FTAs are aligned to the conscious direction of our policy”.

She had also said that it has been observed that imports under FTAs are on the rise and undue claims of FTA benefits have posed threat to the domestic industry and such imports require stringent checks.

1.1) The CAROTAR 2020 shall come into force on 21st September, 2020, to provide sufficient time for transition and to ensure that the prescribed conditions in terms of rule 4 are complied with. Necessary modifications in bill of entry format are being made to allow declaration in terms of rule 3(a) and 3(d) of CAROTAR, 2020.

1.2) This circular aims to provide procedure for sending verification request to the Verification Authorities in exporting countries in terms of trade agreements, section 28DA and CAROTAR, 2020, and further guidelines for implementation of aforementioned section and rules.

2) The CAROTAR, 2020 and Rules of Origin notified for a trade agreement in terms of sub-section (1) of section 5 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, broadly provide the following

grounds for verification:

- a) In case of a doubt regarding the genuineness of the Certificate of Origin (CoO) such as any deficiency in the format of the certificate or mismatch of signatures or seal when compared with specimens on record.
- b) In case of a doubt on the accuracy of information regarding origin, i.e. where a doubt arises on whether the product qualifies as an originating good under the relevant Rules of Origin. In other words, these are cases where there is a reasonable belief that a product is not grown or not produced/manufactured in a particular country or required value addition/change in CTH/PSR etc., as the case may be, has not been achieved for the goods to qualify as originating.

c) Verification could also be undertaken on random basis as a measure of due diligence. For this purpose, factors such as the quantum of duty being foregone, the nature of goods vis-à-vis the country of origin, commodities that are prone to mis-declaration of country of origin, compliance record of the importer etc., may be given regard while selecting Certificates of Origin for random verification.

3) The Rules of Origin, by virtue of which a good attains origin of a country, have evolved with subsequent reviews of trade agreements. Most trade agreements have moved from single general rule to specific rule for most of the tariff lines, with inclusion of vast array of processes which can confer origin. Section 28DA makes it incumbent upon an importer to possess sufficient information as regards the manner in which country of origin criteria, including the regional value content and product specific criteria, specified in the Rules of Origin in the trade agreement, are satisfied. For this purpose, CAROTAR, 2020 has provided a form, containing list of basic minimum information which an importer is required to obtain while importing goods under claim of preferential rate of duty. Therefore, in case there is a doubt with regard to origin of goods, information should be first called upon from the importer of the goods, in terms of rule 5 read with rule 4 of CAROTAR, 2020, before initiating verification with the partner country in terms of rule 6.

a) Section 28DA of the Act further states that mere submission of a certificate of origin shall not absolve the importer of the responsibility to exercise reasonable care to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information supplied. In case an importer fails to provide information in terms of section 28DA(1)(iii) of the Act and as prescribed under CAROTAR, 2020, or does not exercise reasonable care to ensure the accuracy and truthfulness of the information furnished, this fact should be informed to Risk Management Centre of Customs (RMCC) through written communication for the purposes of enabling compulsory verification of assessment of all subsequent import consignments in terms of rule 8(1) of CAROTAR, 2020. However, the compulsory verification of assessment should be discontinued once the importer demonstrates that he has established adequate system of controls to exercise reasonable care as required under the Act.

4) Verification request should be forwarded to the Board based upon following standard operating procedures:

i) In case several certificates pertaining to identical item are under review or scrutiny, only representative certificates should be forwarded to the Board to cause verification along with list of all CoOs to which the field formation aims to apply the result of such verification. Representative CoOs may be selected in such a manner to ensure that they cover each of the exporters, importers and the prescribed originating

criteria. For instance, if there are several CoOs issued to a single exporter, but originating criteria are different, then CoOs covering each of the originating criteria may be considered to be forwarded for verification, with specific queries.

ii) The verification proposal should be complete, keeping in mind all components of the prescribed format of CoO and all relevant aspects of the Rules of Origin, in order to avoid multiple queries to the Verification Authority/ exporting country. For instance, in case a CoO has been issued retrospectively, it needs to be seen whether there are provisions in the Rules of Origin to issue retroactive CoO and whether reasons for retroactive issuance need to be provided by the Verification Authority. Similarly, should the proper officer feel the need to verify documents to establish compliance of 'direct consignment' or third-party invoicing, if provided for in the Rules of Origin, then the same should be included in the verification proposal.

iii) Requests for verification must be sent to the Board with the approval of the jurisdictional Principal Commissioner/ Commissioner. The reference for verification must contain legible copies of the Certificate of Origin, invoice and the Bill of Lading/Airway Bill. The request should also contain the information listed in the Annex.

(iv) Where verification is being considered for goods not cleared or cleared provisionally on grounds of verification of origin, such requests should be communicated immediately to the Board in case requests are in terms of rule 6(1)(a) or 6(1)(c) of CROTAR 2020; and within 10 days from the date of receipt of requisite information and documents from the importer in case the request is being considered in terms of rule 6(1)(b).

V) Mechanism should be devised to monitor the requests which have been forwarded for verification, with special focus on cases where the timeline for response from the Verification Authorities is about to expire.

5) For ascertaining correctness of a claim of preferential rate of duty under a trade agreement, information may be sought from the importer during the course of customs clearance or thereafter (e.g. during subsequent investigations or post-clearance audit). Likewise, a verification request may be made to an exporting country during the course of customs clearance of imported goods or thereafter. While the Act provides that information may be sought within a period of five years from the date of claim of preferential rate of duty by the importer, this time limit is subject to any other time limit as may be specified for this purpose under the trade agreement.

6) The Rules of Origin under various trade agreements lay down the format of the certificate of origin, the period of validity, manner of obtaining the certificate and the procedure for verification of origin. One of the usual conditions for accepting the certificate is that it should be signed by the authorized signatories whose

name, signature and seal have been communicated by the partner country through agreed channels. At present, the signatures and seals are received by the Board, either directly from the government of the partner country or through the Department of Commerce.

- a) The Directorate General of Systems has built an online repository on ICES for storing the signatures/seals to facilitate comparison by the assessing officers. DRI has been tasked with uploading the data in the database.
- b) For the benefit of non-EDI customs locations, copies of specimen signatures and seals will be circulated by DRI. For other locations, the ICES online repository may be utilized.
- c) In case the specimen seal/signature is not available in the ICES online repository, the issue may be referred to the Board for verification.

7. In terms of rule 6(5) of CAROTAR, 2020, Board has designated Director (ICD), CBIC as the nodal point for taking up verification of origin with partner countries. Hence all requests for verification should be addressed to:

Director (International Customs Division),
Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs,
Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance,
Room No. 49, North Block,
New Delhi -110001.
011- 2309 3380 (off); 011-2309 3760 (fax.)
Email: ftaroo-cbic@gov.in

- a) To help reduce time taken in communication of requests for verification of preferential country of Origin, it is advised to email all verification related correspondence to Board on ftaroo-cbic@gov.in. It may be noted that request through nic/icegate email ids will only be accepted. Such emails should include signed copy of the office letter and legible scanned copies of all relevant documents.
 - b) Where the information requested in terms of rule 6 is received, the proper officer should within the prescribed timelines either restore preferential claim or issue notice for denying the claim in terms of section 28DA, read with section 28 of the Act where required, in order to conclude the verification.
 - c) Where a claim for preferential rate of duty is denied, the CoO should be forwarded to the nodal point in the Board for record and onward communication to the exporting country, where required.
8. It is requested to conduct frequent training sessions in the zones to familiarize the officers with provisions of Rules of Origin prescribed under various trade agreements. Verification may also be sought based on data analysis, keeping in mind any change in import trend of a commodity, exporter, importer or any amendments to duty rates. Attention may also be drawn to the fact that where

originating criteria claimed is as per product specific rules (PSRs), the HSN (harmonised system of nomenclature) version prescribed in the trade agreement shall apply. The preferential tariff treatment should be extended only in terms of the extant notification. For instance, provision for issuance of Back-to-Back CoO is presently available only under ASEAN-India FTA, and hence Back-to-Back CoO should not be accepted for goods imported under any other trade agreement.

- a) It is also requested to share policy related feedback with the Board, through International Customs Division, to help analyse provisions of trade agreements which may require policy review.

9. Instruction no. 31/2016 – Customs dated 12.09.2016 stands superseded with the issue of this Circular.

10. Suitable Standing Order may be issued. Difficulties faced, if any, in implementation of this circular, may be immediately brought to the notice of the Board.

**Annex to Circular No. 38/2020 – Customs dated
21st August, 2020
[Please refer Paragraph 4(iii) of this Circular]**

1. Name of the Commissionerate:
2. Name of the Free/ Preferential Trade Agreement:
3. Relevant Customs Notifications (Both Tariff and Non-Tariff notifications):
4. Reference No. of the Certificate of Origin:
5. Issuing Authority:
6. Name of the Consignee:
7. Name of the Consignor:
8. Description of goods:
9. Origin criteria as mentioned in the certificate:
10. Revenue involved (forgone):
11. Reason for requesting verification along with supporting documents, if any:

Please enclose:

1. A legible copy of the Certificate of Origin, invoice and Bill of Lading/Airway Bill.
2. Questionnaire for the Verification Authority, where required, with specific queries.

TS bans registration of illegal buildings, plots

Seller must show building or layout permit for registration

T. Chiranjeevulu, Commissioner and Inspector General, Stamps and Registration, on Wednesday issued a memo to all sub-registrars directing them to not register plots or structures that have no valid permissions issued by the competent authorities, municipal or panchayat whichever is applicable.

In the memo, the commissioner made it clear that unless valid permissions are produced by the seller, the registration of property should not be done even if it was duly registered previously. Legal experts, however, feel that the memo may not stand judicial scrutiny as the Stamps and Registration Act has no provision for such prohibitive actions.

The Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019 stipulates that “the Registration Authority shall not register any building or structure or part of the building without the production of a sanctioned plan approved by the municipality.” The government, however, decided to register plots regularised under the Layout Regularisation Scheme brought out by the government from time to time and similarly the structures regularised under the Building Penalisation Scheme. The memo also exempted the structures built in the “gram kantam” areas from the prohibitive list.

Office of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, Telangana, Hyderabad.

Memo. No. G2/257/2019,

Dated : 26/08/2020

Sub: Registration and Stamps Department – Prohibition of registration of unauthorised plots and buildings – Certain instructions issued - Regarding.

It is the objective of the state government to ensure planned development in the state. Various statutes and rules have been made with safeguards to see that the above objective is achieved. The Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019 and the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018 provide for safeguards against registration of unapproved plot, sub-divisions, buildings and structures, etc.

The relevant provisions of the above mentioned acts and other relevant rules are as follows:

- i) Section 172(16) of the Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019 stipulates that “No new plot or sub-division shall be registered by Registration Authority unless it is approved by the authority as per the provisions of the Act.”
- ii) Section 178(3) of the Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019 stipulates that “The Registration Authority shall not register any building or structure or part of the building without the production of sanctioned plan approved by the municipality.”
- iii) Section 113(8) of the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018 mandates that “No piece of land for building purposes shall be sold by any owner or developer

which is not a part of an approved layout: Provided that it shall not be applicable to plots of land in Grama Kantam having an existing building.”

iv) Under Rule 13 (C) of Telangana Regularisation of Unapproved and Illegal Layout Rules, 2015 [G.O.Ms. No.151, MAUD Dept, dated 02.11.2015] (Failure to come forward for regularisation of unapproved layouts/plots) it has been specified that “Such unapproved layouts shall be recorded in the prohibitory properties of the Registration Department and no sale /disposal or transactions shall be allowed in such sites.”

v) Rule 26 (h) of Common Building Rules [G.O.Ms. No.168, MAUD Dept, dated 07.04.2012] stipulates that “The Registration authority shall register only the permitted built up area as per the sanctioned plan and only upon producing and filing a copy of such sanctioned building plan. On the registration document it should be clearly mentioned that the registration is in accordance with the sanctioned building plan in respect of setbacks and number of floors.”

3) In order to enforce the above statutory and rule positions, the following instructions are issued in

respect of registration of open plots or structures in any Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation including GHMC:

i) Plot in approved/authorised layouts only shall be registered. Only the plots in layouts approved as per law by the competent authority and plots which are regularised under LRS (Layout regularisation Scheme) schemes issued by the Government from time to time can be registered. Plots in unauthorised layouts shall not be registered even though the same plot was registered earlier.

ii) Authorised Structures only shall be registered. Houses, buildings, apartments (flats) or any structures shall be registered only if they have the approval/permission from the competent authority and on the registered document it should be clearly mentioned that the registration is in accordance with the sanctioned building plan.

Registering authority shall not register any part of a building or structure beyond the approved sanctioned plan. Earlier registration of the structure will not

make it registerable now. The structures which have proceedings under BRS (Building Regularisation Scheme)/ BPS (Building Penalisation Scheme) schemes issued by the Government from time to time can be registered. However, existing buildings in Grama Kantam can be registered as per provisions of Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018.

4) Persons seeking registration of properties shall be asked by the Registering Authority to produce relevant sanction orders/approvals from the competent authority at the time of presentation of the documents.

5) The above instructions are issued for strict compliance and shall come into force with immediate effect. Any violation of instructions shall invite stringent disciplinary action.

T CHIRANJEEVULU

Commissioner and Inspector General of
Registration and Stamps, Telangana, Hyderabad

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

ABSTRACT

Telangana State – Panchayat Raj & Rural Development and Municipal Administration & Urban Development - Regularization of Unapproved and Illegal Layout Rules 2020 for Urban and Rural areas- Orders – Issued.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT (Plg.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.131

Dated: 31.08.2020

ORDER:

Government of Telangana, with a view to promote planned sustainable development of both in Urban and Rural areas in the State, are encouraging development through approved layouts. 2. However, Government has observed that there are still many unapproved and illegal layouts and such unauthorized layouts, because of their deficiencies in infrastructure puts extra pressure on the local bodies but more importantly, puts the plot owners in such layouts at great inconvenience. Such substandard and unapproved subdivisions of plots defeat the very objective of planned development and severely affects the planned extension of services and amenities by the local bodies.

In order to ensure that planned sustainable development takes place in all such unapproved layouts, no registration of plots will be permitted henceforth in such unapproved /unauthorized/illegal layouts. In order to bring all these unplanned/ unapproved/ unauthorized layouts into the fold of planned sustainable development and to provide basic facilities in these areas and a better quality of life for the plot owners in these layouts and in the nearby areas, Government hereby issue the following Rules for Regularization of Unapproved and Illegal Layouts in the State of Telangana for both rural and urban areas.

4. Accordingly, the following notification shall be published in an Extraordinary issue of Telangana Gazette dated: 31.08.2020

For complete Notification visit : <https://www.ftcci.in/pages/circulars>



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FTCCI : Whatsapp Contact : Ms. Lakshmi Nirmala Ph: 800857 9629 - Mr. Vijay Kumar Ph: 91211 44245
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