MCCIA®

PUNE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SUMMIT 2024

5th Edition

Powering **Innovation,** Unleashing **Global Potential**

Organised by:
Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries & Agriculture (MCCIA)

Summit Report

February 26 & 27, 2024

S.L Kirloskar International Convention Centre,
JW Marriot,Senapati Bapat Road, Pune, Maharashtra, India


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2024
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Index

- **Welcome Address** 6
- **Inaugural Address** 7
- **Opening Remarks** 8

- Fireside Chat 1: **Baba Kalyani** 9
- Fireside Chat 2: **Dr. Naushad Forbes** 11
- Panel Discussion 1 13
- Panel Discussion 2 15
- New Initiative 17
- Panel Discussion 3 19
- Special Session 21
- Panel Discussion 4 22
- Panel Discussion 5 24
- Panel Discussion 6 26
- Insights 1 28
- Panel Discussion 7 29
- Panel Discussion 8 31
- Insights 2 35
- Insights 3 36
- Panel Discussion 9 37
- Panel Discussion 10 39
- B2B Meetings 40
- Strategic Engagements 42
- Snippets 44
- Sponsors / Exhibitors 45
- Media Coverage 46

The Summit

mccia®
PUNE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SUMMIT 2024
5th Edition

398
Participants/attendees registered for the summit

12
Countries

25
Sessions

56
Speakers

Countries Participited

- United States of America
- Indonesia
- South Africa
- Belgium (Flanders)
- Israel
- Finland
- Angola
- Germany
- Zambia
- Peru
- Netherlands
- Singapore

February 26 & 27, 2024

S.L Kirloskar International Convention Centre,
JW Marriot,
Senapati Bapat Road, Pune,
Maharashtra, India

Welcome Address

Shaping Global Trade Relations



Deepak Karandikar
President,
Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA)

As the President of the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA), it is my honour to report the successful convening of the fifth edition of the Pune International Business Summit (PIBS). MCCIA remains dedicated to forging international alliances that bolster the industry and trade within Pune and beyond.

At MCCIA, our mission transcends mere networking; we aim to shape the very fabric of global trade relations. The chamber has proudly welcomed diplomats and trade commissioners from various countries. Likewise, we have extended our presence abroad, with our delegates embarking on international missions to the United Kingdom, Germany, the United Arab Emirates, and other nations, fostering dialogues that span from local to global echelons of government.

We have actively pursued for an ecosystem conducive to seamless business operations and future growth. Our efforts include advising exporters and importers, spearheading initiatives for MSMEs to access worldwide markets, and establishing India's first Agriculture Export Facilitation Center with NABARD's (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) assistance.

By guiding potential exporters through the intricate array of procedures, quality norms, and regulatory frameworks, and through our knowledge-sharing ethos, we strive to elevate the standards of international trade. The MCCIA's active participation in enhancing Pune's infrastructure—roads, railways, industry clusters, IT parks, and international airport—remains an indication to our commitment to growth.

We aim to shape the very fabric of global trade relations.

This edition of Pune International Business Summit (PIBS 2024) is centered around five pivotal themes: deciphering emerging trends in international trade and investment, fortifying and diversifying global supply chains, fostering business partnerships, amplifying the global prospects for SMEs, startups, and women-led enterprises and identifying the role of technology as an enabler of international business expansion.

Inaugural Address

Charting Progress and Prosperity



Piyush Goyal

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food, Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India

The PIBS 2024 affirms MCCIA's dedication to enriching the business environment in Pune. MCCIA has stood as an inspiration of economic advancement in Pune for nearly eight decades. By empowering 1,000+ women through the newly established Center of Excellence for Women Entrepreneurs, MCCIA has undertaken laudable work aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision. Influenced by the legacy of Chhatrapati Shri Shivaji Maharaj, Pune has emerged as a pivotal center for cultural heritage, education, and innovation. Beginning as a major manufacturing hub with a robust supply chain ecosystem, the city has evolved into a significant player in the global industry.

By empowering 1,000+ women through the newly established Center of Excellence for Women Entrepreneurs, MCCIA has undertaken laudable work aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision.

Pune's solid IT foundation, together with its dynamic culture of entrepreneurship, has fostered a thriving startup ecosystem. In our quest for an equitable, inclusive, and sustainable New India, Pune has played a crucial role, particularly in manufacturing the indigenous vaccine during the pandemic. India's achievements in the digital sector have positioned it as a frontrunner in the digital world, exemplified by the widespread adoption of UPI. Government initiatives—from the ease of doing business to the Jan Vishwas Bill, which aims to decriminalise several laws, to a national single-window system, and an open network for digital commerce—collectively enhance India's appeal as an investment destination, especially in manufacturing.

Furthermore, the PM Gati Shakti National Logistics Policy and schemes like production-linked incentives are carving paths for a Developed India, with substantial investments in infrastructure and manufacturing. A wealth of opportunities awaits in emerging sectors such as semiconductors, electric vehicles, renewable energy, biofuels, and others, all open for investment, with the global community keen to engage in trade with us. As we stride toward our goal of a Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047, marking 100 years of independence, I am confident that MCCIA, along with our esteemed partners at this summit, will elevate Pune to unprecedented heights.

(Inaugural address in the form of a pre-recorded video message)

Opening Remarks

Pune: A Global Trade Hub



Prashant Girbane
Director General, Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA)

Maharashtra, thanks to the highest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India, leads in economic and industrial growth, with Pune being the epicenter of these investments. This prominence extends to merchandise exports, where Pune ranks among the top five districts nationwide. Specifically, in engineering goods, Pune stands unparalleled numero uno. This distinction positions our region as an optimal hub for global trade and investment.

In our journey to making Maharashtra a leading state and Pune a leading district in industrial activities across the nation, MCCIA has played a pivotal role. By fostering a conducive environment for business and investment, we have been instrumental in driving the economic engine of the region. Our proactive strategies and initiatives have not only attracted significant FDI but also encouraged homegrown enterprises to scale up and compete on the global stage. This concerted effort has positioned Pune as a powerhouse of industrial innovation and growth, reflecting our commitment to excellence and sustainable development in the business ecosystem.

When we look at investment in India, the highest FDI is in Maharashtra, and Pune receives the highest investments, making it a linchpin in the state's economy.

Over the past year, MCCIA has orchestrated 171 business programs, engaging over 8,000 participants. We interacted with a diverse group of 12 consul generals and ambassadors, alongside 101 ministers and officials from central and various state governments. Our interactions have provided deep insights into Pune's vibrant business sector. Additionally, our efforts to localise content through interviews in local language for entrepreneurs reflect our commitment to nurturing Pune's business ecosystem.

Understanding the local business community's needs has been pivotal. This insight led us to initiate the Pune International Business Summit, which we have successfully held for the past four years. Our continuous endeavour is to bolster the business landscape in Pune, making it an ideal example of opportunity for the global community.

Fireside Chat 1

India's Automotive Industry at a Crossroads



In a fireside chat, Baba Kalyani, Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Forge Ltd., engaged with Ravi Pandit, Chairman of KPIT Technologies Ltd., discussing the changes in global automotive sector, opportunities for the Indian auto companies, and the challenges of native infrastructure. Baba Kalyani expressed optimism about India's future in the automotive market, indicating a shift from followers to leaders fueled by technological advancements.

In terms of the changes in the automotive industry, it is essential to recognise the shift towards clean energy and the swift integration of intelligent and modern technologies that are transforming the entire ecosystem. The automotive sector is evolving rapidly, necessitating our adaptation to these changes as well. Artificial Intelligence and related technologies are poised to revolutionise the automobile industry, altering our approach to solving technical issues and the speed at which we resolve them. Currently, the primary transformation is in propulsion methods. During this transformative era, India enjoys a considerable advantage in the automotive industry, evidenced by the emerging market for electric vehicles and a growing acceptance of this new form of transportation. Consequently, our energy demand is projected to triple over the next 25 years, offering an expansive scope for renewable energy, with India set to lead in this sector.



Baba Kalyani
Chairman and Managing Director,
Bharat Forge Ltd.



Ravi Pandit
Chairman,
KPIT Technologies Ltd.

Fortunately, we do not need to overhaul our existing capacities but rather supplement them with eco-friendlier and carbon-neutral alternatives. Presently, India's GDP is robust and expected to increase, which will likely result in the expansion of the Indian automotive manufacturing sector. Projections suggest that India's automotive production could grow six-fold over the next twenty five years, with the sector potentially reaching a valuation of around $25 billion, up from $4 billion.

One of the major challenges facing the mobility sector is urban planning, which must cater to the development of livable cities. The increasing traffic over the past two decades, which has quadrupled, highlights the importance of thoughtful urban planning for sustainable growth. Further improvements are needed in infrastructure development and the renewable energy sector. Additionally, manufacturers must stay informed about IoT and AI technologies and maintain confidence in their capabilities.

India's automotive sector is at the cusp of a revolution, with its transition to clean energy and adoption of AI, poised to lead in the era of electric vehicles and renewable energy.

A key strength lies in India's skilled manpower, especially in the automotive sector, which is the largest and best-trained technical workforce in the industry, poised to significantly boost the Indian GDP. With technical expertise declining in the West and our market expanding, it is imperative to train more individuals to meet our industry's requirements and enhance our manufacturing capacities. Software-driven distributed manufacturing is set to be a cornerstone for India.

India's role as a consumer in the automotive market is evolving effectively and is due for transformative changes. Where we have been followers, we will become leaders, bolstered by Indian technology and innovation.

In next 10 to15 years, I foresee that about 85% of the automotive industry will be made or designed in India. The country is undergoing rapid changes, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Amrit Kaal' is now a shared aspiration. We need to foster technological advancements to meet the demand for renewable energy and devise Indian solutions for our unique challenges. Undoubtedly, this is India's decade, and the upcoming years promise to be a defining era for our nation.

Fireside Chat 2

Investing in Resilience for Future Challenges





Dr. Naushad Forbes
Co-Chairperson, Forbes Marshall



Pradeep Bhargava
Past President, MCCIA and Chairman, MCCIA Electronic Cluster Foundation (MECF)

Pradeep Bhargava, Past President of MCCIA and Chairman of MCCIA Electronic Cluster Foundation (MECF), discussed with Dr. Naushad Forbes, Co-Chairperson of Forbes Marshall, the implications of current geopolitical conditions and global trends on India, and vice versa. Dr. Naushad Forbes delved into the critical need for self-adaptability in navigating these changes, highlighting how external global dynamics directly influence India's economic and strategic landscape, emphasising the importance of agility and resilience to thrive amidst global uncertainties.

Reflecting on recent times, I muse on the unpredictability of events like the Israel-Palestine tensions and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Four years ago, none of us foresaw the pandemic that shook the world. These crises have underscored the importance of being prepared for supply chain disruptions and other unexpected challenges. The best way to be prepared, I firmly believe, is to invest in people. Regarding growth, the global rate might hover around 2.5 to 3 percent, but for India, it is projected at 7 percent. With the right approach, we can aspire to an 8 to 9 percent growth rate, which I am confident we can achieve given the vibrancy of our economy and the creativity of our youth.

Addressing poverty and ensuring quality employment are paramount challenges for the Indian economy. We must turn to sectors like manufacturing to generate more employment. The focus shouldn't just be on the overall GDP but on the per capita income, which is a true measure of prosperity. We need to emulate countries with large manufacturing plants that offer extensive employment opportunities.

We must invest in our greatest asset – our people – to future-proof our business against the unpredictable tides of global events.

As I look at our country, I see the availability of talented manpower as a colossal advantage. Unlike the West, where recruiting technical personnel is becoming increasingly challenging, India has a readily available pool of skilled individuals. However, what concerns me is school education, which requires empowerment—an area where the New Education Policy can make a significant impact. As Indian entrepreneurs, we need to expand our networks and enhance trade relations with other countries, leveraging efficiencies of scale driven by data and digital technologies. Advanced infrastructure is vital for improving our standing. There is no need to worry about international markets; we have vast opportunities in global trade. Asia's growing significance suggests that we should intensify our trade with countries in Asia. With our talented and trained manpower, which is a massive advantage, we must focus on reducing carbon emissions and altering consumption patterns to work towards a zero-carbon footprint by 2050.

Panel Discussion 1



Topic: Exploring Trade Tie-ups with India for Global Business Opportunities

The discussion focused on the potential trade sectors and business opportunities that each participating country has to offer Indian companies. It emphasised the importance of enhancing trade relationships and exploring new ventures in various industries.

Participants:

Kobbi Shoshani
Consul General for Israel in Mumbai

Erik Hallstrom
Consul for Finland in Mumbai

Therry Van Helden
Deputy Consul General for The Netherlands in Mumbai

Wouter Vanhees
Trade and Investment Commissioner for Flanders (Belgium) in Mumbai

Session Moderator:

Prashant Girbane
Director General, MCCIA

Kobbi Shoshani highlighted the strong alliance between India and Israel, pointing out multiple sectors for business collaboration, including cyber security, textiles, and agriculture.



Kobbi Shoshani
Consul General for Israel in Mumbai

The Indian economy is experiencing rapid growth, and India and Israel have a strong partnership. We are already collaborating in multiple sectors including Information Technology, Pharmaceuticals, Defense production, and Infrastructure development. While many leading Indian businesses have established a presence in Israel, there is still a vast array of opportunities for Indian companies to expand further. Israel is looking for contributions in sectors like construction, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, and more. There are also joint venture possibilities in cyber security, textiles, agriculture, and beyond. In the realms of innovation and cybersecurity, we face many challenges, but our relationship with India is not about competition; it is about complementing

each other. There is a significant opportunity for India to send thousands of construction workers to Israel.



Erik Hallstrom
Consul for Finland in Mumbai

Erik Hallstrom emphasised the growing economic collaboration between India and Finland, with opportunities in manufacturing, chemical industries, renewable energy, and digitisation.

India and Finland share more than just diplomatic ties; we recognise the potential for significant economic collaboration, leading to increased trade and investment. The bilateral trade between our countries has been steadily growing. Major imports to India from Finland include transport equipment and machinery, yet there is a wealth of opportunities awaiting Indian companies in Finland, especially in the manufacturing and chemical sectors. I am confident that Indian companies will not only explore these opportunities but will also reap substantial benefits from our mutual business engagements. The realms of renewable energy and digitisation are seeing increased focus in both countries.



Therry Van Helden
Deputy Consul General for The Netherlands in Mumbai

Therry Van Helden discussed the long-standing diplomatic and trade relations between India and the Netherlands, highlighting opportunities in life sciences, renewable energy, water management, and green hydrogen.

Marking 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and the Netherlands, we have developed a strong bond, extending beyond political ties to encompass trade and commerce. The Netherlands is India's third largest trading partner, while for us, India stands as the fourth largest investment partner. Our business collaborations span horticulture, floriculture, and electric mobility, among others. With hundreds of Dutch companies in India and many Indian companies in the Netherlands, our future looks towards increasing Indian involvement in life sciences, renewable energy, water management, waste management, and green hydrogen. India's significant global trade share and population offer it an added advantage.



Wouter Vanhees
Trade and Investment Commissioner for Flanders (Belgium) in Mumbai

Wouter Vanhees focused on the strategic location of Flanders within Europe, presenting opportunities for Indian companies in logistics, manufacturing, digital technologies, and SMEs.

Flanders, the Dutch-speaking northern region of Belgium, enjoys a strategic location within Europe's economic heartland, offering seamless connectivity to major regions including the UK, Netherlands, Germany, and France. Our partnership with Pune and India is long-standing, reflecting the significant potential for industry. Our bilateral trade emphasises diamonds, chemicals, machinery, pharmaceuticals, and equipment. Furthermore, Flanders acts as a crucial logistic support for ocean trade across Europe, positioning itself as an ideal logistic hub for Indian companies. Besides logistics, Indian companies have vast opportunities in manufacturing, digital technologies, vehicles, and more, with SMEs playing a crucial role. India's economic growth continues to attract global attention.

Panel Discussion 2



Topic: Technology as an Enabler for International Success

Experts deliberated on the present state of technology and research in India, discussing the necessities for future advancements. The panel emphasised the critical role of technology in various sectors and the importance of research and development (R&D) for achieving international success.

Participants:

Dr. Shekhar Mande
Distinguished Professor, Bioinformatics Centre, Savitribai Phule Pune University

Dr. Shridhar Shukla
Chairman, KPOINT Technologies

Navin Kabra
Co-founder and CTO, Reliscore.com

Session Moderator:

Dr. Anand Deshpande
Founder, Chairman and Managing Director, Persistent Systems Ltd.

Dr. Shekhar Mande emphasised the critical role of biotechnology in healthcare innovation, advocating for increased R&D investment from both public and private sectors.



Dr. Shekhar Mande
Distinguished Professor, Bioinformatics Centre, Savitribai Phule Pune University

Biotechnology significantly impacts every individual's life, as highlighted by the recent COVID-19 pandemic, which was a wake-up call for innovation in this field. The evolving role of biotechnology is unveiling a new era of opportunities. However, innovation requires extensive research, which is costly. There is a robust ecosystem for research in public institutions in India, but private institutes and companies should also engage more in research activities. Big Indian companies need to collaborate with academia and invest in R&D to foster more research within the country. Young entrepreneurs should seek technological mentorship from research centers.



Dr. Shridhar Shukla
Chairman, KPOINT Technologies

Dr. Shridhar Shukla focused on the importance of digital infrastructure and its evolution, urging for a shift from being technology takers to technology givers.

We are living in a digital era where digital infrastructure is crucial. Despite India providing digital infrastructure globally, there is much more we can achieve. Currently, we often find ourselves in the position of technology 'recipients' rather than 'contributors'. However, this is gradually changing, and I foresee a more positive outlook in the future. There is a plethora of research happening, with notable advancements in reducing fuel dependence and benefiting agriculture. Organisations like MCCIA can play a vital role in raising awareness among industry experts, academicians, and the public, fostering long-term collaborations.



Navin Kabra
Co-founder and CTO, Reliscore.com

Navin Kabra highlighted the unprecedented growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its vast potential, cautioning against premature regulation that could hinder innovation.

AI is the fastest-growing technology in history, yet its application remains underexplored, presenting vast opportunities. India, with its substantial technological manpower, is well-positioned to lead in this field. While AI can serve as an excellent advisor in research, there are discussions about regulating this technology. However, considering AI is still in its infancy and its full potential remains untapped, regulating it now could impede future innovations. Technology is an enabler in every sector, and AI can provide solutions to many challenges.

New Initiative

MCCIA Cyber Security Initiative: Strengthening Bilateral IT Ties



Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture (MCCIA) launched the first-ever Cyber Security Initiative with the support of the US Consulate General in Mumbai and Consulate General of Israel in Mumbai at the Pune International Business Summit 2024.

A pioneering cyber security initiative has been introduced by the US Consulate in partnership with the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture (MCCIA), aimed at reinforcing the technological ties between the United States and India. The initiative, announced at the Pune International Business Summit 2024, seeks to pool global cyber security expertise to bolster job creation and pioneer state-of-the-art solutions.

Mike Hankey, Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General Mumbai, emphasised the initiative's intent to establish Pune as a guiding light in cyber security mentorship and to enhance digital connections between individuals. Acknowledging the unprecedented pace of digital technological progress, he highlighted the urgency of this collaborative effort.

The importance of a secure and resilient cyberspace to support public and private sectors' growth was underscored, with a focus on the global benefits of an open and free information flow online. The US-India cyber security collaboration addresses the urgency to mitigate digital threats and ensure that the digital



revolution is synonymous with worldwide prosperity and stability.

Following the launch, Consul General Hankey underscored the remarkable advancements across various tech domains, emphasising that the initiative is a testament to the robust collaboration between the US and India. The effort promises not only economic and social benefits worldwide but also ensures that cybersecurity remains a priority in the burgeoning digital landscape.

Prashant Girbane, Director General, MCCIA echoed these sentiments, stressing the strategic significance of this US-India Cyber Security Initiative for citizens, businesses, and governments alike, aligning with the summit's vision of transformative global progress in AI, telecommunications, and energy.



The US-India Cyber Security Initiative will engage with academia, industry leaders, and civil society to fortify cyber defenses, safeguard infrastructures, and protect sensitive data. We envision a secure and prosperous IT partnership that mirrors our collective dedication to an open and prospering global community.

- Mike Hankey,

Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General Mumbai



The longer term aspiration is to build the city of Pune as the centre of excellence for Cybersecurity. To enable that we have shaped up this highly collaborative and inclusive initiative with diverse set stakeholders with clear focus on skill development

-Dinanath Kholkar

Chairperson, IT Committee, MCCIA

Panel Discussion 3



Topic: Enhancing Cyber Security in the Digital Age

The panelists emphasised the critical importance of cyber security across all domains, especially in light of the rapid digitisation. They discussed the necessity for systematic and structured efforts to manage cyber threats, the demand for trained manpower, and the role of digital identity protection.

Participants:

Dr. Swati Mujumdar
Pro Chancellor, Symbiosis Skills and Professional University, Pune

Rajendra Pillai
President and CEO, AIIPL Tech Pvt. Ltd.

Rohan Vaidya
Head (India and SAARC), CyberArk Software, Inc.

Rohit Srivastwa
Founder, KAS Cyber Ventures

Sumedh Thakar
President and CEO, Qualys

Session Moderator:

Dinanath Kholkar
Chairperson, IT Committee, MCCIA

Dr. Swati Mujumdar stressed the overarching need for cyber security to safeguard digital growth and the demand for trained cybersecurity professionals.



Dr. Swati Mujumdar
Pro Chancellor, Symbiosis Skills and Professional University, Pune

In every domain today, there is an undeniable need for cyber security. As we advance further into the digital world, ensuring safe cyber spaces is essential not just for security but also for future digital growth. With systematic and structured efforts, we can effectively manage cyber security challenges. Moreover, there is a significant demand for trained manpower in this sector, highlighting the urgent need for specialised education and training in cyber security.



Rajendra Pillai
President and CEO, AIIPL Tech Pvt. Ltd.

Rajendra Pillai compared cyber issues to the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasising the need for structured training and certification in cyber security.

The challenges posed by cyber issues today surpass even those of the COVID-19 pandemic. In our era of rapid digitisation, everyone is susceptible to cyber threats. To address these, structured training programmes in cyber space, faculty development, and hands-on certification have become critical. Developing a structured curriculum, establishing labs, and enhancing faculty expertise are essential steps to overcoming cyber security challenges.



Rohan Vaidya
Head (India and SAARC), CyberArk Software, Inc

Rohan Vaidya highlighted the importance of digital identity and the development of privileged identities to protect it, along with the role of collaboration in enhancing cyber security.

The COVID-19 pandemic pushed most of us online, making digital identity incredibly important. To protect these identities, we have initiated privileged identities. Building resilience in the cyber world is crucial, and we are collaborating with various platforms and organisations to advance cyber security. At MCCIA, we are establishing mechanisms to benefit SMEs and MSMEs by enhancing their cyber security posture.



Rohit Srivastwa
Founder, KAS Cyber Ventures

Rohit Srivastwa affirmed that focusing on cyber security is crucial for maintaining a safe digital space and mentioned working on multiple initiatives.

Cyber security is the need of the hour. It is encouraging to see us moving forward with measures to enhance cyber security. This area is pivotal for ensuring a safe digital space for all. We are actively working on multiple initiatives to address and mitigate cyber security threats, focusing on both immediate and long-term solutions.



Sumedh Thakar
President and CEO, Qualys

Sumedh Thakar reflected on India's progress in digital technologies and the global use of cyber security solutions developed by Indian companies in Pune.

Reflecting on our journey with digital technologies, it is clear that cyber security has become crucial. The gap between India and Western countries was significant 25 years ago, but today, India is at the forefront of digital transformation. The cyber security solutions developed by Indian companies, particularly in Pune, are now utilised globally, showcasing our progress and leadership in this essential field.

Special Session

Addressing Cyber Threats and Misinformation in the Digital Age

During the insightful session led by Dr. Tehilla Altshuler, Senior Fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute, the focus was on the growing challenge of cyber threats and the rampant spread of misinformation in the age of social media. Dr. Altshuler emphasised the ease with which misinformation can now be generated and disseminated by virtually anyone, equipped with simple tools, leading to widespread propaganda and narrative manipulation.

In our digitally interconnected world, we are constantly navigating a sea of cyber threats, which necessitates a more responsible approach to our online activities. Misinformation has become a pervasive global issue, undermining economies and influencing public opinion. Today, the creation of misinformation isn't limited to experts; it is alarmingly easy for anyone armed with the right tools to craft and propagate false narratives.

Propaganda and narrative manipulation have become common tools for spreading misinformation. We have witnessed numerous instances where social media has been exploited to disseminate falsehoods, affecting not just economies but also influential personalities, often for political gain. A vast, diverse group is emerging as propagators of misinformation, with some even outsourcing this activity, making it harder to trace and address.

In the digital sphere, where anyone can author a narrative, the truth becomes a mosaic pieced together by a number of fragments, making the task of discerning fact from fiction not just a challenge, but a necessity for the integrity of global economies and democratic societies.

The content is often so credible and persuasive, framed in subtle ways that make propaganda less detectable, and people are more likely to be deceived. As technology advances, the challenge of preventing misinformation only grows. This is not just an abstract concern; it has tangible impacts on economies and the administration of societies. To counter this, we urgently need to standardise our processes for identifying and mitigating misinformation and foster robust internal collaboration in the digital space.



Dr. Tehilla Altshuler
Senior Fellow, Israel Democracy Institute

Dr. Altshuler is an esteemed authority on cyber threats and digital policy. Her research focuses on the intersection of technology and society, particularly concerning the spread of misinformation.

Panel Discussion 4



Topic: Facilitating Trade and Investment for Investors in India and Abroad

The discussion highlighted the various facilities provided by India to support investors in trade and investment both domestically and internationally. Panelists elaborated on the governmental policies, digital initiatives, and support systems designed to facilitate trade and ensure the ease of doing business.

Participants:

Varun Singh (ITS)

Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (Pune), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Sirsendu Mukherjee

Branch Manager (Pune), ECGC Ltd. (A Government of India Enterprise) (Formerly Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd.)

Gurleen Kaur

Under Secretary, Economic Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Session Moderator:

P. C. Nambiar

Director Group Exim, Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd. and Chairman, Foreign Trade Committee, MCCIA

Varun Singh focused on the reduction of trade barriers through digital documentation processes and the importance of outreach programmes for trader confidence.



Varun Singh (ITS)

Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (Pune), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

There are several initiatives currently facilitating trade with other countries. A major hurdle for trade growth has been documentation. Thanks to digital services, documentation processes are now automated, providing immense support for traders. We have conducted various outreach programs to raise awareness among traders and boost their confidence, which is essential for the growth of trade.



Sirsendu Mukherjee

Branch Manager (Pune), ECGC Ltd.

Sirsendu Mukherjee emphasised the crucial role of traders in global business, detailing support for exporters in competitive global markets and ensuring financial recovery for exported goods.

Traders play a pivotal role in trade and commerce, as a significant portion of the world's business is conducted by them. In today's globalised market, exporters face competition from global businesses. Our policies are designed to provide confidence to exporters, establishing a proper bridge between buyers and sellers. We assist sellers in recovering their full monetary value associated with exported goods, ensuring a supportive environment for trading activities.



Gurleen Kaur

Under Secretary, Economic Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Gurleen Kaur addressed navigating complexities in global trade, outlining open policies and initiatives for boosting Indian trade and manufacturing on an international scale.

Recently, we have navigated through complexities such as the COVID-19 pandemic. While crises pose challenges, they also present opportunities, and multiple crises have reshaped the global economy. India, with its comprehensive growth story, has become a key player in the global economy. We have opened up trade and business with the open policies of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. To protect our citizens' interests, we are negotiating social security agreements for employees working overseas. Additionally, to boost trade, we are facilitating transactions in Indian rupees, enabling our traders to settle trade in local currencies. Initiatives like Bharat Mart, launched in Dubai, encourage Indian businesses. With the growth of the defense industry, we are positioning India as a hub for aircraft manufacturing. We are committed to assisting our exporters and simplifying trade procedures to enhance trading activities.

Panel Discussion 5





Topic: Navigating Trends in the Indian Auto, EV, and Alternative Fuel Industries

The panel discussed the current state and future prospects of the Indian automotive, electric vehicle (EV), and alternative fuel sectors. Panelists emphasised the industry's growth, government support, technological innovation, and the evolving consumer demand towards cleaner and greener mobility solutions.

Participants:

Eric Vas
President (Urbanite), Bajaj Auto Ltd.

Rajeev Panse
Managing Director, Autocomp Corporation Panse Pvt. Ltd. (Online)

Shrikant Badve
Managing Director, Belrise Industries Ltd.

Hiren Divgi
Executive Director, Divgi Torq Transfer Systems Pvt. Ltd.

Session Moderator:



Arvind Goel
Chairman, Tata Autocomp Systems Pvt. Ltd.

Eric Vas highlighted the automobile industry's growth, government support for EVs, and the critical need for infrastructure development.



Eric Vas
President (Urbanite), Bajaj Auto Ltd.

The automobile sector stands as the largest employer in the manufacturing industry, poised to grow alongside our economy. The rising demand for automobile components signifies immense growth potential for the Indian industry. Governmental support has been pivotal in encouraging e-mobility, evident through incentives like reduced GST for EVs, state government subsidies, and the FAME policy, which significantly lowers EV prices. However, infrastructure development beyond charging stations—such as stable electricity supply and separate mega transformers—is crucial for the EV market to thrive.



Rajeev Panse
Managing Director,
Autocomp Corporation
Panse Pvt. Ltd. (Online)

Rajeev Panse emphasised the importance of battery innovation and customer perception in the adoption of EVs.

Our focus is on battery innovation, a critical area for the EV sector's growth. The adoption of EV technology hinges on customer acceptance and perception, driving the need for technological advancements. The principle that 'necessity is the mother of invention' rings true here, as evolving customer needs will dictate the pace and direction of innovation.



Shrikant Badve
Managing Director,
Belrise Industries Ltd.

Shrikant Badve spoke on India's economic growth, the young population's commitment to a clean environment, and the potential in EV manufacturing.

With India on track to become the world's third-largest economy, our young and committed population is driving the demand for a cleaner environment. The desire for green and clean energy solutions, such as EVs and biofuels, aligns with government visions for cleaner mobility. This creates a significant opportunity for EV manufacturing, given our large and expanding market.



Hiren Divgi
Executive Director, Divgi
Torq Transfer Systems
Pvt. Ltd.

Hiren Divgi discussed India's demographic advantage, the growth of the middle class, and the transformation of the automobile industry towards sustainable energy.

India boasts the second-largest road network globally and a demographic advantage that positions us to capitalise on transformative opportunities. As the world's largest two-wheeler manufacturer, with rising GDP per capita and a growing middle class, India presents a vast market for vehicles. Sustainable options like solar energy will become increasingly vital, signaling the automobile industry's ongoing transformation towards cleaner energy solutions.

Panel Discussion 6



Topic: Exploring Investment Opportunities in Pune Region and Enhancements through the RAMP Scheme for MSMEs

The discussion centered on the initiatives to enhance the investment appeal of Pune region, especially Pimpri-Chinchwad, and the supportive measures for MSMEs through the RAMP scheme, highlighting the government's efforts to foster industrial growth and improve urban livability.

Participants:

Shekhar Singh (IAS)
Municipal Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation

Rajendra Nimbalkar (IAS)
Managing Director, Maharashtra State Small Industries Development Corporation

Session Moderator:

Prashant Girbane
Director General, MCCIA

Shekhar Singh discussed efforts to enhance Pimpri-Chinchwad's livability and industrial appeal, focusing on infrastructure and urban development projects.



Shekhar Singh (IAS)
Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation

Pimpri-Chinchwad, the neighbouring town of Pune, is renowned for its industrial areas, yet many choose to reside in Pune. We aim to transform this perception by making Pimpri-Chinchwad India's most livable city. Our efforts include enhancing connectivity, addressing traffic congestion, and initiating major infrastructure projects such as the Pune-Nashik highway improvement, Pune-Bengaluru highway lane expansion, and metro rail expansion. We are also focusing on urban development projects like city centers and stadiums, encouraging IT and service sector growth, and

advocating for an 'Auto Cluster 2.0' to adapt to future mobility. With government support for ease of doing business and urban living, I believe Pimpri-Chinchwad will soon rank among India's top cities for livability.



Rajendra Nimbalkar (IAS)

Managing Director, Maharashtra State Small Industries Development Corporation

Rajendra Nimbalkar highlighted the significance of MSMEs in India's economy and detailed the RAMP scheme's objectives to bolster MSME productivity and resilience.

MSMEs play a pivotal role in India's economy, contributing to 30% of exports, 30% of GDP, and employing over 13 million people, with Maharashtra and Pune being significant contributors. Recognising their importance, the Indian government, through the Ministry of MSME, has launched the 'Raising and Accelerating MSME Productivity' (RAMP) scheme. This initiative aims to enhance MSMEs' access to markets and credit, improve institutional governance, foster Centre-State partnerships, address payment delays, and promote sustainable practices. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted MSMEs, prompting the central government as well as Maharashtra government to allocate a substantial budget to support the sector through the RAMP programme, demonstrating a strong commitment to bolstering MSME resilience and growth.

Insights 1



Topic: Unveiling India's Food Processing Potential

Anand Chordia,
Director, Praveen Masalewale;
Member of the Board and Chairman, Food Processing Committee, MCCIA

Cultivating Prosperity through India's Expanding Food Processing Ecosystem

India presents a fertile ground for international agri-food businesses looking to establish their brands. Emphasising sustainable and circular economies within a robust ecosystem for food processing and agribusinesses is crucial. The growth from a mere 2-3 agro exhibitions a decade ago to numerous food and beverage exhibitions of international caliber today highlights the burgeoning sector. There is a pronounced need for more such exhibitions to help businesses explore new avenues and expand.

Food institutes play a pivotal role in supporting the industry through packaging, research, and indigenisation of food, offering solutions for labeling and food ingredients. Collaboration between these institutes and industry platforms like MCCIA is essential for the sector's growth. MCCIA, in particular, has been instrumental in providing opportunities by facilitating delegations to explore business prospects abroad and representing the industry's interests to government authorities. The potential for India's food industry is immense, and MCCIA encourages more companies to join and leverage the available opportunities.

Key Insight

Food technology institutes play a crucial role in aiding businesses with packaging, research, and indigenisation, providing vital solutions for labeling and food ingredients.

Insights 2



Topic: Exploring the Dynamics of India's Imported Food Landscape

Shabbir Poonawala
Member of Forum for Indian Food Importers

Global Tastes Meet Local Plates in the Surge of India's Imported Food Market

The demand for healthier and vegan food options is soaring in India, with convenience foods also gaining traction in the urban lifestyle. E-commerce platforms have significantly contributed to this trend, with specific products like Korean noodles seeing a dramatic increase in demand. The imported food segment in India is experiencing rapid growth, with staples like pasta, Korean noodles, and olive oil witnessing substantial market expansion.

The Forum for Indian Food Importers (FIFI) plays a critical role in introducing foreign foods to the Indian market, with importers of food products originating from 67 countries. The current trends include a growing demand for healthier options, convenience foods, ethnic and exotic foods, and premiumisation. Government facilitation and comparatively lower logistics costs are significant advantages for the sector. While there are challenges such as regulatory requirements and the perishable nature of food items, the prospects for the food processing and imported food sectors in India remain highly promising.

Key Insight

Growing demand for healthier options, convenience food, ethnic and exotic foods, and premiumisation emerge as key market trends.

Panel Discussion 7



Topic: Intellectual Property Rights, Legal Aspects, Mergers and Acquisitions, Investments in International Business

The panel addressed the complexities of intellectual property rights, legalities of international business, and strategic considerations in mergers and acquisitions. The discussion shed light on how businesses can navigate and leverage these areas for global expansion.

Participants:

Dr. Mohaan Dewan
Principal, R. K. Dewan & Co.

Radhika Iyer
Partner, Khaitan & Co.

Hormazd Charna
Founder, MergerDomo Services Pvt. Ltd.

Session Moderator:

Raman Nanda
CEO, STEP Transformations

Dr. Mohaan Dewan stressed the importance of understanding and capitalising on intellectual property rights (IPR) for businesses to succeed internationally.



Dr. Mohaan Dewan
Principal,
R. K. Dewan & Co.
and Intellectual Property
Rights Expert.

I have seen that despite global connectivity, IPR still suffers from territorial limitations. Indian businesses often encounter challenges when protecting trademarks internationally. It is common to deal with disputes involving former traders and distributors. Trademark and branding should be among the first considerations for a business, not an afterthought. It is crucial to secure your trademarks in both your home country and those where you wish to operate. Unfortunately, many Indian companies overlook the capitalisation of IPR, a critical aspect of international mergers and acquisitions. This mindset must evolve.



Radhika Iyer

Partner,
Khaitan & Co.

Radhika Iyer highlighted the need for being up-to-date with international regulations and the importance of reciprocity in international mergers and acquisitions.

Staying abreast of regulatory updates is imperative for business expansion. In international mergers and acquisitions, the reciprocity offered by a foreign entity is vital. India's market strength lies in the financial guarantees provided by businesses, especially during acquisitions. While MSMEs enjoy numerous benefits domestically, it is equally important for global jurisdictions to recognise and offer similar initial advantages. Therefore, understanding the legal environment of the international markets is crucial for Indian businesses aiming to scale globally.



Hormazd Charna

Founder,
MergerDomo Services
Pvt. Ltd.

Hormazd Charna focused on the four key aspects of mergers, acquisitions, and international business investments: strategic planning, operational excellence, supply chain, and finance.

The rise of private credit in India is noteworthy; it is not a new concept but is now being structured in ways that offer greater flexibility. Despite higher interest rates, the availability of funds has facilitated easier acquisitions. Companies can raise capital through various avenues, including debt, equity, and the Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) route, among others.

Panel Discussion 8



Topic: Exploring Trade Opportunities in Peru, Zambia, South Africa, Indonesia, and Angola

The panel discussion illuminated the avenues for Indian businesses to venture into and expand their reach within the dynamic markets of Peru, Zambia, South Africa, Indonesia, and Angola, focusing on enhancing bilateral trade relationships.

Participants:

H.E. Javier Paulinich
Ambassador of Peru to India

H.E. Percy Chanda
High Commissioner of Zambia

Monita Carolissen
Chargé d'Affaires for the South Africa Consulate General in Mumbai

Eddy Wardoyo
Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia in Mumbai

Nsimba Lutumba Simoa
Consultant, Embassy of the Republic of Angola

Session Moderator:

Prashant Girbane
Director General, MCCIA

H.E. Javier Paulinich presented Peru as a stable, resource-rich economy with burgeoning opportunities for Indian businesses in mining, pharmaceuticals, and digital payment systems.



H.E. Javier Paulinich
Ambassador of Peru to India

Like India, Peru boasts an ancient heritage and robust economy. Our consistent exchange rate and lack of external debt create a welcoming climate for investment. As a leading mining nation, we are ripe with opportunities for Indian enterprises, particularly in sectors like IT and pharmaceuticals. I invite Indian companies to seize these prospects, and I am eager to see UPI in Peru to further financial inclusion. Our commitment to mutual prosperity with India, especially with a city like Pune, remains solid.



H.E. Percy Chanda
High Commissioner of Zambia

H.E. Percy Chanda highlighted Zambia's wealth of natural resources, favorable business regulations, and the safety and opportunities for investment, particularly in agriculture, tourism, and electric vehicles.

Zambia, rich in untapped natural resources and strategically located, acts as a gateway to eight other African countries, amplifying the potential for business. We are fostering a nurturing environment for SMEs and promise swift business approvals. Our peaceful, investment-friendly stance, coupled with a wealth of raw materials, ensures that your investments, especially in emerging sectors like agriculture and electric vehicles, are secure with us.



Monita Carolissen
Chargé d'Affaires for the South Africa Consulate General in Mumbai

Monita Carolissen described South Africa's strategic position as an economic powerhouse in Africa with potential growth areas in trade, including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and automotive industries.

South Africa, a leading country of the African continent, offers a flourishing market for Indian companies. Our infrastructure, banking, and the thriving presence of MNCs position us as an ideal partner for economic ventures. There is ample room to grow bilateral trade, which will not only fuel economic progress but also strengthen our bonds. With lucrative and secure opportunities, especially in sectors like agriculture, I look forward to expanding our trade relationships.



Eddy Wardoyo
Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia in Mumbai

Eddy Wardoyo emphasised the cultural ties and economic cooperation between India and Indonesia, outlining the scope for Indian investment in infrastructure, energy, and technology sectors.

The historical and cultural bonds between India and Indonesia lay the foundation for our strong trade and economic relations. With significant participation from India in our business expos, notably from MCCIA, it is essential to maintain this mutual understanding. The impending MoU on the use of local currencies will ease economic cooperation. Sectors like infrastructure and technology beckon Indian investment, and our strategic positions promise a bright future for our bilateral trade.



Nsimba Lutumba Simoa
Consultant, Embassy of the Republic of Angola

Nsimba Lutumba Simoa shared insights on Angola's trade and investment landscape, underlining the country's strong ties with India and the ease of doing business.

Angola, a significant economy among Africa's 54 countries, offers immense business potential, particularly in food processing and agro-products. Our longstanding and robust relationship with India positions us favorably for bilateral cooperation. A noteworthy advantage for Indian enterprises considering Angola is the visa exemption, facilitating smoother business engagements. Currently, India's IT services find a market in Angola, while we, in turn, provide a variety of sea products to India. Angola's landscape is ripe for Indian businesses looking to explore new frontiers.

Insights 3



Topic: Trade and Investment Opportunities in Karlsruhe, Germany

Dive into the vibrant city of Karlsruhe, Germany, positioned uniquely at the heart of Europe, offering unparalleled access to the continent's markets. Discover how Karlsruhe's robust connectivity, industry clusters, and bilateral ties with India create a fertile ground for businesses looking to expand into European markets.

Ralf Eichhorn,
Head of Innovation and International Affairs Unit, Economic Development Department,
City of Karlsruhe

Karlsruhe: Gateway to European Innovation and Trade

Karlsruhe, with its prime location in Europe, offers direct access to major markets and is well-connected through a comprehensive network of rail, road, air, and waterways, including high-speed trains to Paris. Our city witnesses steady growth in collaborations with India and Maharashtra since 2013, sharing numerous similarities with Pune in sectors like IT, automobile, and energy. We take pride in our bilateral trade relationship with India, facilitated by platforms like www.india-karlsruhe.com, which keep our communities interconnected.

Karlsruhe is not just a business hub but also a city of education and research excellence, providing a quality lifestyle and opportunities in emerging sectors such as manufacturing. We invite Indian companies to explore Karlsruhe as a gateway to innovation and success in Europe. Our ongoing cooperation with MCCIA since 2012 underlines our commitment to supporting MSMEs in navigating the European business landscape. We are eager to welcome Indian businesses to collaborate with us and leverage the myriad opportunities Karlsruhe has to offer.

Highlights

Karlsruhe stands as a central hub in Europe, boasting exceptional connectivity and a rich tapestry of industry clusters mirroring Pune's strengths in IT, digitisation, automobile, and energy sectors. The city's strategic relationships, particularly with Pune and Maharashtra, are nurtured through various platforms and initiatives, promoting a deep-rooted bilateral trade rapport.

Panel Discussion 9



Topic: Trade and Investment Opportunities with Thuringia, Germany

The panel discussion provided a comprehensive overview of Thuringia, Germany, revealing the trade and investment opportunities within the region. Participants discussed the advantages that Thuringia offers to Indian businesses and the collaborative potential that exists.

Participants:

Anita Spiegler
Project Manager (Asia), Thuringia International

Lena Lüneburger
General Manager, Werkzeugbau Ruhla

Victoria Messe
Sales Engineer, Maximator

J. V. Ingale
Managing Director, GBN Techexpert Nano Coating Surface Pvt. Ltd.

Session Moderators:



Mike Batra
Managing Director, Wamser + Batra



Karl Freedman
Director, Wamser + Batra

Mike Batra and **Karl Freedman** illuminated Thuringia's commitment to innovation and its invitation to Indian enterprises to partake in its growth, reinforcing the theme of global cooperation for mutual advancement.

Thuringia, heralded as the Free State of central Germany, covers an area of 16,171 square kilometers and prides itself on its deep industrial roots and strategic European location. With its rich history and innovation in automotive, IT, energy, and creative industries, Thuringia mirrors the vibrant industrial ecosystem of Pune, fostering a strong bilateral trade relationship with India and Maharashtra.

The state's infrastructure, including its rail, road, air, and waterway networks, ensures all major German cities are within a five-hour reach. This logistical advantage, coupled with Thuringia's skilled workforce and the presence of leading global companies like Daimler and Bosch, sets an ideal stage for Indian businesses looking to enter the European market.

Thuringia houses over 40 R&D facilities and 13 universities that collaborate closely with the industry. We would like to highlight Thuringia's identity as the 'Green Heart of Germany,' where economic opportunities are interwoven with an outstanding quality of life, illustrated by its natural beauty and commitment to sustainability. We invite Indian businesses and individuals to discover the abundant opportunities our state presents.



Anita Spiegler
Project Manager (Asia),
Thuringia International

Anita Spiegler (attending online) showcased Thuringia as a central European hub for optics, photonics, and sensor technology, inviting Indian investment.

Representing Thuringia International, I have shared that our region, with its central location in Germany, is ideal for businesses seeking access to the European market. We are proud of our cultural heritage and strong industry sectors, and we are actively seeking the first investment from India.



Lena Lüneburger
General Manager,
Werkzeugbau Ruhla

Lena Lüneburger (attending online) highlighted Werkzeugbau Ruhla's focus on medical molds and the company's openness to Indian partnerships.

At Werkzeugbau Ruhla, we specialise in medical molds used globally, including for syringes. We are eager to expand our partnerships, particularly with Indian firms looking to venture into the German market.



Victoria Messe
Sales Engineer,
Maximator

Victoria Messe (attending online) spoke of Maximator's leadership in high-pressure technology and the firm's expansion into hydrogen refueling stations.

Maximator is at the forefront of high-pressure technology and is developing our network in the hydrogen industry. We are also present in India, reflecting our commitment to fostering international industry ties.



J. V. Ingale
Managing Director,
GBN Techexpert Nano
Coating Surface Pvt. Ltd.

J. V. Ingale (attending online) detailed GBN Techexpert's Indo-German joint venture and its expertise in high-end functional coatings.

As a joint Indo-German venture, GBN Techexpert is at the cutting edge of functional coatings. We offer a range of solutions and are looking to collaborate with companies seeking specialised surface finishing technologies.

Panel Discussion 10



Topic: Empowerment and Success Stories of Women Entrepreneurs

Highlighting MCCIA's commitment to promoting women in business, this panel featured influential women entrepreneurs sharing their personal journeys, business scaling strategies, leadership qualities, and insights on embracing entrepreneurship.

Participants:

Nandita Khaire
Mentor, MCCIA's Center of Excellence for Women Entrepreneurs

Preeti Raskar
Founder, Ryka Engineering Solutions

Reshma Mulla
Director, Mahek Industries

Session Moderator:

Prachi Shevgaonkar
Founder and CEO, Cool The Globe

Nandita Khaire discussed the growth of nano-entrepreneurs and emphasised the importance of marketing, mentorship, and wellbeing in entrepreneurship.



Nandita Khaire
Mentor, MCCIA's Center of Excellence for Women Entrepreneurs

I have witnessed many nano-entrepreneurs transform their passions into successful businesses. For me, scaling up means nurturing your business from a home-grown venture to broader horizons, with the right spirit being paramount. Marketing and branding are key, but often misunderstood—it is not about the budget but about smart strategies and effective communication. With support from organisations like MCCIA, women entrepreneurs can find the education and mentoring they need. It is vital for women to maintain their health while pursuing success and to approach marketing with confidence and expert assistance.



Preeti Raskar
Founder, Ryka
Engineering Solutions

Preeti Raskar shared her transition from an employee to an entrepreneur, highlighting the role of mentorship and skills development in her journey.

My background wasn't rooted in business, but encouragement from my former employer sparked the idea to start my own venture. The journey also began without funds, yet conversations with clients and vendors, and support from MCCIA, guided my path. Now, after six years, my business has grown significantly. MCCIA's skill development programmes, especially those teaching the use of social media for lead generation, were invaluable. To upcoming women entrepreneurs, I say: acquire new skills beyond your comfort zone and forge ahead.



Reshma Mulla
Director, Mahek
Industries

Reshma Mulla narrated her experience of breaking stereotypes in her community and the role of family support and self-confidence in establishing her business.

It was my father's passion and encouragement that propelled me to enter the business world. Starting in 2006, the early days were challenging, yet they fortified my resolve. Confidence and a willingness to learn are crucial, not just in business but in all life's pursuits. I owe my success to the unwavering support of my parents, husband, family, friends, and team. My advice to the youth is to work hard with dedication and commitment to whatever you undertake.

B2B Meetings

Bridging Business Horizons

The B2B meetings were a central highlight of this year's Pune International Business Summit (PIBS). In this dynamic session, representatives from a variety of Indian business sectors had the opportunity to engage with trade representatives from other countries. This unique facet of the summit provided a direct platform for Indian businesses to seek and expand their horizons in international markets. MCCIA took a significant step forward by organising one-to-one business meetings with business delegates from abroad offering ample opportunities for Indian companies to position themselves within the global marketplace.









On the inaugural day of the summit, the B2B meetings saw business delegations from countries including Singapore, Israel, and Belgium engage in one-on-one discussions with participants at the Pune International Business Summit 2024. A notable number of individuals participated in these meetings, which spanned diverse sectors such as manufacturing, automotive, cybersecurity, technology, branding and marketing, legal advisory services, and many more. In these encounters, overseas delegates and Indian participants delved into a multitude of business opportunities.

On the second day, representatives from sectors including manufacturing, agro-food processing, investment, and technology solutions interacted with international delegates from the USA and Singapore, among others, continuing the productive discourse initiated the previous day.

Rohit Dhangal,

Proprietor, Swati Group, Pune, India:

"This was my maiden attendance at the PIBS conference, and I am immensely pleased with the expansive arrangements. The summit, orchestrated meticulously by MCCIA, promises to benefit a multitude of sectors, including agriculture, engineering, and many others, and will undoubtedly be advantageous for both us and the visiting delegates."

Tomer Panker,

CTO, Link-Shield (Cyber Security Startup), Israel:

"Engaging with various Indian companies has opened discussions on potential collaborations and distribution strategies for our cyber phishing solutions in India. We also proposed joint ventures to enhance our technology in both cybersecurity and AI. Being part of this summit has facilitated personal connections, allowing us to understand specific needs and explore collaborative potential. I eagerly anticipate a joint venture with an Indian partner."

Chinmay Khedkar,

Circle 360 Brand Solutions, Pune, India:

"The platform provided by the summit was exceptional. It enabled us to meet international stakeholders, understand their expectations, and tailor our services to their requirements. Engaging with delegates from Israel and Singapore has marked a promising start, despite the understanding that convergence takes time."

Adv. Sayali Ganu-Dabake,

Founder Partner, Lexonomix, Pune, India:

"Participating in PIBS for the second consecutive year, the introduction of B2B meetings has been a notable addition. These sessions proved valuable in connecting with government representatives from various countries, aiding in establishing introductions to companies and exploring service opportunities. My interactions with officials and business representatives from Singapore, Belgium, and Israel have been particularly fruitful."

Strategic Engagements

Board Room Meetings

The Pune International Business Summit 2024 facilitated a series of board room meetings, marking a cornerstone for fostering international trade relations and exploring investment opportunities. These high-level discussions provided a unique platform for direct engagement between Indian corporate leaders and international dignitaries, aiming to expand business horizons and strengthen global partnerships.



Flanders, Belgium:

Address by:

Wouter Vanhees,

Trade and Investment Commissioner

In a focused dialogue on expanding trade between India and Flanders, Wouter Vanhees outlined the myriad opportunities within the Dutch-speaking region of Belgium. Renowned for its diamond trade via Antwerp and a longstanding partnership with India, Flanders presents vast potential across various sectors. Vanhees committed to addressing enquiries from Indian companies, highlighting the strategic benefits of engaging with Flanders for mutual growth.



South Africa:

Address by:

Monita Carolissen,

Charge de Affaires, South Africa Consulate General in Mumbai

Monita Carolissen emphasised the longstanding business and trade ties between India and South Africa, identifying sectors like biofuels, renewable energy, and green technology as areas ripe for Indian investment. Highlighting South Africa's role as a gateway to the African continent, she encouraged Indian companies to leverage this opportunity, especially in mining and green energy sectors.



Indonesia:

Address by:

Eddy Wardoyo,

Consul General of The Republic of Indonesia in Mumbai

Eddy Wardoyo discussed the flourishing trade dynamics between India and Indonesia, underpinned by the India-ASEAN free trade agreement. With bilateral trade reaching approximately $38 billion in FY 2022-23, he underscored the importance of focusing on textiles, medicine, green energy, and digital innovations to strengthen economic diplomacy and explore new avenues of collaboration.



Zambia:

Address by:

H.E. Percy Chanda,

High Commissioner to Zambia

Highlighting Zambia's abundant natural resources, H.E. Percy Chanda outlined the country as a gateway to business opportunities across the South African region. With a focus on PPP models, Zambia invites Indian companies to explore sectors like textiles, leather, and technology, aiming to bolster the bilateral trade relationship and become potential long-term partners.



Peru:

Address by:

H.E. Javier Paulinich,

Ambassador for Peru to India

Ambassador Paulinich detailed Peru's geographic advantage and its pivotal role in Pacific trade routes. With an emphasis on sectors such as transport, digital technology, and pharmaceuticals, he presented Peru as a lucrative market for Indian businesses, especially in mining and agro machinery. The session highlighted Indo-Pacific collaboration opportunities, inviting Indian companies to explore the vast potential within Peru and beyond.

Snippets

Inaugural Session



The Pune International Business Summit's fifth edition commenced with a promise to bolster the global business potential of Indian enterprises. Esteemed international delegates graced the event, creating a dynamic forum for trade and investment opportunities.

Report Unveiling



The summit witnessed the release of 'Changing Tides of the Pune Automotive Industry,' a comprehensive report by MCCIA in association with KPMG. The study provides an in-depth look at the sector's evolution and its workforce and recognising the importance of comprehending the emerging trends of 'new mobility' and their implications.

Brand Engagement



Rajesh Rane of Marrquee Events Pvt. Ltd. delivered insights on the rising influence of experiential marketing. He illustrated its success in creating memorable brand interactions that build loyalty and recognition, highlighting Marrquee's award-winning execution at major events, including the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023. With experiential marketing's proven impact, evidenced by the latest industry data, Rane advocates for brands to adopt this innovative strategy for effective audience engagement.



We Express our sincere gratitude to Deepak Karandikar, President, MCCIA, sponsors, partners and to all those who have directly or indirectly helped in making the 5th edition of Pune International Business Summit (PIBS) 2024 a great success.

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- MergerDomo Services Pvt. Ltd.
- Thuringia International
- Economic Development Department of the City of Karlsruhe
- Institute of Management Development and Research (IMDR)
- Marcraft and Alliance
- CyberArk Software, Inc.
- Fidel Softech Ltd.
- Axis Bank Ltd.

Announcement

The 6th edition of the Pune International Business Summit (PIBS) 2025 will convene on the 24th and 25th of February 2025.

Media Coverage

'पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिट'मध्ये अन्नप्रक्रियेवर चर्चा

पुण्यात २६, २७ रोजी आयोजन; वाणिज्यदूतांशी संवादाची संधी

ओंकार पुसाळकर

पुणे : जगातील १२ देशांमधील वाणिज्यदूतांशी थेट संवादाची संधी मिळवून देणाऱ्या 'पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिट २०२४' यंदाही आम्रप्रक्रिया क्षेत्रातील संधींवरच चर्चा होणार आहे.

'मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स, इंडस्ट्रीज अँड अॅग्रिकल्चर'ने (एमसीसीआयए) या परिषदेचे आयोजन केले आहे. पुण्यातील एका हॉटेलमध्ये येत्या सोमवारी व मंगळवारी (ता. २६, २७) केले जाते. केंद्रीय वाणिज्य व उद्योगमंत्री पीयूष गोयल दूरदृश्यप्रणालीद्वारे परिषदेला मार्गदर्शन करतील.

'एमसीसीआए'चे अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद म्हणाले, "राज्यातील उद्योग, कृषी, अन्न प्रक्रिया क्षेत्रातील २५० छोटे व मध्यम उद्योजक परिषदेत सहभागी होतील. या परिषदेमुळे निर्यातवाढ, राज्यात गुंतवणुकीला चालना मिळेल. पुणेप्रादेशिकच्या जागतिक दर्जाच्या अटीमोटिव्ह इंडस्ट्रीची साखळी पक्कम करणे, व्यापारात खेळाडू-पण्यण उद्योजकांना, महिलांचे, स्टार्टअपमधल नव्या संधी मिळवून देणे हा मुख्य हेतू आहे."

महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने म्हणाले, "अन्न प्रक्रिया क्षेत्रातील अडीचशे कंपन्या पुण्याच्या आसपास आहेत. देशाचे एकूण सकल उत्पादन वाढत असताना वेतिहास व प्रक्रियायुक्त अशा दोन्ही क्षेत्रांतील अन्न पदार्थांना मागणी वाढत जाणार आहे. त्यामुळे या क्षेत्रातील नव्या संधीचा शोध घेण्याच्या प्रयत्न परिषदेत केला जाईल. त्यासाठी प्रवेश मासलेवाले उद्योग समूहाचे संचालक आनंद फोरोदया यांच्या मेतृत्वाखाली या परिषदेत चर्चा घडवून आणली जाईल."

देशातील उद्याच्या उद्योगती आपल्या पहाचे पक्क या परिषदेत प्रामुख्याने मांडतील. यात बाबा कल्याणी (भारत फोर्ज), रवी पंडित (केपीआयटी टेक्नॉलॉजिज), नीरावर फोर्ब्ज (फोर्ब्ज मार्शल), प्रदीप भार्गव (एमसीसीए), आदिर गोयल (टाटा ऑटोकॉम्प), आनंद देशपांडे (पर्सिस्टन्ट सिस्टिम्स) यांचा समावेश आहे. परिषदेत सहभागासाठी https://mcciapune.com/events/events-detail-page/1791/ या संकेतस्थळावर माहिती मिळू सकेल, असे संयोजकांनी स्पष्ट केले.

सायबर सिक्युरिटी सेंटर होणार

राज्यातील उद्योग व कॉर्पोरेट सायबर हल्ल्यापासून पोक्त सतत जागरूकी आहे. त्यामुळे सायबर सुरक्षा कवच तसेच या क्षेत्रातील कौशल्यविकासात सुविधा देण्यासाठी मराठा चेंबरने 'सेंटर एक्सलन्स फॉर सायबर सिक्युरिटी'ची स्थापना करण्याचा निर्णय घेतला आहे. त्यासाठी अमेरिकेच्या व इस्त्रायलमधील तज्ज्ञांची मदत घेतली जात आहे. याद्दल कंपनीकडे या केंद्राची जबाबदारी असेल.

Agrowon 21.2.2024 P.no.6

स्थानिक उद्योगांना जागतिक व्यापाराची संधी

मराठा चेंबरच्या वतीने पाठपुरावा 'पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिट'चे आयोजन

पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिटची वैशिष्ट्ये

- १२ देशांच्या वाणिज्यदूतांशी व्यापारविषयक चर्चासत्र
- आम्रप्रक्रिया व्यवसायातील उद्योग-गुंतवणुकीच्या संधी
- निर्यात-व्यवसायवृद्धीसाठी द्विपक्षीय चर्चासत्र
- उद्योजकांसाठी व्यापार प्रतिनिधी मंडळाचे आयोजन

PUNE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SUMMIT 2024

Piyush Goyal to speak at MSME conclave in Pune

Pune: Union commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal is scheduled to speak at a conclave organised by Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA) on February 26-27 to encourage exports by MSMEs in the Pune region. The conclave includes facilitating interactions between MSMEs and consul generals from 12 countries. Anout 150 MSMEs are likely to attend the event. TNN

Times of India 21.2.2024 P.no.20

पुणे बिझनेस समिट २६, २७ फेब्रुवारीला

पुणे : पुणे परिसरातील उद्योजकांसाठी 'मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स इंडस्ट्रीज आणि ॲग्रीकल्चर'ने (एमसीसीआए) 'पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिट' चे आयोजन केले आहे. ही परिषद २६ आणि २७ फेब्रुवारीला सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील हॉटेल जे. डब्ल्यू. मॅरियटमध्ये होणार आहे.

परिषदेचे उद्घाटन २६ फेब्रुवारीला सकाळी १० वाजता होणार आहे. या वेळी केंद्री वाणिज्यमंत्री पीयूष गोयल व्हिडिओद्वारे संवाद साधणार आहेत. त्यानंतर 'भारत फोर्ज लिमिटेड'चे अध्यक्ष बाबा कल्याणी आणि 'केपीआयटी टेक्नॉलॉजीज लिमिटेड'च्या बोर्डाचे अध्यक्ष रवी पंडित उद्योजकांशी संवाद साधतील. पुण्यातील वाहन उद्योगातील बदलांचा वेध घेण्याच्या आदानप्रदान होणार आहे, अशी माहिती 'एमसीसीआए'चे अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद आणि महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने यांनी दिली.

जर्मनी, इंडोनेशिया, इस्त्रायल, पेरू, दक्षिण आफ्रिका, सिंगापोर, अमेरिका या देशांतील वाणिज्यदूत परिषदेत उपस्थित राहणार आहेत. पिंपरी-चिंचवड महापालिका आयुक्त शेखर सिंह, पुणे जिल्हा परिषदेचे मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी आयुष प्रसाद, पुणे विभागीय आयुक्त सौरभ राव, पुणे जिल्हाधिकारी डॉ. राजेश देशमुख, पोलिस आयुक्त अमितेश कुमार, पिंपरी-चिंचवड पोलिस आयुक्त विनयकुमार चौबे, पुणे ग्रामीण पोलिस अधीक्षक डॉ. अभिनव देशमुख, पिंपरी-चिंचवड पोलिस अधीक्षक बसवराज तेली, पुणे जिल्हा परिषदेचे मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी आयुष प्रसाद यांच्यासह विविध विभागांचे अधिकारी या परिषदेत मार्गदर्शन करणार आहेत.

Maharashtra Times 21.2.2024 P.no.3

पुण्यातील उद्योजकांसाठी आंतरराष्ट्रीय परिषद

पुणे, ता. २१ : पुणे आणि परिसरातील उद्योजकांना आपल्या मालाच्या निर्यातीबाबत मार्गदर्शन आणि संधी मिळाव्यात म्हणून मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स अँड इंडस्ट्रीजने (एमसीसीआए) पुणे आंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यवसाय परिषदेचे आयोजन केले आहे.

'एमसीसीआए'चे अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद आणि महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने यांनी पत्रकार परिषदेत ही माहिती दिली. सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील हॉटेल जे डब्ल्यू मॅरियटमध्ये २६ आणि २७ फेब्रुवारीला ही परिषद होईल. २६ तारखेला सकाळी १० वाजता उद्घाटनाच्या सत्रात केंद्रीय वाणिज्य व उद्योगमंत्री पीयूष गोयल व्हिडिओ कॉन्फरन्सद्वारे संवाद साधतील. त्यानंतर भारत फोर्जचे अध्यक्ष व व्यवस्थापकीय संचालक बाबा कल्याणी आणि केपीआयटी टेक्नॉलॉजीजच्या मंडळाचे अध्यक्ष रवी पंडित उद्योजकांशी संवाद साधतील. या परिषदेत जर्मनी, इंडोनेशिया, इस्त्राईल, पेरू, दक्षिण आफ्रिका, सिंगापूर, अमेरिका आणि १२ देशांचे वाणिज्य दूत उपस्थित राहतील.

परिषदेत या मुद्द्यांवर चर्चा...

- परदेशात उत्पादन पाठवता यावे, यासाठीची आवश्यक माहिती
- आंतरराष्ट्रीय स्पर्धात आणि गुंतवणुकीतील संधांचे ज्ञान
- प्रमाणित वाणिज्यिक पुरावा साखळी बाजारात करणे
- पर्यायी विक्रेता साखळी विकसित करणे
- एक्सपर्ट, स्टार्ट-अप आणि महिलांच्या नेतृत्वाखालील व्यवसायांशी जागतिक संधीचा शोध
- आंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यवसाय वाढीस सहाय्य करण्यात तंत्रज्ञानाचे महत्व

Sakal 22.2.2024 Today P.no.1

US Consulate and MCCIA sign crucial cyber security initiative

Nadeem Inamdar

PUNE: Consul general at the US Consulate General, Mumbai, Mike Hankey, on Monday stressed that the US Consulate and MCCIA's first ever cyber security initiative in Pune is aimed at combating identity theft-related scams, intellectual property rights' violations, cybercrimes and a host of other cyber challenges.

Hankey, while speaking to reporters after the launch of the Centre of Excellence for Cyber Security during the MCCIA-organised Pune International Business Summit, said that the entity will act as a platform for joint strategic initiatives where like-minded partner nations such as the United States, Israel and India will counter cyber security threats through research and development-led cyber safety solutions.

"The cyber initiative is a collaboration between the two countries to counter these violations. Once this issue is addressed, it will increase our confidence to do business and raise the economic levels of both the countries," Hankey explained.

Suggesting a three-pronged approach for developing the MCCIA Pune cyber initiative, Hankey said, "We will be connecting the best of cyber security companies from the US and India for crafting jointly developed cyber security solutions."

Hankey said that the collaboration should include working with research institutions, industry, and civil society to raise cyber defence and infrastructure, and protect sensitive information.

"We need to improve our ability to respond to and recover from cyber threats. Our two countries have a variety of collaborations on cybersecurity capacity-building, cyber security research and development, combating cybercrime, international security, and internet governance," he said.

MCCIA president Deepak Karandikar and director-general Prashant Giribane also reiterated the centre's strategic importance for citizens, businesses, and governments.

'Unused land will be used for MSME sector'

The Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) Commissioner Shekhar Singh on Monday stressed the need to increase the livability index in the PCMC area with a special focus on developing civic amenities in the area. Singh was addressing a gathering of businessmen during the Pune International Business Summit organised by the MCCIA. Singh said that the administration aims to have the MSME sector in the area and would ensure that more land would be made available for the specific purpose.

US-INDIA CYBER SECURITY COLLABORATION

Some examples of the United States and India working together:

- A deal to increase cyber security collaboration where the US-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (ICET) is a collaborative framework to enhance cooperation in the developing fields of technology, announced by President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in May 2022.
- The ICET seeks to elevate and expand the bilateral strategic technology partnership and defence industrial cooperation between the governments, businesses, and academic institutions of the two countries.

(From left) MCCIA IT committee's Dinanath Holkar, MCCIA director general Prashant Giribane and Mike Hankey -Consul General of the US in Mumbai.

Hindustan Times 27.2.2024 P.no.3

'आगामी दशक भारताचेच'

म. टा. प्रतिनिधी, पुणे

"सरकारच्या उद्योगसुलभ धोरणांमुळे भारत जागतिक गुंतवणुकीसाठी सर्वोत्तम ठिकाण आहे. इलेक्ट्रिक वाहने, सेमीकंडक्टर, हरित हायड्रोजन, जैवइंधन अशा उद्योगमुख क्षेत्रात विपुल संधी उपलब्ध आहेत. त्या जोरावर देश विकसित भारत या ध्येयाकडे कूच करीत आहे.

- पीयूष गोयल, केंद्रीय वाणिज्यमंत्री

"'चॅट जीपीटी'सारख्या कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ताधारित ऑपिकेशनमुळे नोकऱ्या जाणार नाहीत; परंतु, स्वरूप बदललेले असेल. मानवी प्रज्ञा व कल्पनाशक्तीला केवीच पर्याय असणार नाही. कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्तेमुळे काम जलदगतीने पूर्ण होईल आणि नवनवीन क्षेत्रात संधी उपलब्ध होतील.

- रवी पंडित, अध्यक्ष, 'केपीआयटी' टेक्नोलॉजी

"कुजेंच नवनवे पर्याय, तंत्रकुशल मनुष्यबळ, परवानाधारित लालफीतशाहीचा अस्त आणि कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्तेमुळे (एआय) उत्पादन क्षेत्रात मोठे परिवर्तन होत आहे. त्यामुळे देशाचे सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पन्न (जीडीपी) पंचवीस टक्क्यांनी वाढण्याचा अंदाज असून, आगामी दशक भारताचेच असेल, असा विश्वास ज्येष्ठ उद्योगपती व भारत फोर्ज समूहाचे अध्यक्ष तथा व्यवस्थापकीय संचालक बाबा कल्याणी यांनी सोमवारी व्यक्त केला.

मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स, इंडस्ट्रीज अँड ॲग्रीकल्चरच्या (एमसीसीआए) वतीने सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील जे. डब्ल्यू. मॅरिएट हॉटेलमध्ये आयोजित 'पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिट'मध्ये ते बोलत होते. 'केपीआयटी' टेक्नोलॉजीचे अध्यक्ष रवी पंडित यांनी त्यांच्याशी संवाद साधला. चेंबरचे अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद, महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने यांच्यासह विविध क्षेत्रांतील नामवंत उद्योजक, गुंतवणूकदार, शिक्षण संस्थांचे प्रमुख, विविध देशांचे वाणिज्यदूत उपस्थित होते. या वेळी बाबा कल्याणी यांनी पुण्यातील उद्योगांची सद्यःस्थिती व भविष्यातील संधींबाबत कल्याणी यांनी आपले विचार मांडले.

ते म्हणाले, "पारिस्थात्य जगत इंधनाचे पर्यायांकडे वळत आहे. मात्र, भारत अपारंपरिक ऊर्जास्रोतांच्या माध्यमातून ऊर्जेचे नवीन पर्याय उपलब्ध करत आहे. तसेच देशभरात नवउद्योजकांचे एक साखळी उभी राहत असून, येणाऱ्या दशकातील भारताच्या स्वर्तत्र्यच्या शंभराव्या वर्षात पुणे शहर नव्या उंचीवर असेल," असा विश्वास त्यांनी व्यक्त केला. 'पुण्यातील समूह सॉफ्टवेअर क्षेत्रात जगात आघाडीवर आहे. महिती व तंत्रज्ञान आणि उद्योजकतेच्या संस्कृतीमुळे पुणे स्टार्टअपसाठी पसंतीचे शहर आहे. कोरोनाच्या काळात पुण्यात विकसित लसीने 'जगभरातील अस्तंख्य जीव वाचविले आहेत,' असेही ते म्हणाले.

'पुणे नव्या उंचीवर जाणार'

केंद्रीय वाणिज्यमंत्री पीयूष गोयल यांनी 'व्हिडिओ'द्वारे परिषदेतील उपस्थितांशी संवाद साधला. 'देशाच्या प्रगतीचे हे दोलक आहे. सध्या जगी आपण उत्पादन क्षेत्राच्या बाबतीत फोकेअर असलो, तरी कोरोनानंतर ही परिस्थिती आता बदलत आहे. परिस्थिता या क्षेत्राचे आपण नेतृत्व करणार आहोत," संरक्षण क्षेत्रात खासगी उद्योगांचा सहभाग वाढल्याने देश आपत घोरणाकडून आता निर्यात घोरणाकडे वळत आहे, असा अनुभवही कल्याणी यांनी सांगितला. परिषदेचे उद्घाटन केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल यांच्या व्यक्तिचित्रिणीने झाली. परिषदेची प्रस्तावना 'एमसीसीआए'चे महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने यांनी केली. स्वागत अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद यांनी केले. उद्योग क्षेत्रातील दिग्गजांची विविध सत्रे परिषदेत आयोजित करण्यात आली आहे. तसेच सेट फॉर एक्सलन्स' आणि सायबर सिक्युरिटीजचे उद्घाटनही परिषदेत झाले.

Maharashtra Times 27.2.2024 P.no.3

San Jose & Texas eye partnership with Pune's cybersecurity centre

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US Consul General in Mumbai Mike Hankey (second from left) at the launch of the centre of excellence for cybersecurity

Pune: San Jose mayor Matthew Mahan and state of Texas as in US, along with several major universities and companies, have shown interest to collaborate with the proposed city-based centre of excellence for cybersecurity.

Launched by the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (Mccia), the centre of excellence would act as "a launching pad for stakeholders in the cybersecurity space to tie-up for skilling and also share knowledge", Mike Hankey, Consul General for the United States of America in Mumbai, said on Monday.

"I believe that through the connections we are building in this centre and we will build through this platform, we will see solutions coming at a much faster pace. Just over the weekend, the Mayor Matt Mahan of San Jose, part of the heart of sicilon valley, wrote to us in a formal letter to dedicate my city partnership supporting this relationship. A delegation from Austin, the capital of the state of Texas, said that it is also committed to this effort," Hankey said at the launch.

The centre was launched with an aim of bringing the US companies wanting to do business in Pune, skill development in cybersecurity and open up possibilities for collaborations. The centre will aid MSMEs, startups, academia and the IT sector in India. On the Indian side, institutes such as Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI) along with IT companies such as Infosys and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) have shown interest in the initiative, an Mccia official said.

Kobbi Shoshani, Consul General for Israel in Mumbai, who was also present at the launch expressed the country's inclination to participate in the centre. Israel has a leadership position in the cybersecurity space and it would like to share that knowledge to its democratic partner countries to improve their defences as far as cybersecurity is concerned, he added.

"We want to see a world that is free, open, prosperous and democratic. All of those things are going to be built in the 21st century on secure connections through cyber space. They are going to be built on collaboration to fight cybercrime and R&D to develop new cybersecurity solutions which are going to be accelerated through initiatives that we have here today," Hankey said.

Hankey said that he is involved in talks with the Maharashtra government on improving measures to counter scams related to identity theft and intellectual property rights (IPR) protection and to improve collaboration between government entities on either side. The US and India have signed agreements in the cybersecurity space as part of the Quad alliance while India has also signed separate agreement with Israel for cooperation in the sector.

Hankey said that the joint strategic interest of like-minded countries is in building capacity in all of our countries in cybercrime to counter it through research of new cybersecurity solutions. The goal there is that individuals as citizens and business owners are able to operate online safely and efficiently, he added.

Times of India 27.2.2024 P.no.4

स्टार्टअपसाठी पुणे पसंतीचे शहर : गोयल



पीयूष गोयल

पुणे : केंद्रीय वाणिज्यमंत्री पीयूष गोयल यांनी पुणेकरांचे तिरंगीतीने संदेश दिला. त्यात त्यांनी म्हटले आहे की, 'माहिती व तंत्रज्ञान आणि उद्योजकतेच्या संस्कृतीमुळे पुणे स्टार्टअपसाठी पसंतीचे शहर बनले आहे. करोना काळात पुण्यात विकसित स्वदेशी लसीने जगभरात असंख्य जीव वाचविले. देशाच्या स्वातंत्र्यात्र्यात, शिक्षणाच्या वर्षात पुणे शहर नव्या उंचीवर असेल असा विश्वास व्यक्त होता. पुण्यातल समृद्ध संस्कृतीक वारसा असून हे शहर शिक्षण आणि नवकल्पना एकत्रीत झालेले केंद्र आहे. मजबूत पुण्यता साखळीच्या परिसंस्थेमुळे प्रमुख उत्पादन केंद्र असलेले पुणे आता तंत्रज्ञान क्षेत्रात जगात आघाडीवर आहे.'

Sakal 27.2.2024 p.no. 7(1)

सायबरसुरक्षा उत्कृष्टता मोहिमेचा पुण्याला मान

अमेरिकेच्या वाणिज्य दूतावासतर्फे मराठा चेंबरची संयुक्त उपक्रमाची घोषणा



अशी असेल तज्ज्ञांच्या सुरक्षा उपक्रमाची पेठ

- भारत, अमेरिकेतील कुशल वैज्ञानिक सायबर क्षेत्रात निर्माण होणारी आव्हाने यांवर उपाययोजना करणे
- विज्ञान संस्था आणि तंत्रज्ञान उद्योजक एकत्र आणणे
- सॉफ्टवेअर विकासावर भर देऊन रोजगारनिर्मिती
- आम्रप्रदेशिक सायबर सुरक्षा उपाययोजनांवर काम करणार
- हल्ले, धोके, सायबर उद्योगांच्या सायबर सुरक्षेची सुविधा

Sakal 27.2.2024 P.no.3

हे दशक भारताचेच : बाबा कल्याणी

बिझनेस समिट; उत्पादन क्षेत्रातील 'जीडीपी' २५ टक्क्यांनी वाढेल

पुणे, ता. २६ : पर्यायी इंधन स्रोतांत होणारी वाढ, उद्योगांचे विकेंद्रीकरण, तंत्रज्ञान कुशल मनुष्यबळ, लाललफितीच्या कारभाराचा अस्त आणि एआय आधारित बदलांमुळे उत्पादन क्षेत्रासाठी येणार दशक हे भारताचेच असेल, असा विश्वास भारत फोर्जचे अध्यक्ष बाबा कल्याणी यांनी व्यक्त केले. उत्पादन क्षेत्रातील सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पन्न (जीडीपी) २५ टक्क्यांनी वाढेल, असेही ते म्हणाले.



जे. डब्ल्यू. मॅरिएट, सेनापती बापट रस्ता : पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिटप्रसंगी रवी पंडित (डावीकडील) यांनी डॉ. बाबा कल्याणी यांची मुलाखत घेतली.

सेनापती बापट रस्त्यावरील हॉटेल जे. डब्ल्यू. मॅरिएट येथे आयोजित पुणे इंटरनॅशनल बिझनेस समिटमध्ये ते बोलत होते. मराठा चेंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स, इंडस्ट्रीज अँड ॲग्रिकल्चरच्या (एमसीसीआए) वतीने ही ऑलराष्ट्रीय उद्योग परिषद आयोजित करण्यात आली आहे. केपीआयटी टेक्नॉलॉजीचे रवी पंडित यांनी बाबा कल्याणी यांच्याशी संवाद साधला. वाहन उद्योगातील प्रगतीचे हे दोलक आहे. सध्या जगी आपण उत्पादन क्षेत्राच्या बाबतीत फोकेअर असलो, तरी कोरोनानंतर ही परिस्थिती आता बदलत आहे. परिस्थिता या क्षेत्राचे आपण नेतृत्व करणार आहोत," संरक्षण क्षेत्रात खासगी उद्योगांचा सहभाग वाढल्याने देश आपत घोरणाकडून आता निर्यात घोरणाकडे वळत आहे, असा अनुभवही कल्याणी यांनी सांगितला. परिषदेचे उद्घाटन केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल यांच्या व्यक्तिचित्रिणीने झाली. परिषदेची प्रस्तावना 'एमसीसीआए'चे महासंचालक प्रशांत गिरबने यांनी केली. स्वागत अध्यक्ष दीपक कपूरचंद यांनी केले. उद्योग क्षेत्रातील दिग्गजांची विविध सत्रे परिषदेत आयोजित करण्यात आली आहे. तसेच सेट फॉर एक्सलन्स' आणि सायबर सिक्युरिटीजचे उद्घाटनही परिषदेत झाले.

'चॅट जीपीटी'मुळे नवरोजगार

- कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता किंवा 'चॅट जीपीटी'मुळे नोकऱ्या जाणार नाही तर त्याचे स्वरूप बदलेल, असे मत रवी पंडितांनी यांनी व्यक्त केले. ते म्हणाले, "इंटरनेटचा असलेल्या माहितीचा संकलित आणि मांडण्याचे काम 'चॅट जीपीटी' करते. इंटरनेटच्या मानीकाने ते उडी घेऊ शकत नाही. मानवी प्रज्ञा किंवा कल्पनाशक्तीला कधीच पर्याय असणार नाही. उलट कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्तेमुळे काम जलद होईल आणि नवीन क्षेत्रात संधी उपलब्ध होणार आहे."

Sakal 27.2.2024 P.no.3

Auto industry to grow over 6x by 2047: Kalyani

GEETA NAIR
Pune, February 26



Baba Kalyani, chairman & MD, Bharat Forge, believes 100% of the auto sector won't go electric

THE INDIAN AUTOMOTIVE industry will grow six to seven-fold from the current four million vehicles per year by 2047, Baba Kalyani, chairman and managing director, Bharat Forge, said on Monday.

"It took 75 years to go from zero to four million units, and in 25 years we will go from four million to 25-30 million units, that is the kind of growth the automotive industry will see," Kalyani said. He was speaking at a fireside chat with Ravi Pandit, chairman, KPIT Technologies, at the Pune International Business Summit organised by the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture. Today, the country's automotive industry is "a follower and not a leader", with 70% of the sector dependent on foreign technology. But this will change, and 80% of the automotive industry will become Indian, he said.

The only concern is energy, with India's needs rising 3x in the next 25 years, he said. The country is unlikely to achieve the target of 20 GW of renewable energy by 2026, with current capacity less than 11 GW. For this, India needs to stop relying on imports from China.

While EVs are the flavour of the day, Kalyani said he didn't see ICE engines dying and all of the world going electric.

Bharat Forge is targeting to bring in 'lights-out manufacturing' at its Pune plant by 2026. This would mean a fully automated production system. "We can't run tomorrow's factory unless you make it fully digital," he said.

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