



# FTCCI *Review*

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THE FEDERATION OF TELANGANA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

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Government of India  
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- Vol.VII No. 21
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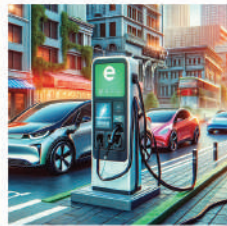
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FTCCI is organizing the Industrial Innovation & Technology Expo 2026\* at HITEX, Hyderabad. MSEs (Micro & Small Enterprises) participating in eligible focus sectors can avail reimbursement of stall costs under the Procurement & Marketing Support (PMS) Scheme of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India.

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General Enquiry

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Dear Member,

**T**he global economic environment continues to be unstable with deepening West Asia crisis and escalating attacks on the infrastructure. One of the world's most critical maritime checkpoints "Strait of Hormuz" remain disrupted, through which approximately 20% of the world's oil and gas shipments pass.

Depending heavily on Gulf energy imports routed through strait of Hormuz, exposed India's vulnerability to external shocks. Indian economy is facing the impact of crisis starting with hike in petrol and diesel prices twice within a week. The disruptions in supply of fertilizers and edible oils is creating pressure on input costs. The increase in prices directly leads to inflationary pressure, and deepens stress on MSMEs, which contribute nearly 30% to India's GDP and about 45% of manufacturing output.

It is time that India reduce its energy dependence, promote renewable energy more vigorously, diversify its imports, strengthen domestic manufacturing, increase strategic storage system and aim at becoming self-reliant.

The hike in petrol and diesel twice within a week indicates the gravity of supply shortages and on setting of inflationary pressures in the economy. ***We appeal to the government of Telangana to support the industry and people by reducing the VAT, as in other States.***

The BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi rightly highlighted the widening disparities among the countries and the risks faced by developing countries in achieving their growth targets under increasingly difficult global conditions. The countries are resorting to unilateral coercive measures and sanctions inconsistent with international law and the UN Charter are disproportionately affecting the developing countries and we wish that the BRICS emerges as global south cooperation and a stronger platform to strengthen the voice of developing nations.

One of the major initiatives during the month was the Interactive Stakeholders' Meeting with Sri Jitesh V. Patil, IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, TGSPDCL. The meeting provided an important platform for industries, MSMEs, renewable energy stakeholders, and senior officials of TGSPDCL to deliberate on key issues affecting industrial consumers in Telangana.

FTCCI also participated in the Stakeholders' Meeting on Draft Amendments to the Fire Services Act organised by the Fire Department, Government of Telangana. During the meeting, FTCCI submitted recommendations on the proposed Fire Safety Regulations with emphasis on creating a practical and balanced regulatory framework that ensures fire safety while also reducing compliance burden and supporting ease of doing business, particularly for MSMEs and industrial establishments.

A major highlight of the month was the successful organisation of "MSME Spark 3.0: Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing" by FTCCI with the support of the Department of Industries &

Commerce, Government of Telangana. The conclave brought together over 450 delegates, including policymakers, defence experts, industry leaders, MSMEs, start-ups, innovators, and financial institutions, to deliberate on emerging opportunities in India's rapidly growing aerospace and defence manufacturing ecosystem.

Distinguished dignitaries including Shri N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation, Government of Telangana, Dr. V. K. Saraswat, former Member of NITI Aayog, Dr. G. Sathesh Reddy, Member, National Security Advisory Board, Dr. Chandrika Kaushik, Distinguished Scientist & Director General, DRDO, Nikhil Chakravarthi, Director of Industries and senior representatives from defence PSUs and industry graced the program and shared their insights on prospects of the sector and emphasised that India offers huge potential for growth and innovation in Defence sector.

In the RBI Meeting of the Empowered Committee on MSMEs for the State of Telangana Federation stressed the need for improving credit flow to MSMEs, and to address sector-specific challenges. Access to timely and affordable credit continues to remain one of the key requirements for MSME growth, expansion, technology upgradation, and competitiveness.

Program on Achieving Water Neutrality- A Strategic ESG Initiative for Industry Managers stressed that achieving water neutrality was no longer only an environmental issue, but a business continuity issue, an economic issue, a social responsibility issue, and increasingly, a strategic ESG priority. Achieving water neutrality is emerging as a strategic pathway for resilient and responsible growth.

I appeal to our members to participate in the forthcoming, very beneficial programs like FTCCI Excellence Awards, International Conference on Shipping and Logistics and more importantly IITEX -2026 in large numbers, and gain maximum benefits.

The Federation remains committed to supporting MSMEs, start-ups, exporters, and industries through policy advocacy, stakeholder engagement, knowledge-sharing initiatives, and industry-connect programmes. Let us continue to work collectively towards building a stronger, innovative, resilient, and future-ready industrial ecosystem for Telangana and the nation.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ravi Kumar". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

**R. Ravi Kumar**  
President

## Geothermal Energy Could Ease India's Power Pressure, Support Industry Growth: Report



India has significant untapped geothermal energy potential that could help meet rising industrial, cooling and electricity demand while reducing pressure on the power grid, according to a report released on 14th May 2026 by Project InnerSpace in partnership with the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).

### Potential Nearly Matches Current Power Capacity

The report, titled *The Future of Geothermal in India*, estimated India's technical geothermal potential at over 11,000 GW for industrial heat, more than 1,500 GW for cooling applications, and 450 GW for electricity generation, nearly equal to the country's current installed power capacity.

It said even partial deployment of geothermal energy could ease pressure on India's power system, diversify industrial energy sources, strengthen energy security and support decarbonisation efforts.

### Data Centres, Cities, Industries Seen As Key Users

The report identified data centres, urban infrastructure and industrial operations as key sectors where geothermal energy could help meet growing energy demand while lowering emissions and improving resilience.

It noted that geothermal development in India has largely remained limited to pilot projects due to exploration risks, uncertain drilling outcomes and the lack of supportive policy frameworks.

However, advances in drilling technologies, improved subsurface data and the recently introduced National Policy on Geothermal Energy are expected to improve the feasibility of large-scale deployment.

The report highlighted Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh as leading states with strong geothermal deployment potential.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

## India ranks 3rd globally in installed renewable energy capacity



India now ranks third globally in installed renewable energy capacity. A new report by Morgan Stanley says India's renewable energy transition will help reduce external dependence, but its success will depend on how quickly the country localises critical segments such as solar cells, wafers, and polysilicon.

According to data from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, domestic solar module capacity has nearly doubled, from 38 gigawatts in March 2024 to 74 gigawatts in March 2025. Solar cell capacity has also increased from 9 gigawatts to 25 gigawatts.

However, the report notes that India still relies heavily on imports for key upstream components. In the financial year 2025, India imported around 35 million solar modules worth about 1.6 billion US dollars, with an estimated 60 to 80 per cent sourced from China. Overall, non-fossil fuel capacity in India has now crossed 50 per cent of total installed capacity, reaching 262.7 gigawatts. Solar and wind energy account for the bulk of recent additions.

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in>

## IOC's new ₹611 crore Hyderabad terminal will add to energy security of Telangana

The new Malkapur Terminal of India Oil Corporation (IOC) in Hyderabad will enhance product availability and operational reliability through direct connectivity via a cross-country pipeline.

The IOC established an additional pipeline terminal at Malkapur for receipt of petroleum products through the Paradip-Hyderabad Pipeline to support the growing energy demand of Telangana. The terminal was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on 10th May 2026.

The existing Cherlapally (Hyderabad) Terminal is situated on approximately 19 acres of land and has limited scope for further expansion. Due to space constraints, it is not feasible to augment facilities or tankage capacities to meet future energy demand or efficiently handle the pipeline parcel size from the Paradip–Hyderabad Pipeline.

To address these limitations and ensure cost effective operations, IOC established an additional pipeline terminal at Malkapur, Hyderabad, for receipt of petroleum products through the Paradip–Hyderabad Pipeline with an investment of Rs.611 crore.

The projected throughput of the Terminal by FY 29-30 is 1,891 TMTPA (about 7,964 KL per day) with a supply area of 23 districts out of the total 33 districts of Telangana.

With this supply point at Malkapur terminal significantly improves energy security for the state capital region, IOC said.

The project has also contributed to livelihood generation during both construction and operation phases. Conversion of the location from rail-fed to pipeline-fed Terminal of Products (ToP) has resulted in fuel savings of approximately 10,000 KL of HSD and a corresponding reduction of around 27,000 MT of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

During the construction, direct and indirect employment was provided to the tune of 250 thousand man-days per annum while direct and indirect regulator employment of about 30 thousand man-days per annum was created under various skill categories.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com>

## Forum of Regulators Holds 100th Meeting, Marks 21 Years of Power Sector Coordination



The Forum of Regulators held its 100th meeting at Bharat Mandapam, marking 21 years since its establishment as a statutory platform for coordination among central and state electricity regulatory commissions.

Formed in 2005, the Forum of Regulators (FOR) has played a

key role in shaping regulatory practices across India's power sector through studies, model regulations, technical committee reports and capacity-building initiatives.

According to officials, the forum has conducted 71 studies, organised 55 capacity-building programmes, issued 25 model regulations and produced six technical committee reports along with 37 working group reports over the past two decades.

Addressing the gathering, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister P. K. Mishra highlighted the evolution of India's power sector and referred to the Forum's role in discussions related to open access, tariff rationalisation and utility reforms. He

said the institution had contributed significantly towards addressing regulatory challenges in the sector.

During the event, Dr. Mishra also launched the "Forum of Regulators Coffee Table Book", documenting the institution's journey, achievements and future roadmap.

Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India V. Anantha Nageswaran spoke on the evolving geopolitical environment and India's energy exposure in the changing global landscape, while Ajay Shankar discussed India's decarbonisation efforts and lessons from the country's solar mission and clean energy initiatives.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

## India races to build long-duration storage as renewable gaps widen

The proposed scheme—part of the government's 'India Battery Storage Vision 2047'—is being worked out by the ministries of power and heavy industries, and is expected to be rolled out by FY28 under the administrative control of the power ministry.

India is scrambling to solve a growing clean-energy paradox: the country is adding renewable power at record pace, but lacks the storage capacity needed to use

that energy when the sun sets and wind generation drops.

To bridge that gap, the Union government is preparing a financial support scheme for long-duration energy storage (LDES) technologies, according to three people aware of the discussions.

The proposed scheme—part of the government's 'India Battery Storage Vision 2047'—is being worked out by the ministries of power and

heavy industries, and is expected to be rolled out by fiscal year 2028 (FY28) under the administrative control of the power ministry, the people said on condition of anonymity.

The push comes as policymakers increasingly acknowledge that India cannot fully leverage its rapidly expanding renewable energy capacity without large-scale storage infrastructure.

<https://www.livemint.com>

### PM Modi's Appeal to Hold On Gold Purchase Puts Spotlight On Rising Import Dependence

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent appeal urging citizens to avoid non-essential gold purchases for a year has raised concerns on India's growing dependence on bullion imports and its negative impact on the country's trade balance and foreign exchange reserves.

India's gold import bill has risen sharply in recent years, increasing from around USD 36.5 billion in 2022 to nearly USD 58.9 billion in 2025.

According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the country's gold imports further climbed 24 per cent in FY26 to approximately USD 72 billion, highlighting the increasing pressure on the external account as India continues to rely heavily on imported gold.

The concerns have also drawn attention to the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which came into force in 2022. Under the agreement, gold imports from the UAE are permitted at concessional tariffs through a Tariff Rate Quota mechanism.

The quota initially allowed 120 tonnes of gold imports annually and is expected to rise to 200 tonnes from 2027, accounting for nearly



a quarter of India's gold imports. Following the reduction in standard gold import duty from 15 per cent to 6 per cent in the Union Budget 2024, the effective duty on eligible UAE-origin gold imports declined to 5 per cent.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

### UP Govt Rolls Out Third-Party Audit Scheme To Ease Compliance Burden, MSMEs To Benefit

To promote industrial growth and attract investment, the Uttar Pradesh state government has introduced a Third-Party Audit Scheme aimed at making compliance more transparent and less burdensome for businesses. Under the new system, no immediate punitive action will be taken against industrial establishments. Instead, units will first receive a notice with an opportunity to rectify issues, followed by a second notice if needed.

Prosecution will only begin after

### Labour Ministry Notifies Industrial Relations Rules 2026, Brings IR Code into Force

The Ministry of Labour & Employment has notified the Industrial Relations (Central) Rules, 2026, bringing them into force with immediate effect from May 8, 2026.

It aims to operationalise key provisions of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 and overhaul India's industrial relations framework with a stronger focus on digitisation and compliance.

The new rules, which were issued after considering stakeholder feedback on the draft rules published in December 2025, replace relevant provisions of the Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957 and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central Rules, 1946.

#### New Rules for Worker Representation

The framework introduces electronic filing, online submissions, and digital maintenance of records, reflecting the government's push to modernise labour administration and reduce procedural delays.

Under the new framework, establishments employing 20 or more workers must constitute Grievance Redressal Committees with equal representation from employers and workers. The rules also mandate adequate representation of women workers in such committees in proportion to their workforce participation.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

approval from a senior authority, reducing undue pressure on industries.

The national federation for Indian MSMEs, Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) has welcomed the scheme, noting that it had long advocated the need for such a reform with both central and state governments.

### **Transparent, Digital Auditor Selection**

The selection of third-party auditors—both labour and technical—has been made fully online to ensure transparency. So far, 13 institutions have been empanelled. Additionally, compliance auditors can now be appointed under a formal government order to assist employers.

### **Risk-Based Inspection Framework**

Industrial units have been classified into three categories, with low-risk units employing 10 to 50 workers subject to self-certification-based inspections once every five years under key labour laws such as the Motor Vehicles Act, Contract Labour Act, Beedi and Cigar Act, Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, and the Factories Act.

Medium-risk units with 50 to 100 workers will undergo third-party audits every three years, while high-risk units, including those with over 100 workers or operating in hazardous industries, will be subject to annual or need-based inspections by the department.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

## **India's GDP Growth May Slow To 6.7% In FY27 Amid Rising Crude Prices: BMI**

India's economic growth is expected to slow to 6.7 percent in FY27, down from an estimated 7.7 percent in FY26, as weakening domestic momentum and rising crude oil prices linked to the Iran conflict weigh on the economy, according to BMI.

### **Higher Oil Prices Threaten Growth Momentum**

The report said GDP growth could slow sharply in the current fiscal due to higher input costs, supply disruptions and the economic fallout of the ongoing Iran conflict, which has pushed global crude prices higher.

BMI revised its FY26 growth estimate upward by 0.1 percentage point to 7.7 percent and said India's

economy likely expanded 8 percent year-on-year in the January-March quarter of 2026, slightly above its earlier projection of 7.8 percent, reported PTI.

However, it maintained its FY27 forecast at 6.7 percent, stating that the benefits of tax reforms introduced in GST and income tax in 2025 are expected to fade as inflationary pressures rise due to higher fuel and input costs.

### **Domestic Demand Shows Signs of Weakening**

The report noted early signs of slowing demand, pointing to vehicle registrations that grew 9 percent in April compared to 23 percent growth during January-March.

Electricity generation also



rose just 2.7 percent in the last quarter, while power consumption growth slowed to only 0.9 percent in March.

BMI warned that restricted supplies of energy and food could further dampen consumption while driving inflation higher. It also highlighted risks from a weak monsoon after forecasts of below-normal rainfall due to El Niño conditions. The report said India remains among the most energy-sensitive economies in Asia and estimated that GDP growth could decline by 0.4 to 0.7 percentage points if Brent crude prices rise to around USD 90 per barrel.

<https://knnindia.co.in>

## **Timely Payments By Large Firms Crucial To Ease MSME Working Capital Stress: CEA Nageswaran**

Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran on 12th May urged large companies to ensure timely payments to micro and small enterprises (MSEs) to ease their working capital constraints and reduce borrowing costs. Speaking at the CII Annual Business Summit, he said bigger firms should promptly accept invoices raised by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and clear dues without delays.

### **Rebalancing Financial Dynamics**

Nageswaran said, "Larger enterprises in the country have to pledge to contribute to relieving the working capital requirements of micro and small enterprises," PTI reported.

"Micro, small, and medium enterprises are the source of working capital for large enterprises. It should be the reverse. And because these enterprises have a much higher cost of capital," he added.

### **Boost to Innovation and Growth**

The CEA noted that

freeing up working capital for MSMEs would create a positive environment for innovation and expansion. Highlighting India's large MSME base, he pointed out that many such enterprises continue to face challenges in scaling up and integrating into global value chains.

### **Push for Simpler Regulations**

Nageswaran said the government is working towards building a supportive ecosystem for MSMEs.

<https://knnindia.co.in/news>



# Case Law Alert

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As the GST law continues to evolve, we are witnessing increased enforcement efforts by the Department to identify and address non-compliance within the ecosystem. This has inevitably led to a rise in litigation.

To support stakeholders in navigating these developments, RSM Astute Consulting Pvt Ltd is sharing timely and relevant updates on GST for the benefit of stakeholders.

01

## PETITIONER / RESPONDENT

Petitioner : Uday Traders

Respondent : State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors

02

## COURT/ FORUM

In the Court of: Madhya Pradesh High Court

Writ Petition Number: Writ Petition No. 10693 of 2026

03

## GROUND OF WRIT

The Petitioner challenged the Appellate Orders dismissing its GST appeals on the ground of limitation. The Petitioner contended that, due to technical glitches and malfunctioning of the GST portal, it was unable to file replies to the show cause notices issued under Section 74 of the GST Act, which resulted in ex parte assessment orders and consequential recovery proceedings. The Petitioner further argued that the show cause notices were vague, lacked specific particulars, and were not properly served in accordance with Section 169 of the GST Act. Accordingly, the Petitioner sought setting aside of the Appellate Orders and a direction for fresh adjudication after affording a reasonable opportunity of hearing.

04

## ORDER

The High Court dismissed the Writ Petition, holding that the Petitioner had an effective statutory remedy available before the GST Appellate Tribunal. The Court observed that writ jurisdiction cannot be invoked to circumvent the statutory appellate mechanism or to avoid compliance with the mandatory pre-deposit requirement. Relying upon Circular No. 132/2/2020-GST concerning the filing of appeals after the constitution of the GST Appellate Tribunal, the Court granted liberty to the Petitioner to approach the GST Tribunal against the impugned Appellate Orders.

01

## PETITIONER / RESPONDENT

Petitioner : Manzoor Ahmad Bhat

Respondent : Union Territory of J&K & Ors.

02

## COURT/ FORUM

In the Court of: Jammu & Kashmir High Court

Writ Petition Number: WP(C) 940/2026 CM(2461/2026)

03

## GROUND OF WRIT

The Petitioner challenged the orders of the adjudicating authority and the Appellate Authority rejecting the GST appeal on the ground of limitation. The Petitioner sought condonation of delay, contending that personal circumstances, including his father's medical condition and the absence of formal intimation of the adjudication order, prevented the timely filing of the appeal. It was further argued that the delay deserved to be condoned in exercise of the High Court's extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution.

04

## ORDER

The Court dismissed the Writ Petition and upheld the orders passed by the Adjudicating Authority and the Appellate Authority. The Court held that, under Section 107 of the CGST Act, an appeal cannot be entertained beyond the prescribed statutory limitation period. The Court further observed that the reasons advanced for the delay of 317 days did not constitute exceptional or extraordinary circumstances justifying the exercise of writ jurisdiction for condonation of delay. It was also noted that the adjudication order had already been communicated through the GST portal and was within the knowledge of the Petitioner.

01

**PETITIONER / RESPONDENT**

Petitioner : Vandana Global Ltd.

Respondent : Principal Commissioner,  
Central GST & Central Excise, Chhattisgarh  
& Ors

02

**COURT/ FORUM**

In the Court of: Chhattisgarh High Court

Writ Petition Number: WPT No. 115 of 2019

03

**GROUND OF WRIT**

The Petitioner challenged the GST demand notices levying interest on the entire output tax liability without accounting for the admissible input tax credit available in the electronic credit ledger. The Petitioner contended that, pursuant to the retrospective amendment to Section 50 of the CGST Act with effect from 01.07.2017, interest on delayed payment of GST is payable only on the net cash liability and not on the gross tax liability. The Petitioner also sought directions for appropriate configuration of the GSTN portal to enable adjustment of tax liability through the available input tax credit.

04

**ORDER**

The Court held that, pursuant to the retrospective amendment to Section 50 of the CGST Act, interest on delayed payment of GST is chargeable only on the portion of tax discharged through the electronic cash ledger. The Court observed that the impugned demand notice required reconsideration in light of the amended statutory position and, accordingly, remanded the matter to the concerned authorities for fresh adjudication.

01

**PETITIONER / RESPONDENT**

Petitioner : Fateh Education Consulting  
Private Limited

Respondent : Assistant Commissioner,  
CGST Division, CGST Delhi West  
Commissionerate & Anr

02

**COURT/ FORUM**

In the Court of: Delhi High Court

Writ Petition Number: W.P. (C) 17500/2025

03

**GROUND OF WRIT**

The Petitioner challenged the rejection of its GST refund claim, asserting that the services provided to foreign universities were rendered on a principal-to-principal basis and did not constitute intermediary services under Section 2(13) of the IGST Act. The Petitioner contended that it independently provided consultancy, marketing, and recruitment support services, received consideration directly from the foreign universities, and therefore qualified for GST refund as an export of services.

04

**ORDER**

The Delhi High Court held that the Petitioner could not be classified as an intermediary merely on account of receiving commission from foreign universities. The Court observed that the Petitioner was independently rendering consultancy and marketing support services to overseas universities and was not facilitating or arranging the supply of services between two separate parties. Placing reliance on earlier decisions, including Global Opportunities Private Limited and K.C. Overseas Education Pvt. Ltd., the Court concluded that the services rendered by the Petitioner satisfied the conditions of export of services under the IGST Act. Consequently, the impugned order rejecting the refund claim was set aside.

01

**PETITIONER / RESPONDENT**

Petitioner : Kishan Cement Stores

Respondent : State of Bihar & Ors

02

**COURT/ FORUM**

In the Court of: Patna High Court

Writ Petition Number: Civil Writ Jurisdiction  
Case No. 1982 of 2026

03

**GROUND OF WRIT**

The Petitioner challenged the GST detention and penalty proceedings initiated on account of the expiry of the e-way bill during transit of goods. The Petitioner contended that the show cause notices were issued without affording an adequate opportunity of hearing, in violation of Section 129(4) of the CGST/BGST Act, 2017 and the principles of natural justice. The Petitioner further sought refund of the penalty amount already paid, asserting that the goods were accompanied by valid tax invoices and that there was no intention to evade payment of tax.

04

**ORDER**

The Court observed that the Petitioner had voluntarily discharged the tax and penalty liability without lodging any protest at the time of payment. Relying on the release order, the Court noted that, in terms of Section 129(5) of the CGST Act, once the applicable tax and penalty are paid, the detention proceedings attain finality. The Court also emphasized that the Petitioner did not pursue the statutory appellate remedy within the prescribed limitation period. Instead, the Petitioner directly invoked the writ jurisdiction of the High Court without demonstrating any jurisdictional infirmity, procedural illegality, or breach of the principles of natural justice warranting judicial interference.



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# Interactive Stakeholders' Meeting with CMD, TGSPDCL



**17<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**Federation House, Hyderabad**

FTCCI organised an interactive stakeholders' meeting with Sri Jitesh V. Patil, IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, Telangana Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at Federation House, Hyderabad. The meeting was organised by the FTCCI Energy Committee to discuss key issues affecting industries and power consumers in Telangana.

Sri R. Ravi Kumar, President, FTCCI, welcomed the gathering and emphasised the need for continuous dialogue between industry and power utilities to improve ease of doing business and strengthen Telangana's industrial competitiveness. Sri Vinod Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Energy Committee, FTCCI, highlighted various concerns faced by industries relating to Open Access, KVAh billing, rooftop solar policies, power quality requirements, tariff-related issues, and regulatory procedures.

During the interaction, Sri Jitesh V. Patil, IAS, stated that industries are among the most valued consumers of TGSPDCL and assured the

participants that their concerns would receive due attention. He encouraged industries to freely present their issues with supporting documents and informed that TGSPDCL is developing a system for time-bound grievance redressal and transparent handling of industry representations. He also stressed the importance of joint efforts between industry and TGSPDCL for improving regulations and policy implementation.

A major outcome of the meeting was the decision to constitute a Joint Industry–TGSPDCL Coordination Committee for regular engagement with industry stakeholders. It was also agreed to conduct monthly stakeholder meetings at FTCCI on the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> of every month to review and resolve industry-related power issues.

Several important issues were discussed during the meeting, including delays in Open Access approvals, restrictions on Open Access for new industries, ambiguity in KVAh billing refunds, rationalisation of Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS), rooftop solar and net metering regulations, implementation of PM-KUSUM

projects, policy consultation mechanisms, and issues relating to industrial tariff categorisation. Industry representatives also raised concerns regarding One Time Settlement (OTS) schemes for financially stressed industrial units and delays in implementation of CGRF and court orders.

Responding positively to the concerns, the CMD assured that several matters would be reviewed at the policy level and discussed further with the concerned departments, including TGREDCO, TGERC, and other power sector stakeholders. He reiterated TGSPDCL's commitment towards establishing a transparent, rules-based system and strengthening industry confidence in Telangana's power sector.

The meeting witnessed active participation from representatives of FTCCI, industry associations, MSMEs, renewable energy stakeholders, and senior officials of TGSPDCL. The interactive session was highly appreciated by the participants for its open discussions, constructive approach, and commitment towards long-term industry-government coordination in the power sector.



Major P. Tuhinikar Choudary, Army Engineer Officer (Retd.) addressing in the Interactive Meeting : 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 at Federation House, FTCCI.



FTCCI Excellence Awards 2026 Poster release : 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 at Federation House, FTCCI, Hyderabad



Future of Supply Chain in AI Driven Era : 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 at Federation House, FTCCI  
Sri R. Ravi Kumar, President, FTCCI attended as a Guest of Honour.

# MSME Spark 3.0

## Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing

8<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Taj Deccan, Hyderabad

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), with the support of the Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Telangana, organised MSME Spark 3.0: Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing on 08th May 2026 at Taj Deccan, Hyderabad. The conclave brought together over 450 delegates, including policymakers, defence experts, industry leaders, innovators, investors, startups, MSMEs, financial institutions, and academia to deliberate on emerging opportunities in India's rapidly growing aerospace and defence manufacturing ecosystem.

Shri. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Hon'ble

Minister for Irrigation & CAD; Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy, Member, National Security



# MSME Spark 3.0 Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing



Advisory Board and Former Secretary, DDR&D and Chairman, DRDO, and Dr. (Smt.) Chandrika Kaushik, Distinguished Scientist & Director General (Production Coordination & Services Interaction), DRDO, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, attended as Guests of Honour.

Shri R. Ravi Kumar, President, FTCCI, welcomed the gathering and highlighted the growing opportunities for MSMEs and startups in the aerospace and defence manufacturing sector and stressed the importance of collaboration among industry, government, defence establishments, and academia to strengthen India's self-reliance in defence production.

Shri P. Krishna, Chairman, Industrial Development Committee of FTCCI, delivered the introductory remarks and emphasised the need to create a strong ecosystem for technology-driven manufacturing and innovation.

Addressing the gathering, Shri. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that Telangana is firmly positioning itself as a national leader in aerospace and defence manufacturing and expressed confidence that by 2030 the State would emerge as India's





Aerospace and Defence Capital. He noted that aerospace and defence have been identified as priority sectors under the State's industrial policy framework. Highlighting Hyderabad's strong ecosystem of defence laboratories, advanced manufacturing facilities, research institutions, and MSMEs, he informed that nearly 1,500 MSMEs in Telangana are currently part of the aerospace and defence supply chain ecosystem. He also stressed the Government's focus on skill development and future-ready education initiatives, including the proposed Telangana Young India Skill University, aimed at strengthening India's defence manufacturing capabilities and skilled workforce.

Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy stated that the conclave was being held at a significant time coinciding with the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, which demonstrated the strength of India's indigenously developed defence systems and technologies. He highlighted the increasing importance of advanced technologies, drones, and indigenous innovation in modern warfare and emphasised the critical role played by MSMEs in India's defence manufacturing growth. Referring to the Akash Missile programme, he stated that MSMEs contributed

nearly 80% of the value chain, demonstrating the importance of small industries in national defence capability. He also informed that India's defence acquisitions and indigenous manufacturing programmes are expanding rapidly, creating significant opportunities for start-ups and MSMEs.

Dr. (Smt.) Chandrika Kaushik stated that the success of Operation Sindoor underscored the growing strength of India's indigenous defence manufacturing ecosystem and the important role of MSMEs. She informed that India's defence budget for the current fiscal is Rs.7.85 lakh crore, with over 75% of the capital outlay earmarked for domestic industry, thereby creating enormous opportunities for Indian enterprises. She highlighted that more than 2,000 firms are currently development partners in DRDO projects and informed that under the new Technology Transfer Policy 2025, DRDO is offering royalty-free patents, free renewals, and handholding support to encourage indigenous innovation. She also elaborated on the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme, which provides grant-in-aid support of up to 90% of project cost or Rs.50 crore for MSMEs and startups.

The conclave featured multiple technical and interactive sessions focusing on defence procurement, offset policy, investment pathways, technology development, innovation, and entrepreneurial success stories.

Session-I on "Emerging Procurement Opportunities for MSMEs" was chaired by Dr. (Smt.) Chandrika Kaushik, featured eminent panellists including Dr. S. V. S. Narayana Murty, Chairman & Managing Director, MIDHANI; Shri Commodore A. Madhavarao (Retd.), Former CMD, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL); Shri Kamesh Kasana, Director (Other Units), Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL); and Shri Jayaram Mummadi, CEO, Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems Pvt. Ltd. (KRAS). The session deliberated on emerging business opportunities for MSMEs in the defence sector.

Session-II on "Funding Schemes & Investment Pathways" was chaired by Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy. The session featured presentations on key funding and support schemes including the iDEX Scheme by Shri AVM G. K. Mohan, AVSM, Additional Director General Acquisition Technical (Air Force), Department of Defence, Government of India; the Technology Development Fund (TDF) Scheme by Dr. (Smt.) Nidhi Bansal,



Scientist 'G' & Director, Directorate of Technology Development Fund (TDF), DRDO; and SIDBI support schemes by Shri Sanak Das, Assistant General Manager, SIDBI, Regional Office, Hyderabad.

The conclave also hosted a special session titled "From Vision to Victory – Entrepreneur's Journey", chaired by Shri Nikhil Chakravarthi, IA&AS, Director of Industries, Government of Telangana. The session featured leading entrepreneurs including Shri Ram Rao P, Chairman & Managing Director, ICOMM Tele Limited; Shri Vamsi Vikas Ganesula, Managing Director, Raghu Vamsi Group; and Shri Rupesh Gandupalli, Co-Founder & CEO, XDLINX Space Labs, who shared their entrepreneurial journeys, industry experiences, and success stories in the aerospace and defence manufacturing sector. Nikhil Chakravarthi explained the state government's initiatives in promoting the defence sector and said that Telangana set to become the leader in defence sector not only by attracting investments from other countries, but also by supporting the domestic industry.

The valedictory session was addressed by Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Former Member, NITI Aayog and Former Director General, DRDO, as Chief Guest. He shared his rich experiences and insights on the



evolution of technology in India since the 1970s, which proved to be truly eye-opening for the younger generation of entrepreneurs. His address provided valuable perspectives on India's remarkable progress in defence and aerospace manufacturing and highlighted the hard work, vision, and dedication of the country's scientists and technologists.

Dr. BHVS Narayana Murthy, Vice Chancellor, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune, as Guest of Honour. He reiterated the importance of stronger collaboration among industry, academia, start-ups, and government institutions to accelerate India's journey towards defence self-reliance and technological leadership. The event concluded with an enthusiastic response from

participants and stakeholders, reflecting strong industry interest in Telangana's growing aerospace and defence manufacturing ecosystem and the expanding opportunities available for MSMEs and start-ups through Government of India initiatives, Defence PSUs, and financial institutions to contribute to the nation's economic growth.

The conclave ended with vote of thanks and recognizing the support of Hyderabad Precision Mfg. Co. Pvt. Ltd, Sudhakar PVC Products Private Limited, Empilot powered by SarvHR, State Bank of India (SBI), Dynamic Aerospace Technologies Private Limited, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), and Ecobliss India Pvt. Ltd, towards contribution to the success of the conclave.

# Program on Achieving Water Neutrality- A Strategic ESG Initiative for Industry Managers



**19<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
**Federation House, FTCCI**

Mr. K K Maheshwari, Senior Vice President, FTCCI delivering the welcome address, expressed water is no longer only an environmental issue. It is now a business continuity issue, an economic issue, a social responsibility issue, and increasingly, a strategic ESG priority. India, despite being home to nearly 18 percent of the world's population, has access to only around 4 percent of global freshwater resources. This reality makes water stewardship not just desirable, but absolutely essential.

He reiterated that water is not merely a resource for production; it is the foundation of life, livelihoods, ecosystems, and economic resilience. The decisions we take today will determine the sustainability of future generations. Achieving water neutrality is emerging as a strategic pathway for resilient and responsible growth.

Mr. G. Bala Subramanyam, Chair, Environmental, Social, and Governance Committee, FTCCI

in his introductory remarks, said leading industries across the world are increasingly valuing water neutrality as an integral part of achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, along with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

He mentioned that responsible companies have integrated water stewardship into their sustainability strategies and progressive industries are moving beyond “within-the-fence” water management and adopting basin-level and community-level approaches. He opined this shift clearly indicates that water neutrality is evolving from a voluntary environmental initiative into a core sustainability and business strategy for responsible industries worldwide.

The day-long program had several other sessions such as Water Neutrality Certification- Planning to Implementation by Mr. Syed Ateeq, Counsellor, Confederation

of Indian Industry; Presentation on Water harvesting for achieving Water Neutrality: Methods, Design Approaches Hydrogeological Controls and Quantification by Dr. P. N. Rao, Former Scientist, Central Ground Water Board & CGWA Accredited Ground Water Consultant; Water Offsetting for Water Neutrality: Beyond the Fence Approaches Leveraging Nature-Based Solutions and Basin-Level Interventions presented by Dr. Jayati Chourey, Executive Director, SaciWATERS; Presentation on JETL Sustainability Journey- From CETP to ZLD by Mr. K Narayana Swamy, AGM – EE, Jeedimetla Effluent Treatment Limited and Planning for Water Audit in an effective way by Industry presented by Mr. Sharath Chandra Maroju, Founder & CEO, Syndic Consulting Engineers & Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Vimallesh Gupta, Co- Chair, Environmental, Social, and Governance Committee, FTCCI proposed a vote of thanks.

# Electricity (Amendment) Rules, 2026: Easing the Path to Green Energy for India's Commercial & Industrial Sector

*Electricity (Amendment) Rules 2026 boost green energy adoption for C&I by simplifying captive norms, enabling storage use, and easing compliance.*

The Ministry of Power ("MoP") notified the Electricity (Amendment) Rules, 2026 ("EA Rules 2026") vide its Notification No. G.S.R. 186(E), substituting Rule 3 of the Electricity Rules, 2005 ("2005 Rules") in its entirety. Rule 3 operationalises Section 9 of the Electricity Act, 2003 ("Act") and prescribes the eligibility conditions for Captive Generating Plants ("CGPs") which are as follows: (i) captive users must collectively hold not less than 26% ownership in the plant, and; (ii) not less than 51% of its aggregate annual generation must be consumed for captive use. CGP status exempts consumers from Cross-Subsidy Surcharge ("CSS") and Additional Surcharge ("AS") levied by distribution licensees, making it the principal route through which Commercial & Industrial ("C&I") consumers access cost-competitive, green electricity.

The captive route is also India's primary vehicle for C&I renewable energy procurement. The economics of grid supply (which embeds cross-subsidy obligations, open access charges, and renewable purchase obligation compliance costs) have made self-generated or group captive green



energy structurally more attractive for large C&I consumers. The group captive renewable model, where multiple C&I consumers co-own a solar or wind plant and draw power from it, directly serves this demand. Yet legal uncertainty embedded in the EA Rules 2005 had made such structures commercially precarious, slowing green capacity addition in the very segment most capable of deploying it at scale.

The 2005 Rules had accumulated three structural fault lines: (i) the absence of a corporate group definition prevented conglomerates from aggregating ownership across holding-subsidiary structures; (ii) proportionate consumption rules in Association of Persons (“AoP”) structures created systemic surcharge risk for all members if any one member over-drew its proportionate share; and (iii) the lack of a uniform verification mechanism produced inconsistent SERC outcomes and protracted litigation. However, the EA Rules 2026 address each of these issues directly.

### **Aligning the Framework with Corporate Reality**

The most consequential change is reflected in the Explanation to Rule 3(1)(a), which deems a captive user that is a company to include its subsidiaries, its holding company, and other subsidiaries of that holding company, collectively treated as a single captive user. Rule 3(1)(d) defines ‘ownership’ to mean proprietary interest and control, or equity share capital carrying voting rights, held directly or through the same corporate group, with subsidiary and holding company carrying the meanings under Section 2(87) and Section 2(46) of the Companies Act, 2013. Together, these provisions allow industrial groups to aggregate ownership and consumption across entities, eliminating the fragmentation that had prevented conglomerates from satisfying the 26% ownership threshold.

### **Rationalising Proportionate Consumption in AoP Structures**

Rule 3(2)(d), effective from 1 April 2026,

introduces a structured proportionate consumption discipline for all AoP-structured plants, including SPVs, which Rule 3(1)(e) expressly treats as AoPs. The 26% and 51% thresholds are satisfied collectively by all members. Each member’s individual captive consumption benefit is capped at 100% of its proportionate entitlement. Critically, a member holding not less than 26% ownership is entirely exempt from this cap; its full actual consumption qualifies as captive consumption. Excess consumption by any member beyond its individual cap does not affect the plant’s captive status for the group; it simply does not itself qualify as captive consumption for that member. Schedule III under the EA Rules 2026 contains four worked numerical examples forming part of the notification, providing authoritative computational guidance.

### **Recognising Energy Storage as Captive Consumption**

Rule 3(1)(a) expressly includes electricity consumed through an Energy Storage System (“ESS”) connected to a CGP as valid captive consumption. This is the most forward-looking provision in the EA Rules 2026 and its significance for green energy adoption is considerable. Until now, a C&I consumer pairing a captive solar plant with a battery storage system faced a genuine regulatory question: did electricity drawn from the battery, rather than directly from the generation source, qualify as captive consumption? The ambiguity had introduced structuring risk into hybrid renewable projects and complicated the computation of the 51% consumption threshold which is now being addressed through the amendments under the EA Rules 2026.

Hybrid solar-plus-storage and wind-plus-storage configurations, which are the only technically credible path to firm, round-the-clock renewable power for energy-intensive C&I consumers, now have an unambiguous statutory foundation. A steel plant or data centre that co-owns a captive solar installation with co-located battery storage can count its ESS-mediated consumption toward the captive use threshold, enabling it to



**The captive route is also India’s primary vehicle for C&I renewable energy procurement. The economics of grid supply (which embeds cross-subsidy obligations, open access charges, and renewable purchase obligation compliance costs) have made self-generated or group captive green energy structurally more attractive for large C&I consumers.**

design its green energy arrangement around its actual operational load profile rather than around regulatory risk. For project developers and lenders structuring such arrangements, this provision removes a material basis for regulatory challenge by distribution licensees and directly improves project bankability. It also aligns the captive framework with the broader policy direction of the Ministry of Power, which has been actively promoting battery energy storage systems as a national infrastructure priority.

### A Uniform Verification Framework

Rule 3(4), effective from 1 April 2026, establishes a statutory two-tier verification framework for the first time which is as follows: (i) intra-state captive status is verified by a State-designated Nodal Agency; and (ii) inter-state arrangements fall under the NLDC as per a procedure issued

with Central Government approval. Appeals lie before a Grievance Redressal Committee. Pending verification, CSS and AS are not levied provided the captive user furnishes a prescribed declaration; if the plant subsequently fails verification, the applicable surcharges become payable with carrying costs at the Late Payment Surcharge base rate. This standardisation addresses the most persistent source of litigation in the captive power sector.

### Conclusion

By codifying the corporate group as a single captive user, rationalising AoP proportionality, recognising ESS-based consumption, the EA Rules 2026 materially reduce the legal and operational friction that had impeded green group captive adoption in the C&I segment. The amendments arrive at a moment when C&I consumers face growing pressure (from ESG reporting obligations,

supply chain decarbonisation requirements, and the rising cost of grid power) to accelerate their transition to renewable energy. The captive route, now on a sounder legal footing, is well-positioned to serve as the principal mechanism for that transition. The immediate priority for legal practitioners is to align existing CGP project documents with the amended Rule 3 ahead of 1 April 2026. For C&I consumers with live regulatory proceedings, the substituted rule may materially affect pending arguments. The regulatory intent is clear; the compliance groundwork must begin now.

<https://www.saurenergy.com/solar-energy-blog/electricity-amendment-rules-2026-easing-the-path-to-green-energy-for-indias-commercial-industrial-sector-11438202>



*Felicitating Shri Shyam Sunder Jaju, Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Ranga Reddy Zone on his retirement : 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2026*



*Seminar on Building Safe Communities: Responsibilities of RWAs and Housing societies : 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 at KLN Prasad Auditorium, Federation House, Hyderabad*

# Renewable Energy Capacity Up 20%: How Much Will India Save On Fuel Imports?

**India Green Energy: Amid PM Modi's push for fuel conservation, India's renewable generation capacity has risen 20% year-on-year.**

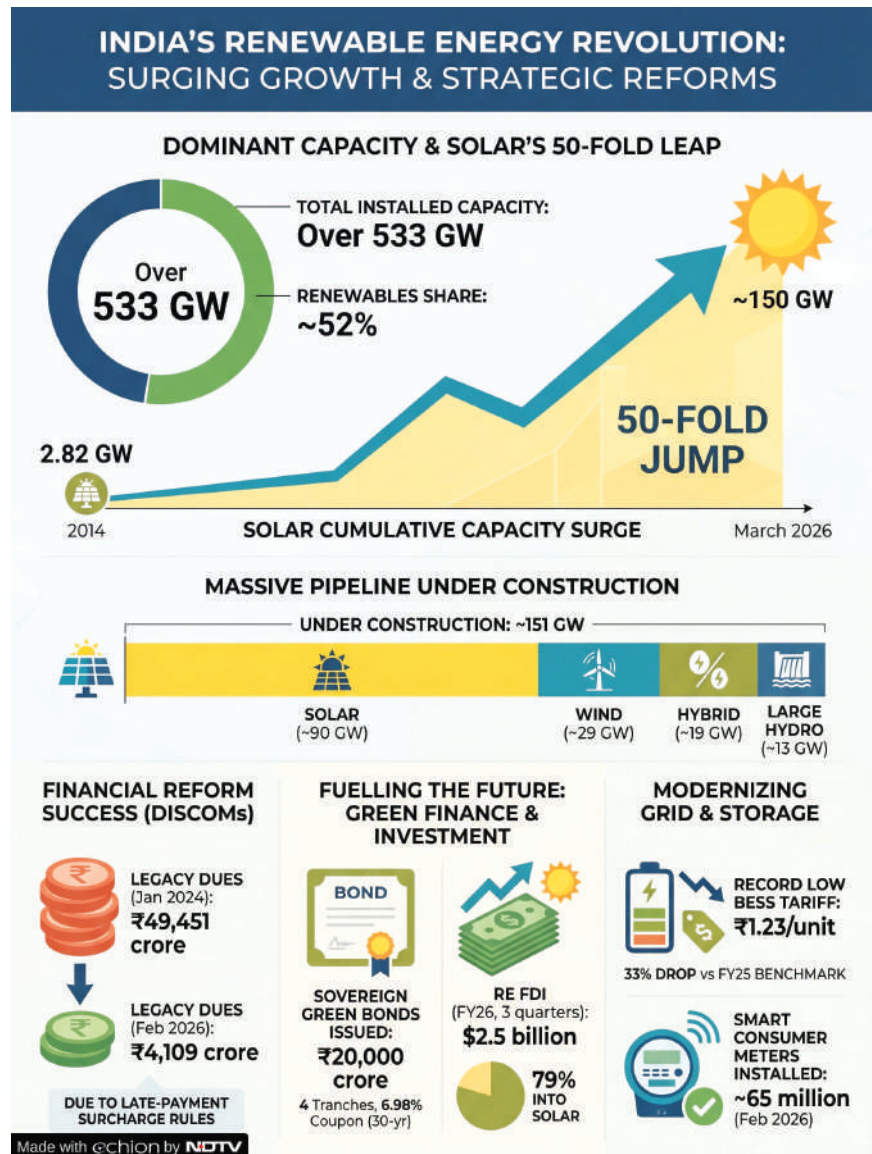
PRATEEK SHUKLA

India has hit a significant clean-energy milestone at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been urging people to take measures like not buying gold for a year and reducing fuel consumption.

The latest FY26 Market Handbook from the Council on Energy, Environment and Water's Green Finance Centre shows renewable generation in India rising 20 per cent year-on-year, while coal and lignite output falling 4.3 per cent.

India added a record 57.5 GW of net power capacity in FY26, up from 33.2 GW in FY25. Renewables, including large hydro, accounted for 54.6 GW—about 95 per cent of the year's additions—taking total installed capacity to 533 GW, with renewables forming nearly 52 per cent of the mix.

As of March 2026, around 151 GW of renewable capacity is under construction: roughly 90 GW solar, 29 GW wind, 19 GW hybrid and 13 GW large hydro. The report also flags FY26 as a turning point for storage, with 37 tenders issued.



“India’s energy transition continues to gather pace... the sector is also at an important crossroads,” said Gagan Sidhu, Director, CEEW-GFC, noting a 26 per cent drop in FDI in the first three quarters of FY26 compared with a year earlier.

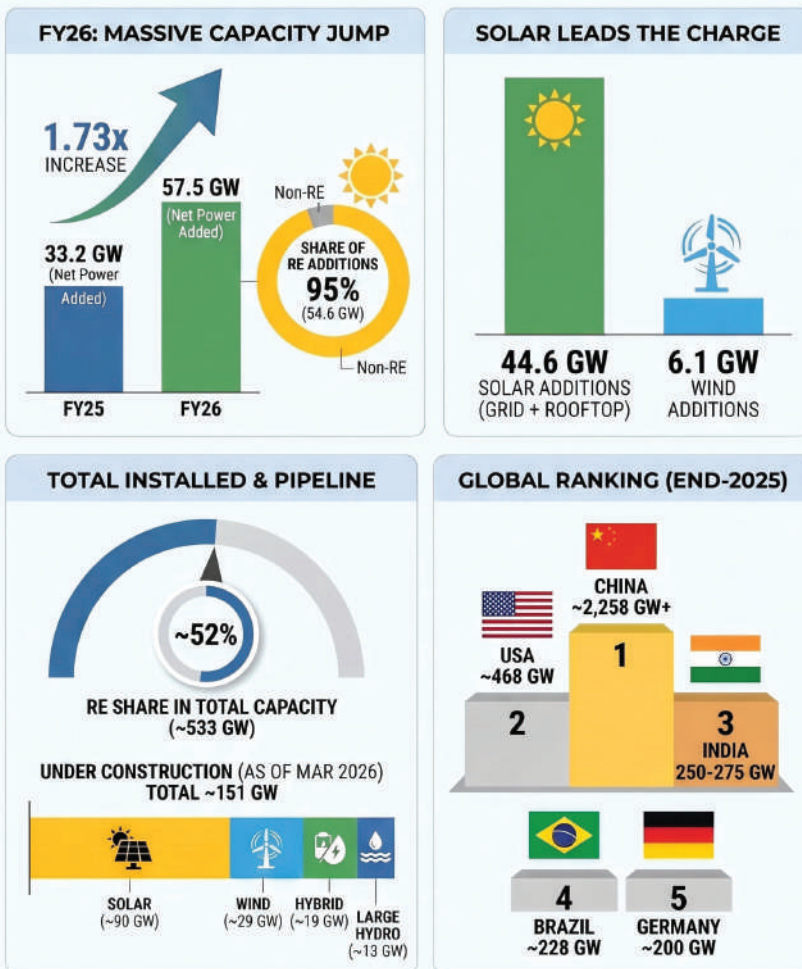
Sharing his insights on capacity addition amid the debate over PM’s call to cut energy dependency, Nirmal K Minda, President ASSOCHAM, said, “India’s breakthrough in the Renewable energy installed capacity has placed the country in the league of energy efficient economies. This strength paves way for India’s efforts to become self-reliant in energy scenario and attain net zero by 2070. Going ahead, continued investment in the Renewable energy resources will strengthen India’s journey towards Viksit Bharat and its strong participation in the Global Energy Reserves.”

The report points to improvements in distribution finances as well. Legacy dues owed by discoms fell to Rs 4,109 crore in February 2026 from Rs 49,451 crore in January 2024, helped by late-payment surcharge rules. About 65 million smart meters have been installed. On the financing side, sovereign green bonds worth Rs 20,000 crore were issued in four 30-year tranches at a 6.98 per cent coupon.

According to International Renewable Energy Agency data, India ranks among the top countries globally in installed renewable capacity, alongside China and the United States. Large hydro bases keep Brazil and Germany high on the list as well.

The economics are central to

## INDIA’S RENEWABLE ENERGY SURGE: FY26 OUTLOOK & GLOBAL STANDING



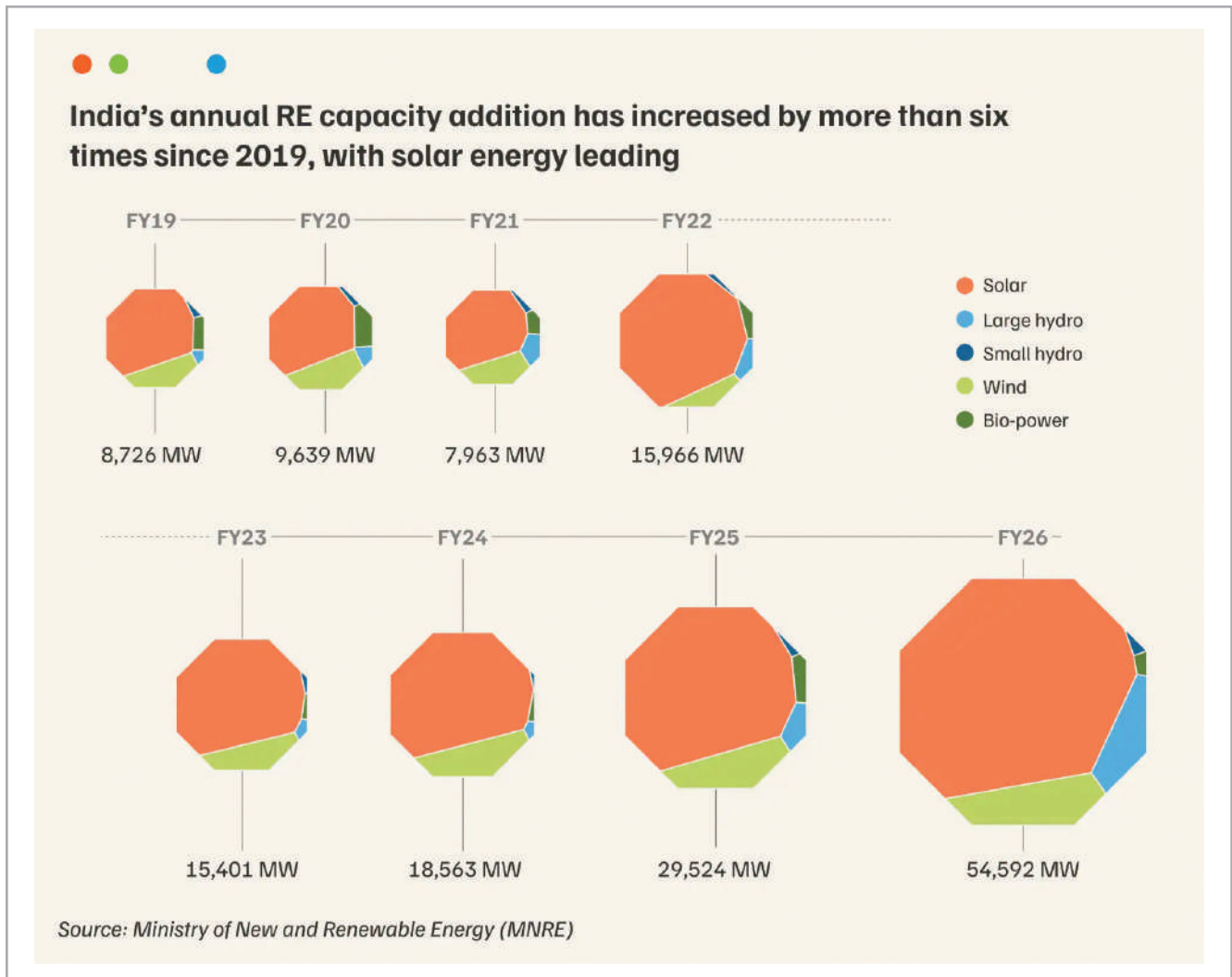
Made with echlon by NDTV International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) statistics and Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

the policy debate. Every additional unit generated from solar or wind reduces the need to burn imported coal or gas. If even 10 GW of fossil-fuel generation is replaced with renewables operating at typical annual utilisation, modest per-unit savings can translate into thousands of crores in avoided fuel costs each year, besides lowering exposure to global price swings.

South Asia is seeing parallel shifts. Pakistan has expanded solar adoption rapidly in the past two years, helping reduce reliance on imported LNG during periods of global volatility. Recent reports show a surge in solar adoption, with solar accounting for 25 per cent of utility electricity in early 2025 -- placing Pakistan among fewer than 20 nations worldwide where solar is a top grid source.

## How Renewables Cut India's Import Bill

At its core, increasing renewable capacity cuts reliance on imported fossil fuels (like crude oil, LNG, diesel) -- something that directly aligns with PM Modi's call to cut imports and save forex reserves. The elevated price of crude oil amid volatile global markets heightens India's energy insecurity



## Here's how the savings stack up:

**Reduced Fuel Imports:** Less need for imported coal, oil, or gas for power generation => direct import bill reduction.

**Lower Generation Costs:** Solar and wind have reached lower tariffs than new coal/gas plants -- solar tariffs have dropped drastically over the decade.

**Energy Security & Stability:** Broader

solar/wind grids reduce price exposure to global supply shocks (e.g., Middle East disruptions).

**Savings Example:** If India replaces even 10 GW of fossil-fuel generation each year with renewables at a generation cost saving of just Rs 1/unit over 7,000 hours of annual production, savings can exceed Rs 7,000 crore/year (\$860m) in fuel costs -- and that's before factoring grid/storage benefits. Moreover, distributed solar and energy storage cuts peak demand, reducing need for

diesel generators and costly imported electricity solutions.

Therefore, for India, the numbers suggest the clean-energy build-out is not only a climate objective but also an economic lever -- more so in the current geopolitical climate.

<https://www.ndtv.com/business-news/india-renewable-energy-green-solar-hydro-wind-capacity-save-fuel-import-pm-modi-speech-11487926>



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# Need for Digital Platforms to be Universal Acceptance Ready in India

India is rapidly emerging as one of the world's largest digital ecosystems. With hundreds of millions of users coming online, the country is witnessing an unprecedented expansion in digital services. However, beneath this growth lies a largely unnoticed gap—the **lack of Universal Acceptance (UA)**.

Universal Acceptance ensures that all valid domain names and email addresses—regardless of language or script—are accepted and function correctly across digital platforms. This includes Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), Email Address Internationalization (EAI), and the growing ecosystem of new domain extensions.

Despite global efforts led by organizations such as ICANN, many systems still fail to support these standards.

A simple test highlights the issue. Try entering a multilingual email address such as \_\_\_\_\_ into an online form. In most cases, it will be rejected—not because it is invalid, but because the system is not designed to accept it.

This creates a serious challenge in a country like India, where linguistic diversity is immense. When systems fail to accept local language identifiers, they unintentionally exclude users, restrict access, and limit



participation in the digital economy.

For businesses, this also represents a missed opportunity. As more users adopt local language domains and email systems, companies that are not UA ready risk losing reach, engagement, and trust.

The root cause is often technical but solvable. Many platforms still rely on outdated validation rules that only accept ASCII-based inputs. Databases may not support Unicode (UTF-8), and developers may not be fully aware of evolving Internet standards.

**Addressing this gap requires a structured**

## **approach:**

- ✓ Updating validation mechanisms
- ✓ Ensuring Unicode compatibility
- ✓ Testing systems for UA readiness
- ✓ Training development teams

Universal Acceptance is not just a technical upgrade—it is a foundational requirement for building an inclusive Internet.

As India advances toward a digitally empowered society, ensuring that every user—regardless of language—can participate fully is essential.

***If a system rejects valid users, it is not future-ready.***

**K Mohan Raidu**  
*Director,  
Centre for Inclusive  
Internet  
Governance - CIIG*

# Fueling Industry with Biogas: A Sustainable Shift from LPG



*\*Dr.Madhuchandrika Chattopadhyay*

**R**ecent geopolitical tensions and conflicts in the Gulf region, which is one of the world's major oil producing areas, have significantly disrupted the global energy ecosystem. Countries in the Gulf supply a significant share of crude oil to India and many other nations. Any disruption in production, transportation routes or international trade due to geopolitical instability can lead to reduced supply and higher fuel prices. As a result, energy costs increase across sectors, affecting electricity generation, cooking fuel, transportation, manufacturing and overall economic stability and growth. Importantly, the energy crisis is not solely the result of resource depletion. In many cases, it is caused by inefficient energy management, heavy dependence on non-sustainable energy sources and delays in developing sustainable energy infrastructure. As economic growth and industrial activity expand, these challenges are becoming more significant across the

world. In India, the situation is becoming more critical due to rapid urbanization, growing industrialization and population growth. The country continues to rely heavily on fossil fuels. These resources are limited and often subject to global price volatility and supply uncertainties. As a result, the risk of energy shortages and rising energy costs remains a major concern for industries and institutions.

The importance of energy independence was strongly emphasized by the former President of India, Shri A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, during his address to the nation on 14 August 2005 broadcast on Doordarshan. In his speech, he stated that "Energy independence has to be our nation's first and highest priority." He envisioned that India should strive to achieve energy independence by 2030 through the development of renewable energy, nuclear power, biofuels and improved energy efficiency. His vision remains highly relevant even today. Energy independence does not only mean having sufficient electricity

supply; it also means reducing dependence on imported fuels and building reliable domestic energy systems. Establishments that invest in sustainable energy solutions today will be better protected from future supply disruptions and rising energy costs.

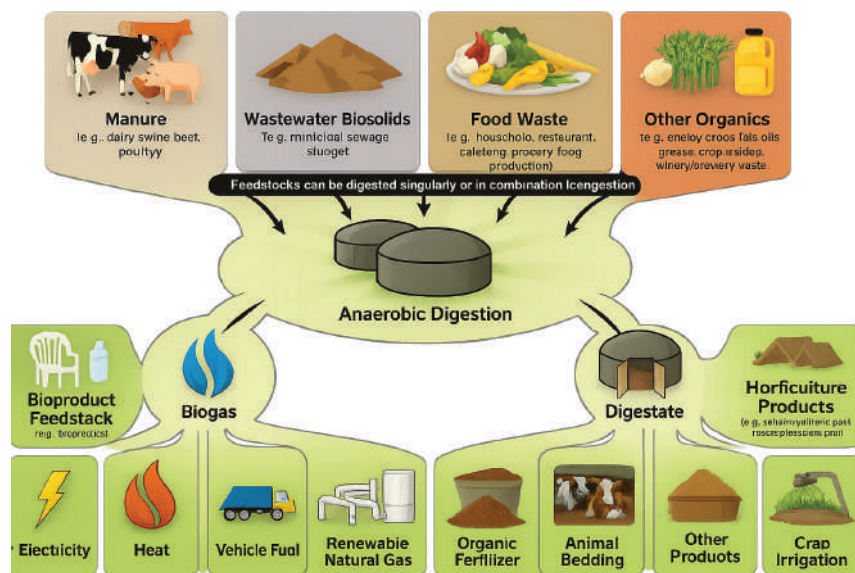
One of the most practical solutions for achieving energy security is the adoption of renewable energy technologies. Among these, biogas systems offer an effective solution for industries, hostels, hotels, food courts, canteens, agricultural & defence establishments that generate organic waste. Biogas plants convert organic waste into clean fuel for heating, electricity generation or cooking, while also producing organic fertilizer. This approach supports both energy generation and sustainable waste management.

Biogas plants serve as an efficient waste from kitchen-to-kitchen solution by converting organic waste into clean fuel, thereby reducing dependence on LPG and lowering fuel costs. They help institutions manage waste more effectively by minimizing disposal costs and landfill usage, while also generating nutrient-rich slurry that can be used as organic fertilizer. This supports a circular economy approach and decentralized energy generation. From an environmental perspective, biogas plants capture methane emissions that would otherwise be released from decomposing waste, significantly reducing greenhouse gas impact. They also lower overall carbon emissions and contribute to better soil health by replacing chemical fertilizers.

A biogas plant typically requires a minimum of 300 kg/day of food waste (equivalent to 2,500–3,000 meals per day, assuming 100–120 grams of waste per meal) to achieve viable financial returns. A 1000 kg/day plant can replace approximately 35–40 kg of LPG per day, with a payback period of around 1.5–2.5 years, while a 300 kg/day plant

can replace about 10–14 kg of LPG per day, with a payback period of 3–4 years, depending on waste disposal cost savings and operational efficiency. The capital expenditure (Capex) for a biogas plant typically ranges from Rs.18–22 lakhs for a 300 kg/day capacity plant and Rs.28–35 lakhs for a 1000 kg/day capacity plant. The overall cost may vary depending on several factors,

including the type of technology adopted, level of automation, extent of pre-processing systems required and the scope of civil construction involved at the site. The annual O&M cost of a biogas plant typically ranges between 5% to 10% of the capital cost annually



Courtesy: Environmental Protection Agency ([www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov))

The importance of energy independence was strongly emphasized by the former President of India, Shri A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, during his address to the nation on 14 August 2005 broadcast on Doordarshan. In his speech, he stated that “Energy independence has to be our nation’s first and highest priority.” He envisioned that India should strive to achieve energy independence by 2030 through the development of renewable energy, nuclear power, biofuels and improved energy efficiency

“

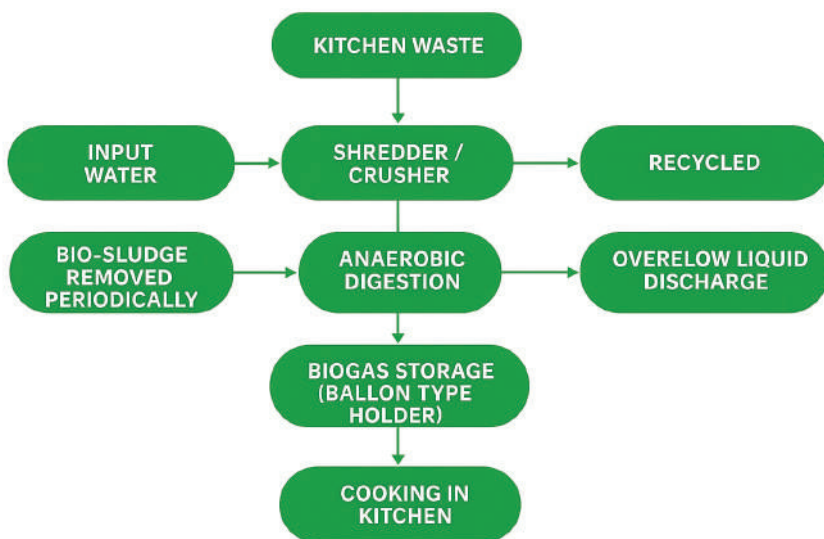
Anaerobic digestion is the core process behind biogas production. It is a biological process in which microorganisms break down organic materials—such as animal manure, wastewater biosolids, and food waste—in the absence of oxygen. This process occurs in a sealed vessel known as a reactor or digester, which is designed in various configurations based on site conditions and feedstock characteristics. Within the digester, complex microbial

purified gas can be injected into natural gas distribution networks, compressed for use as vehicle fuel, or further processed into alternative fuels, energy products and advanced biochemicals.

Digestate is the by-product remaining after the digestion process and consists of both solid and liquid fractions. These components are often separated and managed independently, as each offers distinct value depending on the level of post-

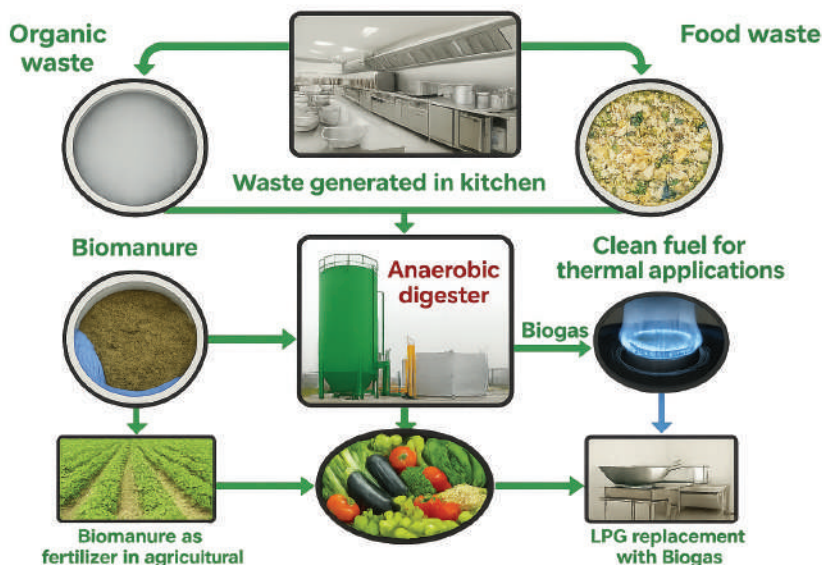
processing applied. When properly treated, digestate can be used in a variety of beneficial applications. The solid fraction can serve as animal bedding, organic compost, soil amendment or as a base material for bio-based products such as bioplastics. The liquid fraction, along with solids, can be utilized as a nutrient-rich fertilizer. In many cases, digestate is applied directly to agricultural fields to enhance soil fertility.

Biogas technology is emerging as a commercially viable and strategic solution for business houses—particularly institutions with large kitchens such as hotels, canteens, food courts and industrial facilities—amid rising fuel costs and energy uncertainty. The technology offers versatility across multiple organic substrates, robust process design, and scalable systems ranging from 25 kg/day to 10 tonnes per day (TPD), making it adaptable for both small and large-scale operations.



communities decompose organic matter to produce biogas and digestate, the latter being the residual solid and liquid material discharged from the system.

Biogas primarily consists of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), typically ranging from 50 to 75 percent, along with carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), water vapor and trace gases. Due to its high methane content, biogas can be utilized similarly to natural gas for various energy applications, including heat generation, electricity production and cooling systems. Additionally, biogas can be upgraded by removing carbon dioxide, water, hydrogen sulfide and other low-value components to produce renewable natural gas (RNG). This





Courtesy: Osmania University Women's hostel (<https://telanganatoday.com>) 15 April 2026

Beyond economics, biogas systems contribute significantly to greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction, helping businesses meet ESG and sustainability targets. By capturing methane from organic waste and replacing fossil fuels, companies can lower their carbon footprint while enhancing their environmental credentials.

As energy experts, we strongly advise all clients and stakeholders to begin planning for energy security and partial energy independence. Early investments in decentralized renewable energy infrastructure will strengthen operational resilience and reduce exposure to future energy market uncertainties. The transition toward sustainable energy is no longer an optional environmental initiative—it has become a strategic requirement for long term economic stability and growth. Establishments that act today will be better positioned to operate efficiently in an increasingly energy constrained world.

Industrial use of biogas can lead to increased generation of carbon credits, provided the project is properly measured and registered under a recognized carbon standard (such as Verra or Gold Standard). This is because biogas typically replaces fossil fuels like LPG or natural gas, resulting in lower net greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, when biogas is produced from organic waste (e.g., agricultural residue, food waste, or wastewater), it prevents methane—a highly potent greenhouse gas—from being released into the atmosphere through uncontrolled decomposition. Carbon credit methodologies account for both these benefits: (1) avoided fossil fuel emissions and (2) avoided methane emissions from waste. The total emission reductions are quantified against a baseline scenario (i.e., emissions that would have occurred without the project), and verified reductions can then be issued as carbon credits. These credits can be traded in compliance or voluntary carbon markets, creating

an additional revenue stream for project developers; however, the extent of financial returns depends on market prices, regulatory frameworks, and project verification, making careful structuring and optimization important in today's uncertain market environment. Collaborative engagement with stakeholders will be critical to the successful development and execution of biogas projects, supported by rigorous technical validation, procurement oversight, and risk-informed decision-making.

*\*Senior Consultant  
Renewable Energy & ESG  
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*Sri Anumula Revanth Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana : 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2026*



*Smt. T. Sujatha, Sr. Director, FTCCI, attended the retirement felicitation programme of Shri Shyam Sunder Jaju, Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Ranga Reddy Zone : 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2026*



*Dr. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation & CAD Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana : 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2026*



*H.E. Orhan Yalman Okan, Consul General of Republic of Turkiye, Hyderabad and Tugce GUL, Commercial Attache, Office of Commercial Attache, Consulate General of Turkiye in India : 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2026*



*Sri D. Ramachandram, Co-chair, FTCCI at the Faculty development program on 'Trends in Tourism & Hospitality Sector - Technology Competency Enhancement' organised by NITHM today at their institute : 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2026*

# FTCCI NEW MEMBERS : APRIL, 2026

SNo.	Panel	Name of the Company	Business
<b>AFFILIATE (ASSOCIATION/CHAMBER OF COMMERCE) – PANEL- B</b>			
1	B-224	<b>ALL INDIGENOUS WOMEN CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS ASSOCIATION</b> Mail: ankita@abmco.in; ank.aiwcaa2024@gmail.com Web: www.aiwcaa.org.	Women Chartered Accountants Association
<b>COMPANY CATEGORY – PANEL- C</b>			
2	C-2356	<b>PRATAP RACECITEMENT PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: sr@racecitement.com	Services, Export & Imports of Horse breeding and farm maintenance, mares, nursing etc.
3	C-2357	<b>SRI HANUMAA PROTEK INDIA PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: srihpipl@gmail.com; sales@hanumaaprotek.com; padaala@gmail.com Web: www.hanumaaprotek.com	Trading, Services, and Imports of Fire Protection Systems
4	C-2358	<b>SESHACHOODA THERMOTECH PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: info@thermotechindia.com Web: www.thermotechindia.com	Trading, Exports of Refractory Services
5	C-2359	<b>DODIYA AGRO INDUSTRIES LLP</b> Mail: dodiyaagroindustriesllp@gmail.com	Manufacturing of Cotton Bales, Cotton Seeds
6	C-2360	<b>GROWMO360 ADVISORS PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: murtaza@growmo360.com; nikunj@growmo360.com; chandra@growmo360.com Web: www.growmo360.com	Investment Banking and Financial Consultancy
7	C-2361	<b>GJK HOMES PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: info@gjkedia.com; jk@gjkedia.com; vk@gjkedia.com	Constructions
8	C-2362	<b>A3 ADVISORS LLP</b> Mail: services@a3advisors.in; aharishaitha789@gmail.com; avinash@a3advisors.in Web: www.a3advisors.in	Taxation & Financial Advisory
9	C-2363	<b>GR FINANCIAL ADVISORS LLP</b> Mail: gmreddy2009@gmail.com	Financial Consultancy
10	C-2364	<b>HYBIZ ONE LLP</b> Mail: ssandhya.srani@gmail.com; hybizone@gmail.com; mrg@hybiz.tv	Event Management, PR Video Creating
<b>FIRM / INDIVIDUAL / PROPRIETARY CONCERN – PANEL- D</b>			
11	D-2880	<b>SS LAW ASSOCIATES</b> Mail: info@sslawassociatess.com; karnatishivaganesh@gmail.com	Corporate, Legal Services, HR Compliances, Corporate Legal Advisor
12	D-2881	<b>VANTAGE MANAGEMENT CONSULTING</b> Mail: shankar.tr@vantageconsulting.in; manjula.kannan@vantageconsulting.in Web: www.vantageconsulting.in	Management Consultancy Services
13	D-2882	<b>SOLAR ACCESS</b> Mail: info@solaraccess.in; kranthirekhaarthod@gmail.com; rsrathod32@gmail.com Web: <a href="http://www.solaraccess.in">www.solaraccess.in</a>	Trading and Exports of Solar Installations Distributors
14	D-2883	<b>RATHI RATHI AND CO.</b> Mil: sheetal@rrco.co.in	Auditing and Accounting

SNo.	Panel	Name of the Company	Business
15	D-2884	<b>SRI KALESWARI CARGO SERVICES</b> Mail: musunuri.skl@gmail.com Web: www.srikaleswaricargoservices.com	Logistics and International Couriers
16	D-2885	<b>MIR MANSOOR ALI</b> Mail: mirmansooraliadvocate@gmail.com; asiafatima2000@gmail.com Web: www.nirmansooraliadvocate.com.	Advocate and Legal Advisor
17	D-2886	<b>HARI AGARWAL AND ASSOCIATES</b> Mail: cavivek68@gmail.com	Chartered Accountant
18	D-2887	<b>NALLA SANDEEP KUMAR</b> Mail: cansandeep95@gmail.com; srujanneela@gmail.com	Chartered Accountant - IT, GST Compliances, International Taxation
19	D-2888	<b>VIFA ENTERPRISES</b> Mail: vraj@vifaenterprises.com; anil@vifaenterprises.com	Trading Conveyor, Belts and Accessories
20	D-2889	<b>RUPEECREDIT FINSERV</b> Mail: krishnar@rupeecreditfinserv.com; madhu.vardhini@gmail.com Web: www.rupeecreditfinserv.com	Banking Services
21	D-2890	<b>SRI BALAJI TAX SERVICES</b> Mail: bhaskeraitha@gmail.com; laxmibhasker2012@gmail.com; nfsincometax2012@gmail.com	Tax Consultant
<b>MICRO, SMALL &amp; MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSME) – PANEL- E</b>			
22	E-1919	<b>GREENTECH UPVC INDIA PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: greentechupvcindia14@gmail.com; sivareddy8563@gmail.com; badhrinathreddy99@gmail.com;	Manufacturing, Trading and Imports of (UPVC) Plastic Rubber Products
23	E-1920	<b>GMK RESEARCH LABORATORIES PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: parvathi.kokkipara@gmkresearch.com; contact@gmkresearch.com Web: www.gmkresearch.com	Manufacturing of Organic, Inorganic Chemical Compounds & Chemical products
24	E-1921	<b>VARALAKSHMI SPICE INDUSTRY</b> Mail: vlsindustryind@gmail.com; bhanuca90@gmail.com;	Manufacturing of and processing of spices & other products
25	E-1922	<b>S V ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES</b> Mail: svengineeringindustries@gmail.com	Manufacturing of Industrial Pumps
26	E-1923	<b>WITT INDIA PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: info@wittindia.com; vkj@wittindia.com; rge@wittindia.com Web: www.wittindia.com	Manufacturing, Services, Exports & Imports of Industrial Fans, Allied Services
27	E-1924	<b>I THIRST LABS PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: info@ithirstlabs.com	Manufacturing of Bulk Drugs & API
28	E-1925	<b>BABA TECHNOCRATS AND MANUFACTURERS PVT. LTD.</b> Mail: namalaakhila@gmail.com; kondalaraone@yahoo.com Web: www.babatm.com	Matching and Manufacturing of Defence & Aerospace

1 श्रियोगों में दिये जाएंगे एफटीसीसीआई उकृष्टता पुरस्कार



मह. 34 अर्थ-वित्त विभाग... एफटीसीसीआई के उकृष्टता पुरस्कार... 2026 तक बनना भारत की एयरोस्पेस और डिफेंस राजधानी: उत्तम कुमार रेड्डी

मुख्यमंत्री रेवंत को आमंत्रण



हैदराबाद, 20 मई (स्वतंत्र वार्ता)। मुख्यमंत्री रेवंत को आमंत्रण... एफटीसीसीआई के अध्यक्ष आर. उतमकुमार साहब...

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DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, MAY 8



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FTCCI president R. Raju Kumar presenting a memento to Minister N. Uttam Kumar...

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Hyderabad: Telangana is on course to become India's aerospace, defence capital by 2030, says Minister N. Uttam Kumar...

21 विभागों पर लक्ष्य है एयरोस्पेस और डिफेंस राजधानी बनने का

उत्तम कुमार रेड्डी ने कहा कि 2030 तक भारत को एयरोस्पेस और डिफेंस राजधानी बनना चाहिए... 21 विभागों पर लक्ष्य है...

शुभ लाभ

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DRDO DG Chandra Kanya at MSME SPARK 3.0 Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing programme in Hyderabad.

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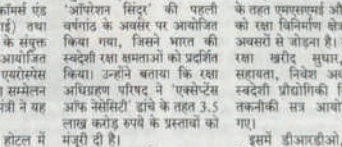
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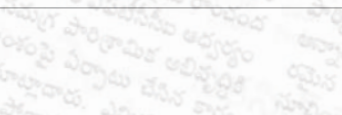
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FTCCI Surana Auditorium (A/C)	130 No. (G.floor)	2,000/-	9,000/-	16,000/-
J.S.Krishna Murthy Hall (A/C)	40 No. (I floor)	1,000/-	6,000/-	11,500/-
Banarsilal Gupta Exhibition Hall	2300 sft (G.floor)	2,000/-	5,000/-	9,000/-
Dhanjibhai Sawla Hall (A/C)	2500 sft (III floor)	1,000/-	4,500/-	7,500/-
OPT Board Room (A/C)	14 No.(I floor)	1,000/-	2,500/-	4,000/-
White House Board Room (A/C)	10 No.(I floor)	1,000/-	2,000/-	3,500/-
Skill Center (A/C)	35 No. (II floor)	1,000/-	6,000/-	11,500/-

+GST 18%

Cost for LCD Projector/LED TV's and other equipments

KLN Prasad Auditorium	Rs.2000/-
FTCCI Surana Auditorium	Rs.1500/-
J.S.Krishna Murthy Hall	Rs.1500/-
OPT Board Room	Rs.1500/-
55" TV for (White House)	Rs. 800/-
75" TV for Skill Center	Rs. 800/-
Screen only	Rs. 200/-
Cordless /	
Collar microphone (1)	Rs. 400/-
Lighting Lamp	Rs. 500/-
OT before 9am & after 6pm	Rs. 300/-
OT Sunday or Holiday	Rs. 1200/-
LED Wall Power Charges	Rs. 3000/-

Contact for details & Hall Requisition : **Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Manager** Ph : 91001 99977 email : [operations@ftcci.in](mailto:operations@ftcci.in)

Federation House, 11-6-841, Red Hills, Hyderabad - 500 004, Telangana, India Tel:91-40-23395515, 16, 17 Website : [www.ftcci.in](http://www.ftcci.in)

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