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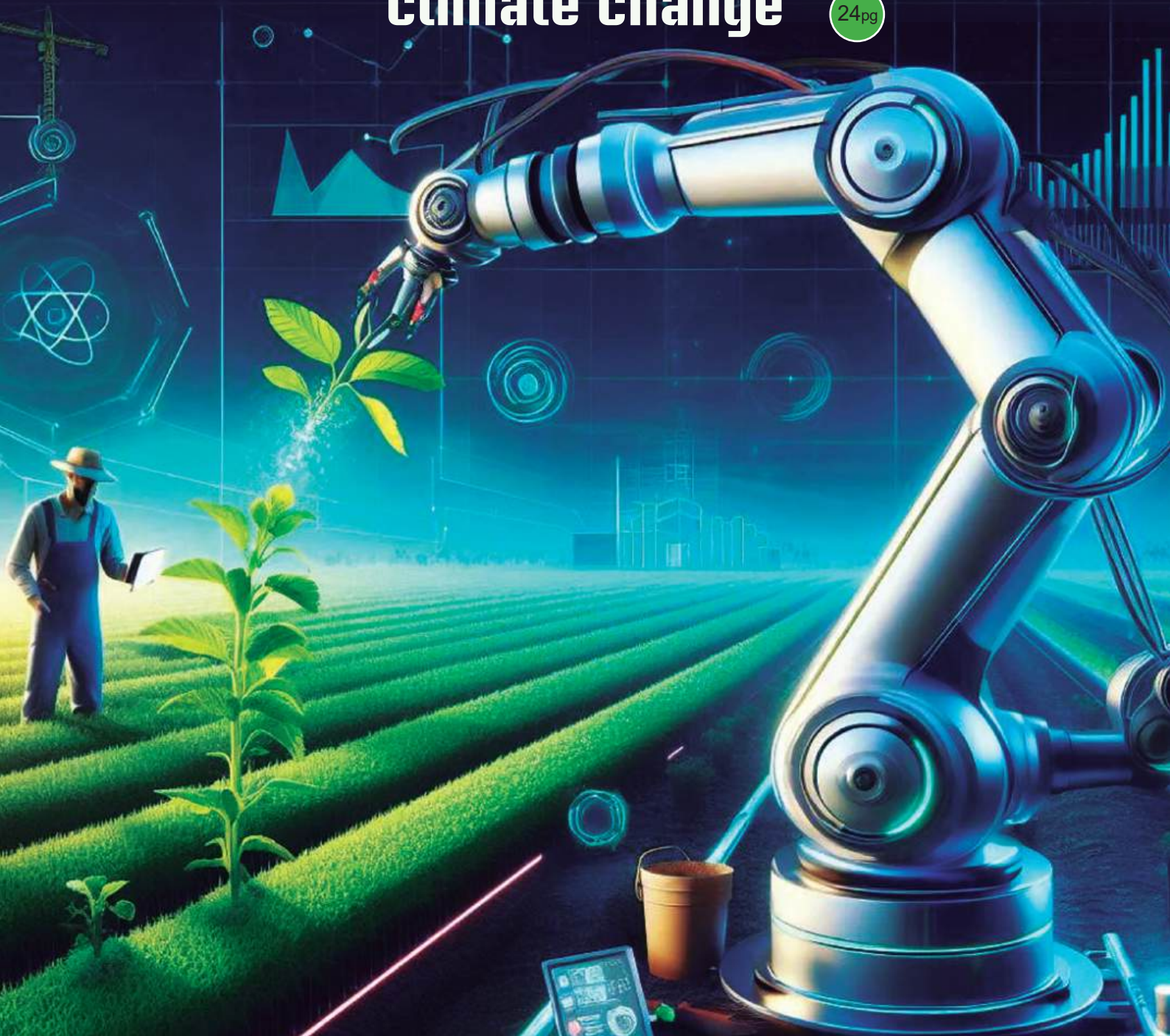
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THE FEDERATION OF TELANGANA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

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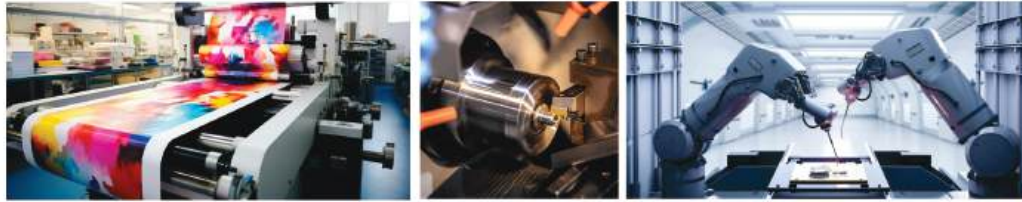


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- June 18, 2025

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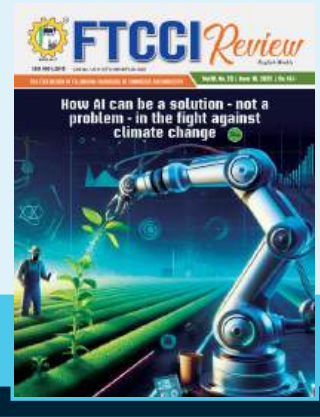
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How AI can be a solution - not a problem - in the fight against climate change



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PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Member,

It is with immense pleasure and satisfaction of being done my bit of responsibility, I am addressing you all through this platform for the last time. I thank everyone connected with FTCCI, for their support and co-operation in making my experience rich with lot of memories and cherished moments.

Federation is a community of dynamic individuals, diverse industries, and innovative enterprises. By leveraging the collective knowledge, experience, and networks of our members we were able to forge new partnerships, navigate challenges, and were able to capitalize on. I thank all the Chairs and Co-Chairs, Advisors and Members of the expert committees who actively contributed to the activities of Federation and supporting us in elevating them.

During the presidential year 2024-25, about 100 programs (seminars, conferences, panel discussions, roundtable, awareness programs) are conducted and more than 20 certificate programs are conducted by Skill Centre of FTCCI. I must share that we have received a very good feedback on our programs, their quality, the experts who shared their knowledge, the subjects, their relevance for industry and trade communities and the presence of government officials to the highest level viz, Hon'ble Governor of the State and Hon'ble Supreme Court Judge apart from Hon'ble Ministers and Bureaucrats. This was made possible with the support of all the members of FTCCI.

We continued our efforts to develop business friendly atmosphere in the state by addressing the various issues brought to the notice of the Federation and submitting representations to the concerned officials and Ministers. The Federation's involvement in the formulation of Telangana MSME Policy and the Clean and Green Energy Policy from the initial stage to accepting recommendations in the final draft is testimony to our commitment to contribute to the industrial growth of the state.

There are few notable achievements in providing respite to our industry members like- the suppliers of Batukamma sarees to Telangana State Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society (TSCO) brought to our notice that the payment was pending for more than 3 years and small weavers are facing hardships – The Federation requested the Hon'ble Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao to intervene and initiate action to ensure the release of the outstanding amount on an immediate

basis. Upon receiving the representation from FTCCI, government immediately released 60 % and subsequently another 20% of pending amount to the suppliers, giving them much needed financial respite.

When the government of Telangana passed ground water usage rules and regulations, Federation requested to exempt Micro and Small industries from obtaining NOC for Ground Water Extraction and it is under active consideration of the Government.

We are also objecting to the recommendations of Minimum Wages Advisory Board on the revision of Minimum Wages as the proposed wages would increase the cost of labour steeply in the state, thus affecting the industrial growth.

These are only few instances where Federation has played a proactive role apart from addressing other issues related to energy sector, import duty on import of raw cocoa beans, ITC and GST related suggestions etc.

We express our profound grief at the loss of 17 lives of a Jeweller Merchant's family in the fire accident. As the responsible body we have organized a program on Fire Safety inviting Director General of Fire and Disaster Management, Chief Engineer of DISCOM, and Director of Factories to create awareness of fire safety measures among domestic, commercial and industrial communities. The program on Kitchen Gardening encouraged participants to start their own kitchen garden in a small way for healthy food.

I invite all our members to participate in the forthcoming flagship programs – FTCCI Excellence Awards and FTCCI IITEX 2025 Expo and make them grand success. I am proud of being the President of this 107-year-old institution and happy to witness how it is going from strength to strength. Everyone has a role to make our Federation strongest state level industry body in the country and I appeal to each and every member to work towards this goal.

Thank you everyone for the support and love extended to me for all these years as an Office Bearer.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Suresh Kumar Singhal'.

Dr. Suresh Kumar Singhal
President

India's renewable energy capacity rises to 220.1 GW; solar contributes 48%, 143.8 GW pipeline in place



India's installed renewable energy capacity reached 220.1 GW as of March 31, 2025, led by solar which accounted for 48 per cent of the total, followed by wind at 23 per cent and large hydro at 22 per cent, according to data reviewed by JMK Research. A combined capacity of 143.8 GW in solar, wind, hybrid and storage projects is under implementation, expected to be commissioned over the next 4-5 years. An additional 66.1 GW of capacity is currently in the bidding phase.

In FY25, India added 16.9 GW of utility-scale solar capacity, reflecting a 47 per cent increase over FY24. Rooftop solar additions rose to 5.1 GW, up 72 per cent from the previous year. Wind capacity rose by 28 per cent to 4.2 GW compared to 3.25 GW in FY24.

During Q1 2025 (January–March), 5.93 GW of utility-scale solar was commissioned, a 12.2 per cent increase over Q4 2024. Wind installations stood at 1.87 GW, up 134.3 per cent from the previous quarter. Rooftop installations

during the same period were 1.34 GW. For FY26, JMK Research projects the addition of 30.2 GW of solar capacity - 21.1 GW utility-scale, 7 GW rooftop and 2.05 GW off-grid. Wind capacity addition is estimated at 6 GW. For the next two quarters, 11.9 GW of solar and 3.8 GW of wind capacity are expected to be installed.

In Q1 2025, Sungrow led the inverter market with shipments of 9.8 GW, followed by Sineng at 2.8 GW and FIMER at 1.9 GW. Waaree accounted for the largest share (17.3 per cent) of module shipments. Top project developers by cumulative and pipeline capacity were Adani (36.2 GW), ReNew (22.3 GW), NTPC (16.2 GW), Greenko (15.14 GW), and Avaada (15.13 GW).

During Q1 2025, 4.8 GW of utility-scale renewable energy tenders were issued, down 49 per cent from Q4 2024 and 88.2 per cent from the same quarter in 2024. Approximately 7 GW of capacity was awarded, down 8.6 per cent from the previous quarter.

NTPC and Adani secured

1000 MW and 400 MW respectively in the solar segment. Datta Infra, ReNew and NLC received a combined 482 MW in the wind segment. Adani, Jindal Renewables and Illuminate Hybren were allotted 850 MW in the wind-solar hybrid segment. In the storage-based RE segment, top five developers received 1250 MW, comprising 68 per cent of total awarded capacity.

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

Power ministry announces additional Rs. 5,400 cr VGF for 30 GWh battery energy storage



Union minister for power Manohar Lal on 10th June said the government will roll out an additional viability gap funding (VGF) worth Rs.5,400 crore for setting up 30 GWh of battery energy storage systems (BESS).

Addressing journalists, the minister announced several plans to meet rising power demand and achieve India's ambitious net zero target of 2070. The incentive will be over and above the existing incentive worth Rs. 3,700 crore VGF under which 13.2 GWh of BESS is currently under implementation.

The initiative will attract investments worth Rs. 33,000 crore, he said. Under the scheme 15 states will receive allocations for 25 GWh of storage capacity and state-run NTPC Ltd will get 5 GWh. The Union minister said the first round of tender for the new VGF will be floated within 3 months.

Renewable energy goals

"India is targeting 393 GW of renewable energy capacity (293 GW solar and 100 GW wind) by 2030. But renewable energy is highly intermittent and needs energy storage solutions to ensure round the clock power supply and grid stability. Hence, BESS is essential especially to meet peak demand during non-solar hours," Lal told reporters.

Solar and wind are intermittent sources of renewable energy and India is targeting 500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030. Storage systems including BESS and pump storage plants (PSP) are expected to play a key role in stabilizing power supply and the grid.

<https://www.livemint.com>

India's superfast sodium-ion battery charges 80% in six minutes, could cut lithium imports



In a potential breakthrough for India's clean energy ambitions, scientists at Bengaluru's Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have developed a sodium-ion battery that charges up to 80 per cent in just six minutes and delivers over 3,000 charge cycles - opening new possibilities for electric vehicles, solar grids, drones, and rural electrification.

Developed by a team led by Professor Premkumar Senguttuvan and Ph.D. scholar Biplab Patra, the battery is based on a NASICON-type chemistry, a known structure in electrochemical materials, but significantly enhanced using novel material engineering. The anode - $\text{Na}_{1.0}\text{V}_{0.25}\text{Al}_{0.25}\text{Nb}_{1.5}(\text{PO}_4)_3$ - was optimised using three key strategies: nanosizing, carbon coating, and aluminium substitution.

According to the team,

shrinking the particle size to the nanoscale increases the surface area and reduces the distance sodium ions need to travel. A thin carbon layer wrapped around the particles enhances conductivity. Adding aluminium to the material structure further improves electrochemical stability, allowing faster and safer ion movement. What makes the innovation particularly significant for India is its use of sodium - an element that is widely available in the country, unlike lithium which is geopolitically constrained and largely imported. The research aligns with the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) mission and its drive to reduce dependence on critical mineral imports for green technologies.

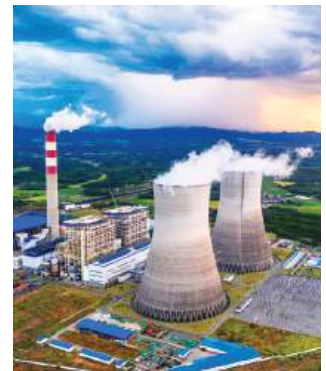
"This development has the potential to address a key challenge in the energy storage sector," said researchers involved in the project. "Lithium-ion batteries are efficient but expensive and resource-constrained. Our sodium-ion battery shows promise for fast-charging, long-lasting, and cost-effective energy solutions." The battery has undergone rigorous validation, including electrochemical cycling and quantum-level simulations, to test performance, safety, and durability. The result is a prototype that retains over 80 per cent capacity after thousands of charge-discharge cycles - making it viable for long-term use.

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

Thermal PPAs return after a decade as power demand, capacity rise: ICRA

Long-dormant long-term thermal power purchase agreements (PPAs) are making a comeback, with three states awarding 4,800 MW of contracts in the past one year, reflecting a renewed focus on energy security amid rising power demand and renewable integration, ICRA said. Maharashtra, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh finalised 1,600 MW each under competitive bidding, with tariffs in the range of Rs.5.4 to Rs.5.5 per unit. This marks the first major revival of long-term coal-based PPAs in nearly a decade. The return of base load contracting comes as electricity demand in India is projected to grow by 5 to 5.5 per cent in FY2026, following a 7.6 per cent rise in FY2025. Total demand reached 1,826 billion units last fiscal and is expected to remain strong, supported by load from electric vehicles, data centres, and green hydrogen production.

Over 40 GW of thermal power capacity is under construction, while total capacity addition in FY2026 is projected at 44 GW - dominated by renewable and thermal segments, according to the credit rating agency. Thermal plant load factor (PLF) is expected to remain at 70 per cent in FY2026, up marginally from 69.5 per cent in FY2025. Coal stocks



at domestic plants stood at a five-year high of 19.7 days as of May 21, 2025. Imports are likely to account for 6 per cent of coal consumption in FY2026, compared to 6.9 per cent in FY2025. Short-term power tariffs are expected to average Rs.4.0-Rs.4.5 per unit in FY2026. In FY2025, the Indian Energy Exchange recorded average tariffs of rs.4.4 per unit in the day-ahead market and Rs.4.3 per unit in the real-time market. However, distribution continues to lag behind generation and transmission. ICRA retained a negative outlook on the discom segment. Book losses at state discoms stood at Rs.572 billion in FY2024, while gross debt rose to Rs.7.4 lakh crore from Rs.6.6 lakh crore in FY2023. The cash gap - difference between average cost of supply and tariff - is projected at Rs.0.35 per unit in FY2026. Tariff hikes have remained muted, with a median increase of 1.5 per cent across 28 states issuing tariff orders for the year. "Timely implementation of RDSS and FPPAS rules for tariff recovery remains key for improving discom finances," ICRA noted.

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

India's story - in 30 years from 270 billion to 4 trillion dollars: Piyush Goyal



Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday highlighted India's remarkable economic performance, stating that the country has surged from a USD 270 billion economy to USD 4 trillion in just three decades.

Addressing the Swissmem Industry Day in Switzerland, Goyal said India aspires to be a USD 30-35 trillion economy by the time the country marks 100 years of independence.

He said this provides "largest ever economic opportunity in the world". "I bring a story of a country that in the last 30 years has grown from a 270 billion dollar economy to a 4 trillion dollar economy today. As we work towards celebrating India's 100 years of independence, it aspires to grow from a 4 trillion dollar economy to a 30-35 trillion dollar economy," the Minister said. "That's the largest ever economic opportunity... Our average age is only 28.4 years. For the next 30

years, India will continue to be a young country. This talent, skill set and desire for a better future drive India as the fastest-growing large economy today," he added. Goyal also spoke about the significant opportunity for businesses of Switzerland in India, emphasising the supportive environment in the country.

"I believe a new era of partnership, friendship and togetherness between the four (European Free Trade Association) EFTA nations - Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland, and India is going to begin in October...TEPA, is officially called the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement, but I look upon this as the Trust and Efficiency Partnership Agreement," he said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

India's extreme poverty rate dropped sharply to 5.3% due to free, subsidised food transfers: World Bank data shows



India's extreme poverty rate declined sharply to 5.3 per cent over a decade from 27.1 per cent in 2011-12 even as the World Bank revised upwards its threshold poverty line to USD 3 per day. Given India's inflation rate between 2017 and 2021, a revised extreme poverty line of USD 3 would constitute a 15 per cent higher threshold than USD 2.15 expressed in 2021 prices and result in a 5.3 per cent poverty rate in 2022-23, the World Bank said in a report.

In India, the report said, 54,695,832 people lived on less than USD 3 per day in 2024. Thus, the poverty rate at USD 3 per day (2021 PPP -- percentage population) is 5.44 per cent in 2024.

The extreme poverty rate decreased from 16.2 to 2.3 per cent between 2011-12 and 2022-23, while the poverty rate at the lower middle income country (LMIC) line declined by 33.7 percentage points, it said.

Free and subsidised food transfers supported poverty reduction, and the rural-urban poverty gap narrowed. The five most populous states account for 54 per cent of the extremely poor, it said.

With regard to economy, the report said, real GDP of India was around 5 per cent below the pre-pandemic trend level as of FY25.

Growth should gradually converge back to potential over 2027-28 assuming the current global uncertainties are resolved in an orderly fashion, it said.

<https://www.livemint.com/economy>

India & Italy agree to deepen ties in aerospace, agri, energy transition

India and Italy have agreed to strengthen cooperation in emerging and strategic sectors including aerospace and energy transition, agriculture, and global connectivity initiatives such as the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), the government said on 6th June.

"India and Italy resolved to strengthen cooperation in agriculture and food processing, and to set up joint working groups in the automobile and space sectors," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.

The countries identified collaboration opportunities in sustainable agri value chains, agri machinery, food packaging technologies, and renewable energy, and agreed to work together in areas such as green hydrogen and biofuels.

Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal and Italy's deputy prime minister Antonio Tajani in a meeting in Brescia also "expressed intent to facilitate movement of skilled professionals between the two countries." The two leaders co-chaired the 22nd session of the India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC), the ministry said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

RBI cuts repo rate by 50 bps to 5.50%, changes policy stance to 'neutral'; CRR reduced by 100 bps



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 6th June delivered surprises on two fronts in its second bi-monthly monetary policy of FY26. The RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra-led Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to cut the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps) to 5.50% from 6.00% earlier. This is the central bank's third consecutive repo rate cut.

While it lowered the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps), the third cut in a row, front-loading them on the back of softening inflation, it also went for a 100 bps cut in the cash reserve ratio (CRR).

The MPC also decided to change the policy stance to 'Neutral' from 'Accommodative', RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced in his monetary policy speech.

The MPC said that after having reduced the policy repo rate by 100 bps in quick succession since

February 2025, under the current circumstances, monetary policy is left with very limited space to support growth.

CRR cut by 100 basis points

RBI said that the 100 basis points reduction in CRR — funds banks need to set aside with RBI — would happen over four tranches, taking it to 3%.

Malhotra said the MPC decided to cut the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by 100 basis points (bps) to 3% from 4% earlier in four tranches of 25 bps each starting from September 6, October 4, November 1 and November 29 this year.

Governor Sanjay Malhotra said this CRR cut would release liquidity of Rs.2.5 trillion and make for quicker transmission of cuts in repo rates to lower lending rates. To be sure, the banking system is already in a surplus mode after RBI infused durable liquidity of Rs.9.5 trillion since January. According to a report by IDFC First Bank on 3 June, the liquidity surplus improved to Rs.1.7 trillion in May 2025, and is expected to rise to Rs. 5 trillion by August 2025, as government expenditure rises.

"From here onwards, the MPC will be carefully assessing the incoming data and the evolving outlook to chart out the future course of monetary policy in order to strike the right growth-inflation balance," the MPC said.

"The fast-changing global economic situation too necessitates continuous monitoring and

assessment of the evolving macroeconomic outlook."

In its April monetary policy meeting, RBI had reduced the repo rate by 25 bps and also shifted the policy stance to 'accommodative' from 'neutral'.

RBI maintained GDP forecast for FY26 at 6.5%. GDP estimates for Q1FY26 is at 6.5%, Q2FY26 at 6.7%, Q3FY26 at 6.6% and Q4FY26 is at 6.3%.

<https://www.livemint.com>

GST return filing to be blocked 3 years after original due date starting July

GST Network on 7th June said beginning the July tax period, GST taxpayers will not be able to file monthly and annual GST returns after three years of the original filing due date. The July 2025 tax period means taxpayers will file monthly returns in August this year. In an advisory, the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) said taxpayers will not be able to file GSTR-1, GSTR 3B, GSTR-4, GSTR-5, GSTR-5A, GSTR-6, GSTR 7, GSTR 8 and GSTR 9 on expiry of three years from the filing due date.

The amendments to Goods and Services Tax (GST) law with regard to time barring were elected through the Finance Act, 2023. Thus, GST outward supply returns, besides returns related to payment of the liability, annual returns and tax collected at source will become time-barred. "The returns will be barred for filing after expiry of three years. The said restriction

will be implemented on the GST portal from the July 2025 Tax period," the GSTN advisory said.

It advised taxpayers to reconcile their records and file their GST returns as soon as possible if not filed till now. Earlier in October, the GST Network (GSTN) alerted taxpayers that the said provision of tax barring would be implemented in early 2025. AMRG & Associates Senior Partner Rajat Mohan said that while this step enhances system discipline and curtails prolonged non-compliance, it may severely impact taxpayers who, due to litigation, system issues, or genuine oversight, have pending filings. "The absence of a redressal mechanism for exceptional cases could lead to permanent denial of Input Tax Credit and financial setbacks," Mohan said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

New credit cover MSME exporters by September

The Centre will prepare the draft of the new credit guarantee scheme for export-oriented MSMEs in a month, covering collateral-free loans of up to Rs 20 crore per borrower.

Under this scheme, it may guarantee up to 95% of loans for micro and small enterprises and up to 75% for medium enterprises. The guarantee fee for borrowers may be around 1.5%, sources told FE.

<https://www.financialexpress.com>



Case Law Alert

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Mr. Siddharth Surana
siddharth@rsmindia.in

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.

RSM

<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">01</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">PETITIONER / RESPONDENT</p> <p>Petitioner: Sheetal and Sons & Ors</p> <p>Respondents : Union of India & Others</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">03</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">GROUNDS OF WRIT</p> <p>The Petitioners, aggrieved by the impugned order-in-original for allegedly frequent and irregular availment of Input Tax Credit (ITC), have filed the present Writ Petitions. The Petitioners assert that no opportunity for personal hearing was granted prior to the issuance of the impugned orders, thereby violating principles of natural justice.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">04</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">ORDER</p> <p>The Writ Petitions have been dismissed by the Court, which ruled in favour of the Revenue. The Court observed that the Show Cause Notice (SCN) along with the relied-upon documents had been duly served, and the impugned order duly recorded the grant of personal hearing. The Petitioners have been directed to approach the Appellate Authority and make the statutory pre-deposit by 15th July. Further, the Appellate Authority has been instructed to adjudicate the appeal on merits, and not to dismiss it on the ground of limitation.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">02</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">COURT/ FORUM</p> <p>High Court : High Court Of Delhi</p> <p>W.P.(C) 6441, 6443, 6447 & 6449/2025</p>		

RSM

<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">01</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">PETITIONER / RESPONDENT</p> <p>Petitioner: L & T Geostucture LLP</p> <p>Respondents : Union of India & Ors</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">03</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">GROUNDS OF WRIT</p> <p>The Petitioner has filed the Writ Petition challenging the validity of Rule 36(4) of the Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) Rules, 2017. It is contended that the said sub-rule imposes unwarranted restrictions on the availment of Input Tax Credit (ITC) and is inconsistent with the parent legislation, particularly Section 43A of the CGST Act, 2017, which has not been notified. The Petitioner further argues that the rule violates Article 14 of the Constitution of India and is ultra vires both the CGST Act and the Tamil Nadu Goods and Services Tax (TNGST) Act.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">04</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">ORDER</p> <p>The Court has dismissed the Writ Petitions and upheld the validity of Rule 36(4) of the CGST Rules, 2017. It held that the impugned provision falls within the scope of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Act and functions as a regulatory measure intended to curb fraudulent availment of Input Tax Credit (ITC) by unscrupulous taxpayers. The Court further observed that Rule 36(4) is neither ultra vires nor violative of Article 14 of the Constitution of India.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">02</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #0070C0;">COURT/ FORUM</p> <p>High Court : High Court of Madras</p> <p>W.P. Nos. 5978 & 5983 of 2020</p>		

01

PETITIONER / RESPONDENT
Petitioner: Gichak Danlam

Respondents : Union of India & Anr

03

GROUND OF WRIT

The Petitioner, aggrieved by the coercive action initiated by the authorities, has filed the present Writ Petition. The Petitioner submits that during a period of ill health, he received a demand order amounting to ₹5.74 crores, of which ₹1.05 crores has already been remitted, leaving an outstanding balance of ₹4.74 crores. The Petitioner further states that he presently lacks the financial capacity to discharge the remaining liability in full and has expressed his intent to pay the balance in monthly instalments in accordance with Section 80 of the CGST Act, 2017. A formal representation to this effect was submitted; however, no action has been taken by the department till date.

04

ORDER

The Court has disposed of the Writ Petition with a direction to the Respondents to take an appropriate decision on the representation to be submitted by the Petitioner within three weeks from the date of receipt of the certified copy of this order, while duly considering the provisions of Section 80 of the CGST Act, 2017. The Court has further directed that no coercive action shall be taken by the Respondents until the representation is duly disposed of.

RSM

01

PETITIONER / RESPONDENT
Petitioner: Amazon Data Services India (P.) Ltd

Respondents : Assistant Commissioner of CGST

03

GROUND OF WRIT

The Petitioner, aggrieved by the impugned Orders-in-Appeals (O-I-As) rejecting the refund claim, has filed the present Writ Petitions. The Petitioner contended that the supply of data hosting services rendered to customers located outside India qualifies as an export of services under GST law. In support of this position, the Petitioner has relied upon favourable judicial precedents in analogous matters, where the department has not challenged against the respective Orders-in-Original (O-I-Os) and Orders-in-Appeal (O-I-As). Further, the Petitioner places reliance on GST Circular No. 232/26/2024-GST dated 10th September, 2024, which provides clarificatory guidance on the classification of such services as exports.

04

ORDER

The Court has disposed of the Writ Petitions and remanded the matters to the Commissioner (Appeals) for reconsideration. The impugned Orders-in-Appeal were set aside, taking into account the uncontested orders passed by the Appellate Authority as well as the clarification issued under Circular No. 232/26/2024-GST dated 10th September, 2024. The Court has further directed the Commissioner (Appeals) to conclude the adjudication proceedings within a period of four months, after affording the Appellants an opportunity of personal hearing.

RSM

01

PETITIONER / RESPONDENT
Petitioner: Naga Venkata Mallikarjuna Rao Dosapati

Respondents : Assistant Commissioner, STFAC

03

GROUND OF WRIT

The Petitioner, aggrieved by the dismissal of the appeal on the grounds of being time-barred, filed the present Writ Petition. The Petitioner contended that the assessment order is invalid owing to the absence of a Document Identification Number (DIN), which is mandatory under the provisions of the GST Act and as per CBIC Circular No. 128/47/2019-GST. In support of this contention, the Petitioner placed reliance on the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Pradeep Goyal v. Union of India [2022].

04

ORDER

The Court, having ruled in favour of the Petitioner, has set aside the impugned order and remanded the matter to the adjudicating authority for passing a fresh order in accordance with law. The Court further clarified that the limitation period shall exclude the period between the date of passing of the impugned order and the date of receipt of the court's order. The Court also placed reliance on the judgment of the Division Bench of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, which held that an assessee is entitled to challenge the original order by way of a writ petition, even if the appeal has already been disposed of, provided the circumstances warrant such intervention.

RSM

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Program on Fresh from Home - Your Kitchen Garden Grow your own food : A step Towards Better Living



28th May 2025
Federation House, Hyderabad.

The event aimed to inspire and educate urban citizens on the importance of kitchen gardening as a step toward healthier living and environmental sustainability.

The program featured two distinguished speakers: Smt. B. Manga, Horticulture Officer (Urban Farming), Government of Telangana, and Smt. Jayalakshmi Kompella, Garden Consultant from Onemaali Garden Solutions. Both speakers delivered insightful presentations focusing on how to grow fresh, chemical-free food even in small urban spaces such as balconies, terraces, and windowsills.

Smt. Manga introduced the concept of urban farming and explained its wide-ranging benefits such as improved nutrition, cost savings, physical exercise, and mental wellness. She guided participants on container gardening, soil mixture preparation, composting from kitchen waste, and choosing the right plants based on sunlight availability. Her presentation also highlighted the government's efforts in promoting urban farming across Telangana and



the simple techniques that citizens can adopt with minimal space and investment.

Smt. Jayalakshmi Kompella's session focused on natural and sustainable terrace gardening methods. She emphasized zero-budget farming using desi cow products such as cow dung and cow urine to prepare Jeevamrutham (a natural fertilizer) and pest repellents. She demonstrated the preparation and use of compost made from dry leaves and kitchen waste, and explained how simple tools and practices like shade nets, mulching, 3G cutting, hand pollination, and crop rotation can yield healthy home-grown

produce. She also encouraged growing medicinal and flowering plants to attract pollinators and support immune health.

Both experts stressed that kitchen gardening is more than just a source of fresh food; it is a lifestyle choice that connects individuals to nature, reduces stress, and promotes self-reliance. Participants received practical tips on starting their own gardens with locally available resources and minimal maintenance.

Dr. Suresh Kumar Singhal, President of FTCCI, in his welcome remarks, emphasized the growing health concerns linked to pesticide-laden foods and unhealthy diets. He cited

ICMR data indicating that over 38% of Indians regularly consume unhealthy food, and more than half of all diseases are diet-related. He encouraged the audience to consider kitchen gardening as a simple and effective solution to these problems.

Mr. K.K. Maheshwari, Vice President, FTCCI, in his remarks, described kitchen gardening as a catalyst for

a broader lifestyle transformation. "Every home, regardless of size, can become a food producer," he stated, encouraging more families to embrace this movement. He added, "Our food is our medicine—kitchen gardens promote sustainability, health, and environmental stewardship." The event drew participation from about 60 attendees, who engaged actively

with the speakers and expressed enthusiasm in adopting the techniques discussed. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Smt. T. Sujatha, Senior Director, FTCCI, who acknowledged the Department of Horticulture, the guest speakers, and all participants for their valuable contributions in making the initiative a success.

Financial Literacy Program Empowers Rural Women in Medchal with Support from NSIL



17th & 26th May, 2025
Medchal

To empower women in rural areas with essential financial knowledge and tools, a Financial Literacy Program was successfully organized in Medchal on 17th and 26th May 2025. This initiative was sponsored by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Government of India enterprise under the Department of Space.

The two-day outreach program drew enthusiastic participation

from 90 rural women, who received training on crucial financial concepts, including budgeting, savings, banking systems, digital transactions, government schemes, and credit options available for small enterprises.

A key highlight of the program was the awareness and facilitation of Mudra loan schemes, aimed at encouraging entrepreneurial ventures among women. During the sessions, trained facilitators

helped the participants understand the eligibility, documentation, and application process. As a result, 30 Mudra loan application forms were successfully filled and submitted during the program.

The sessions were interactive and tailored to suit the local context, using real-life examples, local language communication, and visual aids to make the content accessible and impactful.

The initiative not only aimed to promote financial independence but also to build the confidence of rural women in managing personal and family finances. Many participants expressed a renewed interest in starting or expanding their small businesses after the program.

The Financial Literacy Program in Medchal stands as a testimony to NSIL's commitment to inclusive development and the Government's focus on strengthening rural economies through women empowerment.

Certification of Origin & Attestation of Export Documents

The Chamber is recognized by the Government of India to issue Certificates of Origin for non-preferential countries. Export documents are also accepted as authentic by the Consular offices of various countries and international authorities.

VISA FACILITATION

The letters of recommendation are issued to Embassies and Consulates for issue of business visa to representatives of member companies for business travel.

PASSPORT UNDER TATKAL SCHEME

FTCCI is being recognized by the Govt. of India to issue Verification Certificate to the Owners, Partners or Directors of the Companies having Membership with the FTCCI.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT :

Mr. Firasath Ali Khan, e-Mail: co@ftcci.in,
Ph : 040-23395515-22



Two Days training program on Data Science for Business Decision Making - Power BI for Safran Electrical and Power India Private Limited



28th & 29th May, 2025
FTCCI Pokarna Skill Center

A comprehensive training program on “Data Science for Business Decision Making – Power BI” was successfully conducted for 25 employees of “Safran Electrical and Power India Private Limited” on the 28th & 29th May ‘2025, empowering Safran employees to leverage data for strategic and operational excellence. The primary objective of the program was to equip participants with essential skills in data analytics and business intelligence using Microsoft Power BI, enabling them to drive data-informed decision-making within their respective departments.

Participants engaged actively through exercises, project work, and group collaboration tasks designed to simulate business data challenges. The sessions were insightful, hands-on, and directly applicable to their current roles. Group tasks and mini-projects were integrated to enhance practical learning.

Financial Literacy and Empowerment Drive for Rural Women Conducted at Singareni Collieries



6th & 7th May, 2025
Kothagudem

To implement Financial Literacy Program and awareness drive

was successfully held at Singareni Collieries, Kothagudem and Khammam, on 6th and 7th May 2025. The initiative aimed at promoting financial awareness among coal

employees and was actively supported by various Mining Officers and senior personnel from Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) to implement it further by training.

The program focused on educating officers about the importance of training on savings, budgeting, digital banking, and government financial schemes like Mudra loans and women-centric credit facilities. In addition to the women participants, SCCL employees and senior officers also took part in the sessions, engaging in discussions and lending their support to help drive financial inclusion in the region.

Programme on Guarding Lives, Protecting Property: Fire Safety Starts with Us



4th June, 2025
Federation House, Hyderabad

Dr. Suresh Kumar Singhal, President, FTCCI welcoming the gathering, said that safety is a shared responsibility. While regulatory bodies and organizations provide guidelines and policies, it is up to each person - business owners, engineers, architects, electrical equipment manufacturers and suppliers, residents, every stakeholder-to ensure that these measures are implemented effectively.

FTCCI, being a responsible industry and trade body, is committed to creating platforms that spread awareness, educate stakeholders, and promote best practices in key areas like safety and compliance. The event is curated to ensure safety in both industrial, commercial and residential spaces.

The main objective of the program was to foster dialogue among the industry, Trade, and regulatory authorities, fire safety experts, and policymakers to create awareness, share expertise, and promote sustainable safety solutions.

Shri Ravi Kumar, Senior Vice President, FTCCI delivering the theme

address presented statistical data of fire incidents recorded in the state and the capital city Hyderabad. He mentioned that to understand why such large number of fire accidents are occurring and the devastating fire accident in which 17 members of a family lost their lives, led FTCCI to take the initiative and organize the programme to understand the reasons and what we can do, collectively as a community, to prevent or at least minimize the losses, and not to point out finger at anyone.

He urged participants to share their suggestions and work together for creating a safe environment for the society to live and do businesses.

Shri Bendi Raja Gopala Rao, Director of Factories, Government of Telangana addressing the gathering, said that The Factories Act, 1948 and its enforcement by the Factories Department are crucial for ensuring worker safety and health in Indian factories.

The Act outlines various provisions related to health, safety, welfare, and employment conditions, ensuring that workers are protected and work in a regulated environment. He also, in detail, explained about the Sections under the Act – Section No. 36 Precautions against dangerous fumes, gases, etc.; No. 36A. Precautions regarding the use of portable electric light; No. 38.



Precautions in case of fire and few others.

He stressed the need for following the Factories Act in letter and spirit to ensure the safety of workers and the property. He suggested that the 1997 Amendment to the Act is a “Rule Book” to Factory owners and if implemented as per the norms, Viz, securing adequate ventilation, cooling of the air in the workrooms, fire safety norms, minimum distance to be maintained for the storage of the raw materials and final products gives maximum protection to all.

He insisted that in every factory, all practicable measures should be taken to prevent outbreak of fire and its spread, both internally and externally, and to provide and maintain— (a) safe means of escape for all persons in the event of a fire, and (b) the necessary equipment and facilities for extinguishing fire.

Shri Ch. Chakrapani, Chief Engineer, Telangana Southern Power Distribution Company Ltd (TGSPDCL), Government of Telangana addressing the gathering stated that majority of fire accidents are due to electric short circuits and this is happening mainly because of lack of knowledge on safety norms before installing of electric equipment.

He said that connected load should be able to protect the various appliances/ machinery used by domestic/ industry consumers. It is often found that the connected load is either lower than the consumption level or safety measures such as proper wiring system, earthing are not in place leading to short circuits, causing accidents.

Mr. Y. Nagi Reddy, IPS, Director General, Telangana Fire, Disaster Response, Emergency and Civil Defence Department, Government of Telangana gave a presentation delivering keynote address mentioned basic fire safety measures to be followed, Fire Compliances and Preparedness of Telangana Fire Disaster Response Emergency Dept. The major causes of fire incidents are

careless smoking, electrical origin, mechanical heat, Gas, coal furnace and others. Basic Fire Prevention, Life Safety & Fire Protection measures prescribed by Fire Dept.: All commercial establishments - At least one Smoke Detector, Fire Alarm & Fire Extinguisher and where Residential is mixed with Mixed Occupancy - more stringent measures to be taken.

He gave detailed a presentation on the various activities taken by fire department and adoption of technology, modernization of fire stations, and setting up of a greater number of fire stations across the state. He informed the department has 3 Firefighting Robots in the city, each in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medchal Malkajgiri District headquarters. He has given statistical number of fire accidents occurred during the 2024 to 25 till May. The number of Lives saved /lost and property damaged/ saved during the hazardous incidents.

The department created fire safety awareness through Mock Drills / Awareness programs, Imparted training for firefighting and rescue operations. India First and Fastest Auto scrutiny has been selected by ITE&C department which is being launched by Telangana fire department for streamlining Provisional NOC as first stage. Briefed about State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) - 137 Fire Stations of TGFDD declared as SDRF Stations.

After the presentation, he has taken queries from participants. Some of the queries raised and suggested by participants are as follows:

- It was pointed out that in congested market areas, shops are closely located with common walls, in the narrow lanes where fire engine cannot enter. How to take fire safety measures. The DG has suggested to install minimum fire fighting equipment in each shop – such as smoke detectors, fire alarms and fire extinguishers that could prevent

and minimize the fire accidents and losses thereof.

- The Shops and Establishment Act does not have mandatory provisions for the implementation of fire safety norms as in the case of factories. This has to be looked into. The DG has agreed for the suggestion.
- It is suggested to create awareness among the school children about the fire safety measures and how fire engines operate and what to do when fire occurs.

It was informed that the department conducts mock-drills in all the schools and conducts educative programs.

- It was pointed out that structural quality of the high-rise buildings is not properly audited before issuing occupancy certificate. Most of the buildings have water seepage problem causing short circuits. After issuing NOC there was no structural audit conducted periodically.

It was agreed and said that the government is taking policy measure towards the issue

- It was informed that very small industrial units such as those located in Katedan area are served with notices for implementation of fire safety measures that are expensive and not feasible for the small units to implement.

The DG has assured that installation of minimum safety measures will suffice and he will look into the notices.

Shri T Venkanna, District Fire Officer (DFO) – 1, Telangana Fire, Disaster Response, Emergency and Civil Defence, Department, Government of Telangana, Shri Prafull S Sharma, Co – Founder and Managing Director, Ennovative Design Consultants, FTCCI Managing Committee members, Past Presidents and others participated in the event.

Shri K K Maheshwari, Vice President, FTCCI proposed a vote of thanks.

Program on Preventive Health & Food Safety and FoSTaC Training



6th June, 2025
Federation House, Hyderabad

This important initiative was sponsored by KFC India under its CSR initiative – the KFC India SAHYOG Program, and witnessed the active participation of over 300 food vendors, stakeholders, and professionals from across Telangana. In the keynote address from Sri Anuraag Jayanti, IAS, Zonal Commissioner, GHMC, who emphasized the importance of a collaborative approach to food safety. “One agency alone cannot handle the responsibility of food safety,” said Sri Anuraag Jayanti. “It must be a collaborative effort between the government, industry, civil society, and community stakeholders under a strong Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework”. The government is also working towards increasing the number of food testing laboratories to strengthen our regulatory capabilities and ensure better coverage across urban and rural areas.”

The technical sessions, moderated by Dr. Aman Gupta, began with a virtual address by Sri Aman Lal, Chief People Officer – KFC India & Partner



Countries. The Guest of Honor, Mr. Moksh Chopra, General Manager – KFC India & Partner Countries, reaffirmed KFC’s commitment to promoting food hygiene standards and vendor training. The session featured insightful presentations by:

- * Sri T. Vijay Kumar, Senior Advisor, Dept. of Food Safety.
- * Sri Balunaik Kethavath, Deputy Director, FSSAI – South Region
- * Sri Dharmendra Pala, Assistant Food Controller
- * Sri Vijay Kumar, RETD IAS, CEO of BIOGROWW
- * Sri Anjaneyulu, Food Safety Expert and FoSTaC Trainer.

Technical speakers were felicitated by FTCCI & NASVI representatives for their valuable contributions.

The FoSTaC Training (Food Safety Training and Certification) was conducted in two detailed sessions, followed by a Business Training Module. The program concluded with the Certificate Distribution Ceremony for all trained participants & distribution of hygiene kits to a selected group of participants.

This impactful event, aligned with FTCCI’s Vision 2030, reinforced the importance of preventive health, food safety, and the collective role of industry and government in ensuring safe food for all.

Free Health Check-up Camp under Vision 2030



As part of its flagship Vision 2030 initiative, the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) organized a Free Health Check-up Camp at Federation House, Red Hills, Hyderabad on Friday, 6th June 2025.

The camp was inaugurated by Shri Anuraag Jayanti, IAS, Zonal Commissioner, GHMC, in the presence of FTCCI leadership, healthcare committee members, and the training division. The event witnessed an enthusiastic response with over 400 individuals—including members, staff, food vendors, and members of the general public—availing themselves of various free health services.

The camp was supported by a team of 30 medical professionals from Medcover Hospital, Smara Dental, and the Central Blood Bank, who volunteered their expertise in offering:

- ▶ General health consultations
- ▶ Eye screenings



- ▶ Dental check-ups
- ▶ Gynecology consultations
- ▶ Free diagnostics such as BP, sugar testing, ECG, and BMI analysis
- ▶ A Blood Donation Drive was also conducted as part of the wellness initiative, drawing strong

participation from the community.

The initiative reflected FTCCI's commitment to promoting quality and affordable health for all under the broader mission of "Vision 2030 – Telangana."



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Cooperatives build a better world: Status of Urban Cooperative Banks in India

Since year 1923, International Cooperative Day is being celebrated under the aegis of the United Nations and International Cooperative Alliance on first Saturday in July month. Year 2025 is celebrated as International Cooperative Year around the world with several programs scheduled on Saturday, the 5th of July 2025.

**Dr. Kishore Nuthalapati*

Nature of Cooperatives :

A cooperative is a members owned business entity formed to serve the common needs of the group. Cooperatives do not prioritize profit making. Cooperatives have democratic structure with each member having only one vote regardless of their capital contribution. They have open and voluntary membership. They enjoy collective bargaining and risk sharing benefits.

Pricing of products :

Cooperatives have cost plus model of pricing. The margin will be either on a percentage basis or absolute amount basis depending on the nature of the products. In most of the cases, it is on a percentage basis for transparency and ease of administration. The pricing would be same for all the members in majority of the cooperatives.

Certain cooperatives operate on differentiated pricing model where members volunteer to serve the cooperative pay lower prices, other members pay higher prices and non-members are allowed in a limited manner but must pay highest price. Such cooperatives are accepted as the non-members find the quality of products in cooperatives better and the prices comparatively lower than in the market.



Cooperatives and cooperative credit societies are in many places of the world. But cooperative banks are present only in India. There are rural and urban cooperative banks in India. Rural cooperative banks are of three tiers. Primary agricultural credit societies at the village level, central cooperative banks at the district level, and state cooperative banks at the state level. Urban cooperative banks (UCBs) operate in urban and semi urban areas.

Many cooperatives have equalization fund to support the members with concession pricing during high price days. Even otherwise due to the bulk purchases, cooperatives enjoy decent bargaining power that the prices at all times of the cooperatives would be lower than the comparable non-cooperative entities in the market.

Funding:

The funding of cooperatives is very interesting. Members can contribute minimum membership fee and will be allotted shares. Usually there is no maximum limit. Since cooperatives are meant to support their members, profit is not dominating objective although cooperatives do make good profits.

Cooperatives can borrow funds from its members and from banks like any other business entities. However, the instances of borrowing and volumes of borrowings are relatively lower.

Cooperatives which have collective marketing collaborations enjoy receipt of huge deposits or advances from its bulk buyers which amount supports the members in procuring materials, equipment or to fund working capital needs.

Surplus distribution:

The distribution of the surplus is not on the basis of capital contribution. The surplus is distributed in proportion to the volume of transactions by the member with the cooperative. The transactions could be sales to the cooperative, purchases from the cooperative, services through the cooperative, etc, as per the nature of the cooperative. This encourages more engagement of the members with the cooperative than deviating from the cooperative spirit and collective transactions.

Some portion of the surplus is finally distributed as dividend which is also essential to attract permanent capital in the form of members capital share contribution. Such dividend is distributed to the members as per

their capital contributions.

Global footprint of Cooperatives:

Currently, there are more than 3 million cooperatives globally and 15% of population participate in them. The first cooperative entity in the world was formed in Scotland in year 1761 by Fenwick weavers. Britain and France saw many cooperative entities starting from early 19th century. During the same time cooperative banking evolved in Germany which spread worldwide by late 19th and early 20th centuries. In year 1895 International Cooperative Alliance was formed in London to promote cooperative principles around the world. India was one among the members who attended the founding congress.

Magnitude of cooperatives:

Cooperative activity is deeper in banking, insurance, and agriculture. The top 300 cooperatives globally have a total turnover of \$2.5 trillion. France based Groupe Credit Agricole is 130 years old and has \$120 billion turnover. Germany based retail cooperative REWE is 100 years old and has \$82 billion turnover.

While majority of the cooperatives are in agriculture, healthcare, credit and retail, there are few peculiar cooperatives as well. They include Beer brewing cooperative in London, Bike courier cooperative in Switzerland, mutual cooperative in Devoto, Argentina, etc. Devoto Coop has one-third of the town population involved as members and this Coop provides essential services like internet, water, cable TV, radio, hotel, food, and tourism. In Italy Melpignano town has a solar cooperative where solar panels are installed on the members house roofs. The surplus is reinvested for the community projects and town development.

Indian scenario:

India has 8 lakh cooperative entities with total 30 crores members. In the

world's total cooperative entities, India has a share of 27%. The 20% of population involvement in India is higher than global average of 12%. Indian cooperatives are active in agriculture, credit, dairy, housing, and retail.

The 80-years old Gujarat based Anand Milk Union Ltd (AMUL) which is managed by Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation is largest cooperative in India. Its total turnover for FY 2024-25 is Rs. 90,000 crores and is expected to cross Rs. 1 trillion in FY 2026. It has 36 lakh members and 18,600 societies. Biggest in



membership is the 60-years old Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative (IFFCO) serving 36,000 member cooperatives and more than 50 million farmers. IFFCO has a turnover of \$5 billion.

Cooperative Banks in India:

Cooperatives and cooperative credit societies are in many places of the world. But cooperative banks are present only in India. There are rural and urban cooperative banks in India. Rural cooperative banks are of three tiers. Primary agricultural credit societies at the village level, central cooperative banks at the district level,

and state cooperative banks at the state level. Urban cooperative banks (UCBs) operate in urban and semi urban areas.

In year 2013, there are 2,104 UCBs in India but they declined to 1,463 now. Maharashtra has 448 UCBs, Karnataka has 279, Gujarat has 212, Tamil Nadu has 102, Telangana has 70, Uttar Pradesh has 55, Kerala 45, West Bengal has 43, Andhra Pradesh 39, Madhya Pradesh 38, Rajasthan 38, and other states have up to 17 each. Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Manipur do not have any UCBs. The oldest surviving UCB in



India is Saraswat

Cooperative Bank which started in year 1918 in Mumbai. Currently it has 450 branches and Rs.

25,000 crs deposits. Mergers and acquisitions are found in UCBs as well. For instance, Pune headquartered Cosmos UCB made 19 acquisitions so far.

There are instances of mismanagement in UCBs and resultant failures. Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative Bank with close to Rs. 12,000 crs deposits failed in year 2019 due to fraudulent lending. Madhavpura Mercantile Cooperative Bank failed in year 2012 due to undue lending to stock

brokers. Recently Kapol Cooperative Bank in Mumbai and Nagar UCB in Ahmednagar failed due to mismanagement.

Presently, UCBs are also subjected to preventive corrective action (PCA) framework from 1st April 2025. UCBs are required to have 50% of total loans as small value loans, each of Rs. 25 lakhs. UCBs have target of 60% priority sector lending (PSL) unlike commercial banks which have 40% PSL targets. UCBs extend one time settlement (OTS), door step services, and Aadhar enabled payment services.

UCBs maintain more balances with RBI than lending money at call and short notices in the market. Majority of investments by UCBs are in statutory liquidity ratio instruments of government. UCBs have lower operating profits as they focus more on services than on profit. More than 80% of loans of UCBs are to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Although some UCBs had mismanagement, by and large UCBs have proven to be very crucial for MSMEs, housing loans in semi urban areas, gold loans, and crop loans. Commercial banks do not have the reach or preference to these sections due to viability challenges and market familiarity issues. The best UCBs in India include Pochampally Cooperative Urban Bank which has been maintaining zero non performing assets (NPAs) for close to 20 years out of its 25 years of existence. It has close to 1 lakhs customers and has been receiving several awards as a best performing UCB. It has higher capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR), zero borrowings, and funded by members capital and deposits. Pochampally Bank has also been consistently paying higher dividends to its members. Customers have been requesting Pochampally Bank to expand its 11 branches to 20 branches to cater to more MSMEs.

There are other good UCBs in Telangana and in other states as well. In this International Cooperative Year, it is imperative for all the stakeholders including RBI, respective state governments, UCB board of directors, boards of management, members and customers to further strengthen the UCBs so that credit will be available for the MSME and small sections in urban and semi urban areas.

**Economist and a Corporate Finance Professional.*

CFO of BEKEM Infra Projects Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad, India.

Independent Member on the Board of Management of Pochampally Cooperative Urban Bank.

(Views are his personal and do not reflect those of any of the organizations he is or was associated with)



How AI can be a solution - not a problem - in the fight against climate change

While concerns about AI's energy footprint are valid, its powerful potential for deep decarbonisation and systemic change is undeniable

* Zenin Osho

In Maharashtra's drought-prone Baramati district, sugarcane farmers have long faced a tough trade-off: Maximise yields or conserve water. Now, with the help of artificial intelligence (AI), they are managing to do both. Farmers are using AI-driven predictions to optimise irrigation schedules leading to a 30 per cent reduction in water use. Crucially, it has also cut electricity costs for farmers by around 25 per cent, since less water means less reliance on power-hungry pumps. It hints at a broader truth: AI, despite concerns over its energy use, can help drive real-world climate solutions by making industries leaner, cheaper, and greener.

Much of the anxiety around AI stems from its growing appetite for electricity. Training large models consumes roughly 10 times more energy than a traditional web search. Greenhouse gas emissions from big technology companies have risen by nearly a third in recent years. With vast new data centres being built, further increases seem inevitable.

Yet the alarmism is often misplaced. In absolute terms, AI remains a relatively

modest consumer of energy. According to the IEA, data centres account for about 1.5 per cent of global electricity use today, and that figure could double by 2030. But most of it is driven by streaming, social media and e-commerce, not AI. Even if AI's share grows sharply, its potential to decarbonise some of the hardest-to-abate industries - while tackling both carbon and short-lived climate pollutants like methane - is becoming increasingly difficult to ignore.

Take methane, for instance. Although less notorious than carbon dioxide, methane is a far more potent, if shorter-lived, greenhouse gas. Tackling it quickly could offer major climate gains. AI-powered startups are already rising to the challenge. GHGSat, for example, uses satellites equipped with advanced spectrometers and machine learning to detect facility-level methane leaks invisible to conventional monitoring.

Livestock, particularly cattle, are another major methane source. Startups like Rumin8 and Symbrosia are developing AI-informed feed supplements that curb emissions from digestion. Meanwhile, DSM-Firmenich's Bovaer, now approved for use in over 55 countries, can slash methane emissions from cattle by more than 30 per cent. Agriculture offers further opportunity: Flooded paddy fields, which produce significant methane, could also benefit from AI. Just as AI tools are helping sugarcane farmers in Baramati optimise irrigation and cut water use, similar approaches could reduce flooding periods in rice cultivation — lowering methane emissions while conserving water.

AI's promise in modernising energy systems is only just beginning to be realised. Use cases in renewable energy integration remain early, but encouraging signs are emerging. In the United States, Alphabet's Tapestry project, combining AI and cloud technologies, is helping grid operators automate the sluggish

approval process for clean energy projects — speeding the deployment of wind and solar power. Similar challenges, albeit on a larger scale, loom in India. Integrating intermittent renewables into ageing, stressed grids remains complex. Distribution companies (discoms), which are entities responsible for buying electricity from generating companies and distributing it to end-consumers across different areas, many of which are financially strained, face acute difficulties in

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adopting new technologies.

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actively deploying AI and IoT for sustainable energy solutions. Given India's ambitious goal of adding 500GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030, these efficiencies are simply no longer optional. While widespread AI adoption among discoms may still seem distant, the potential gains — in reduced losses, enhanced reliability, and lower costs — make a compelling case for phased, strategic deployment, supported by policy reform and investment.

Batteries, too, are critical to this transition. The ability to store renewable energy when the sun does not shine or the wind does not blow remains a bottleneck. Quantum computing, closely linked to advances in AI, offers a tantalising possibility. By simulating new battery materials, such as lithium nickel oxide, at the atomic level, researchers hope to design cheaper, longer-lasting storage solutions, accelerating the shift to a cleaner grid. Lithium nickel oxide is a promising material that could enable batteries with higher-energy density and lower costs compared to conventional lithium-ion designs.

Teams at Sandia National Laboratories and Google Quantum AI are already using quantum simulations to accelerate battery research. They are also applying quantum techniques to improve modelling of fusion reactions, potentially unlocking a future of abundant and carbon-free energy.

Industrial sectors that have long resisted decarbonisation are also beginning to show signs of change. Cement manufacturing, responsible for around 8 per cent of global emissions, is deploying AI to optimise kiln operations, cutting fuel use and emissions. In shipping, AI-driven navigation systems analyse real-time data on weather patterns and ocean currents to chart more efficient routes, saving time, fuel, and carbon.

Start-ups are crucial in pushing these frontiers. Their agility and willingness to bet on unproven ideas



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give them an edge over slower-moving incumbents. Start-ups need deep ecosystem support, including patient capital, reliable infrastructure, expert mentorship, and clear regulatory pathways. Initiatives like Google's start-up programs provide a template, offering access to advanced AI models, cloud computing resources, and tailored guidance to help founders navigate technological and policy hurdles. The government's role in strategic investment in R&D, targeted support for climate-focused start-ups, and regulatory frameworks that encourage innovation without creating unnecessary barriers are all essential.

Transparency on AI's environmental impact is critical. From 2026,

the European Union will require companies to report AI-related energy consumption; other jurisdictions should adopt similar measures. Data centres must evolve as well, shifting workloads to match renewable generation, investing in battery storage, and aiming for 24/7 carbon-free operations. Big technology firms should leverage their considerable purchasing power to accelerate the build-out of clean energy infrastructure, rather than relying primarily on offsets.

Combating climate change demands we tackle both carbon and super-pollutants like methane. While concerns about AI's energy footprint are valid, its powerful potential for deep decarbonisation and

systemic change is undeniable. If policymakers, investors, scientists, and entrepreneurs unite, AI can transform from a perceived climate problem into one of our most potent solutions, with startups already blazing the trail towards a new era of innovation that matches the urgency of the challenge ahead.

** Director, India Program of the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD)*

Source : <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/how-ai-can-be-a-solution-not-a-problem-in-the-fight-against-climate-change-10049882/>



FTCCI Office Bearers along with other Officials met Sri Jitan Ram Manjhi, Hon'ble Minister for MSMEs, Government of India : 26th May, 2025



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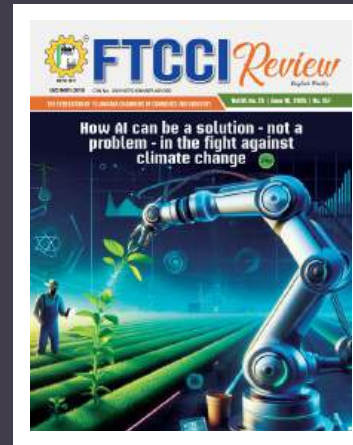
SNo.	Panel	Name of the Company	Business
ASSOCIATE CATEGORY – PANEL- A			
1	A-529	HETERO BIOPHARMA LIMITED	Manufacturing of Biosimilars
COMPANY CATEGORY – PANEL- C			
2	C-2218	VRK CHOCOLATE MACHINES LLP	Machinery Manufacturing
3	C-2219	MIRAKI TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED	IT Services, IT Consulting Software Development, AI/ML Services
4	C-2220	REDMATTER INTEGRATED MARKETING PRIVATE LIMITED	Marketing Services
5	C-2221	NATURAL RHIZOMES PRIVATE LIMITED	Agriculture Products, Rice
6	C-2222	KEVALIN CONSULTANTS LLP	CA Consulting Services
7	C-2223	VIRUJ CHEMATRIX PRIVATE LIMITED	Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products
8	C-2224	STONECRAFT DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED	Real Estate, Residential Open Plots-Residential Buildings
9	C-2225	IKEVA VENTURE AND KNOWLEDGE ADVISORY SERVICES PVT.LTD	Real Estate, Workspace Provider
10	C-2226	OXYKART TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED	Delivery of Computers, Peripheral Units, Software, telecommunications Equipments Rice Bags
11	C-2227	OXYGENTA PHARMACEUTICAL LIMITED	Manufacturing
12	C-2228	DASAMI LAB PRIVATE LIMITED	Manufacturing of Bulk Drug and API
FIRM / INDIVIDUAL / PROPRIETARY CONCERN – PANEL- D			
13	D-2710	ORIANA CONSULTING	Financial Services-Advisory Services
14	D-2711	VAARIN GLOBAL IMPEX	Agricultural Products, Food & Edible Animal Feed Fruits
15	D-2712	MUKESH PHALOR	Audit, Assurances, Income Tax, GST Corporate Advisory Services, Loans, Equity Syndication
16	D-2713	JSR ENTERPRISES	Trading of Soft drinks and Beverages
17	D-2714	PHOTOKING RETAIL	Trading of Sports Wear Bats, Locketts, Cricket Kit
18	D-2715	ANIL IMPEX	Railway Products & Services
19	D-2716	ECOSPACE GREEN ENERGY SOLUTIONS	Constructions
20	D-2717	L R & CO	Accounting & Auditing
21	D-2718	PRAXA BIO SOLUTIONS	Trading
MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSME) – PANEL- E			
22	E-1811	ORIANA SOLAR ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED	Manufacturing of Solar EPC & Installation Services
23	E-1812	ARVIND CANS LIMITED	Manufacturing of Tin Containers
24	E-1813	ELIM CHEM PRIVATE LIMITED	Aqua Minerals & Probiotics, Home care & hospitals Care & Personal Care Products Pharmaceuticals Chemicals
25	E-1814	OPTOMECH ENGINEERS PVT LTD	Quality Control Equipment's for Pharma Industries
26	E-1815	NAVDURGA APPAREL EXPORTS	Manufacturing of all types of Textiles Garments and Clothing's Accessories
27	E-1816	SKRETTING AQUACULTURE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED	Aqua Culture Feed manufacturer, Shrimp Feed, Fish Feed
28	E-1817	B R INDUSTRIES	Manufacturing of Machinerics

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