

**NEW**

BANGALORE CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE



# Synergy

NEWSLETTER

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1. Smt. Nirjala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India during the interaction with Industry captains of BCIC
2. Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC greets Mr. Jagadish Shettar, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries, GoK; also seen are (L to R): Mr. Ashok Saxena, Mentor, BCIC Expert Committee on Aerospace and Aviation; Mr. Gaurav Gupta, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Karnataka; Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, BCIC Expert Committee on Industry 4.0; Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Immediate Past President, BCIC
3. L to R: Mr. R Ashoka, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Government of Karnataka; Mr. T R Parasuraman, President; Mr. K R Sekar, Senior Vice President; Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President, BCIC
4. Sitting: L to R: H.E. Mr. Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to India and Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC during the MoU signing ceremony between BCIC and Indo Polish Chambers of Commerce and Industries; also seen are the Senior Members from BCIC and Diplomats from the Office of the Hon'ble Ambassador
5. (L to R): Mr. Heine Lageveen, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Bengaluru; Mr. K Ravi, Chairman, BCIC Expert Committee on International Business; H.E. Mr. Gert Heijkoop, Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in South India; Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC
6. Winners, Finalists along with Office Bearers, BCIC and Jury Panel of the BCIC Emerging Stars Award

# BCIC - VISION & MISSION



## VISION

“To be the preferred Chamber in Karnataka to facilitate business growth and add value to its stakeholders”

## MISSION

- Act as a bridge between government and industry and shape governmental policies to support “Ease of doing business”
- Be a “single point of contact” for government to grasp issues and recommendations from industries and other stakeholders
- Become a Catalyst for growth and competitiveness through sharing best practices and knowhow within the member community

## FOREWORD BY PRESIDENT



Though the year 2020 was very challenging and painful in many ways, it brought in significant learnings to mankind and going forward most of these learnings can be carried forward to promote significant competitiveness in every sector.

With the financial year end round the corner, the Union Budget spelt out, and the RBI as well as the Union Government statistics on the growth of the Q3 coming out, it is time to be cheerful but with necessary caution. Let me highlight some of the important news and announcements in the **first two months of 2021** which gives us the feeling of having overcome an economic crisis owing to the pandemic.

**The Honourable Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman addressed our members for the second time on February 21, 2021. The first was an online address just before the Union Budget**

India seems to have exited recession as GDP grows 0.4% in Q3.

Fiscal deficit hit Rs.12.34. trillion (lakh

### Dear Members of BCIC and Readers!

Wishing you and your family a very healthy, happy and prosperous 2021! Greetings for the Year!

crores) at the end of Jan '21, which is 128% of the revised estimates for the current financial year.

- RBI believes that targeting inflation between 2-6% for the monetary policy is appropriate and should be continued for the next 5 years.
- Surprising fact is that the likely contraction in Q4 needs 29% real growth in Govt spending.
- Economic recovery will be delayed with some drag towards last quarter of FY 21 despite the massive spending push of over Rs.4 trillion announced in the Budget this year.
- Consumer spending (which accounts for 60% of country's GDP) is the driving force behind the economic recovery.
- Core sector output rose by just 0.1% in Jan'21.
- Non-food bank credit has grown 6% in Jan'21.
- Healthy kharif harvest and rise in rabi sowing is a positive sign.
- Agriculture, industrial growth and services sector have moved into a positive zone.

As per ICRA, consumption is expected to strengthen only modestly in Q4 FY 21 as part of the healthier income generation to rebuild the savings buffers that were drained during the lockdown by those in the informal sector, contact-intensive industries and self-employed.

In summary, the FM has smartly balanced the growth and fiscal deficit while focusing on the mid to long term through bold and progressive norms. Though the interest rates are likely to move up over the next few years leading to higher inflation, I am sure the overall growth will bring in more money in the system; and huge job creation is likely to happen due to unprecedented spend that

is likely to happen in health, infra, agriculture, manufacturing and several other sectors.

I am also pleased to highlight some of the important happenings in our Chamber during the last quarter:

The Honourable Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman addressed our members for the second time on February 21, 2021. The first was an online address just before the Union Budget. The proceedings were streamed live across the world and was well received in print and online media. I am very happy to share that many of our recommendations have been addressed in the Budget. I am also very happy to inform that BCIC has given two white papers while one focuses on the road map for digital transformation, the other focuses on the accelerated economic recovery of India leveraging the global crisis caused due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Veteran businessmen Mr. Azim Premji, Founder Chairman, Wipro Ltd, Mr. T Mohandas Pai, Chairman - Manipal Global Education, Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty, Chairman, Narayana Hrudayalaya group, Mr. Ravi Raghavan CEO & MD of Bharat Fritz Werner Ltd and former President of CII Karnataka addressed the members and shared the dais with the Union Finance Minister.

Pre-Budget and post-Budget consultations were held with the Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, and we wish to continue this practice as we move ahead.

Several virtual sessions were addressed by eminent personalities, notably, Dr. K Kasturirangan, Former Chairman of ISRO, Dr. Sharad Marathe, Chairman of the task force setup by Ayush Ministry, Govt. of India, Prof. K. Vijayaraghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor in Prime Minister's Office, Govt. of India, Mr. Bhaskar Bhat, Former Managing

## FOREWORD BY PRESIDENT



Director of Titan Ltd, Mr. R Srinivasan, Former Managing Director, Kennametal India Ltd and Mr. Kamal Bali, Managing Director, Volvo Group to name a few.

Maiden BCIC CSR Awards whose aim was to recognise the efforts of companies for their exemplary work in the area of CSR through sustainable efforts to the community in improving their livelihood and ease of living got completed.

Maiden BCIC Emerging Stars Award achieved its objective of recognising 19 finalists with 7 winners in all. The winners and finalists of the previous version are being supported through a exchange programme over a period of accelerated assistance, mentoring, supplier and customer connect, etc .

MoU with SJCE, Mysuru would support and enable working with them as a nodal centre for BCIC. This will also enable a network expansion, the next stop being Dharwad.

MoU has been signed with BIMAAC (Bangalore International Mediation and Arbitration Centre), to bring in awareness and to promote mediation as an alternate dispute resolution for the State of Karnataka. This will enable members and non-members to utilise the services of our Mediation Centre which shall be manned by trained mediators who will undergo training soon.

**a.** Customary Corporate Golf Tournament which has reached its 11th year of start at Eagleton Resorts was followed by a Karaoke night.

**b.** The 'New Normal' has helped us to inch closer to 100 webinars and interactions on the virtual platform for the benefit of our members. Our Secretariat stood up to the task in these difficult times and has shown zeal and enthusiasm which have been appreciated by the participants.

Certificate of Origin is digitised and prices revised to make our working more compact with speed of delivery and storage of high order.

The Secretariat underwent training programme to enable better and efficient working through Microsoft.

The newly acquired office near the CBD is functional on two floors, and as a member you can utilise the facilities for official meetings at a nominal cost.

### **On the anvil are the following:**

Innovation Summit, Leadership Summit, Manufacturing Conclave.

Recognising women achievers.

Setting up an overseas office in view of the earmarked area for Japanese Industrial Zone near Bangalore and the creation of cluster based centres outside Bangalore.

Bridging the gap between academia and industry by organizing train the trainer program, course on disruptive technology for students, designing the curriculum and playing a pro-active role in smooth landing of the National Education Policy of Govt. of India.

An internal committee has reviewed the membership subscription fee. Please standby for the communication and

renew your membership once when informed.

I would like to sincerely thank the team BCIC for weathering the storm through active participation of all the committees and thereby enriching the value add to all its members through thought provoking webinars, workshops and active interactions. In this regard, I whole heartedly congratulate all the chairs, co-chairs, mentors and all the committee members in rolling out a number of value-added programs and events in spite of an ongoing pandemic.

To realise our current year theme of '*Namma Karnataka – The Gateway to Future India*', we need continued support from all members and well-wishers.

With the advent of summer and despite the rollout of the COVID vaccination nationwide, until we see permanent reduction in infections, we should not let our guard down. Let us maintain the standard protocols and guidelines given by Govt. of India from time to time and be attentive to the inoculation calls on vaccination. Stay safe and I look forward to your participation in making BCIC a vibrant Chamber of the future.

Once again wishing you and your families a very successful and enjoyable 2021!

**T.R.Parasuraman.**  
President, BCIC

The Union Budget presented by the Honourable Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on February 1 amidst the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic, was dubbed as an 'important milestone' and 'direction for future' budget with every sector celebrating it. The target of \$5 trillion economy by 2025 no longer seems a distant dream, with much stress laid all through the Budget on infrastructure spend, job creation, health and education. Though the fiscal deficit target of 9.5% is an uphill task, it would help propel India's growth.

On the ground, the continued demand improvement, coupled with cost rationalization has been the key highlight of the 3QFY21 earnings season. Earnings growth and upgrades have been broad-based with almost all of the mainstream sectors beating expectations.

The 3QFY21 earnings season has maintained the momentum of the 2QFY21 results season.

Reasons for the upbeat earnings are mentioned below:

**[1]** Sharp demand recovery is seen with the opening up of the economy and the number of COVID-19 cases being contained, coupled with continued cost-saving initiatives;

**[2]** The festive season has boosted consumption demand across the staples/durables/discretionary sectors;

**[3]** Sharp rebound is observed in the cyclical sectors - metals and cement reported better-than-expected

performances on elevated expectations;

**[4]** IT companies reported another quarter of solid beats and upbeat commentaries, with bulging deal pipelines; and

**[5]** The BFSI sector saw robust operational delivery, especially in the large-cap banks, with 70%+ PCR and minimal restructuring in the loan books.

#### KEY SECTORAL INSIGHTS:

**IT:** Headline numbers are strong; Companies' deal pipelines have improved further v/s 2QFY21, now at pre-COVID levels / stronger, indicating a demand uptick.

**Consumption:** Most companies have reported strong volume growth as demand recovery has led to strong beats on the topline and profitability.

**Metals:** Most companies have beaten expectations led by higher underlying commodity prices and volumes.

**Banks:** Large private banks have reported strong results with asset quality remaining robust as well.

**Cement:** Healthy realization and cost savings have resulted in 100% profit growth for the Cement Universe thus far - even as inflationary pressures in some cost items are now evident.

The cyclical sectors are driving incremental earnings. Government focus on fiscal expansion and capex spending augurs well to revive the long-anticipated private investment cycle. The earnings momentum might sustain with further revival in the economy, the

number of COVID-19 cases being contained, and the benefit of a low base ahead. In an otherwise buoyant macro and micro context, rising bond yield may cap equity valuations. The earnings delivery assume greater importance to sustain the valuations.

The state Budget presented by Shri. B S Yediyurappa, Chief Minister of Karnataka on March 8, 2021 has also come out to be favourable with no special surprises. There was a relief with no state tax increase on petrol and diesel despite heavy pressure. Announcements on women welfare and safety, Aerospace and Defence Policy, Cyber Security policy, Data Centre Policy, implementation of the Karsamadhan scheme and GST Prime, establishment of Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity site, enhancement of greenery and ecology in and around Bengaluru, providing pure drinking water and underground drainage system, unified land management system, having a new slab for property taxes for industries in urban local bodies are all commendable. All the above will help in improving the industrial climate and ease of living in the state of Karnataka.

Our emphasis and endeavour to bring about a higher level of acceptance with the policy makers aided by the Government shall remain focussed to deliver our best to the members and their ecosystem.

Please continue to contribute your inputs and suggestions to our newsletter.

#### EDITORIAL TEAM



##### Secretariat

**K R Sekar**, Sr. Vice President

**Dr. L Ravindran**, Vice President

**A Murali**, Advisor

## DOWN MEMORY LANE



### A Cherishable blast from the Past!

**Dr Vinod Nowal**  
President, BCIC, 2011 - 12

I am being told to share my memories and experience as one of the presidents at BCIC. Today, Bangalore Chambers of Industry & Commerce (BCIC), has established itself as a renowned organisation of repute and is undoubtedly regarded as one of the guardians of the industry when it comes to business matters in Karnataka. Over a period of time, BCIC has grown manifold into a notably strong industry body that very effectively represents trade & commerce issues before the state as well as the central government for the smooth functioning and growth of the businesses.

I have had the pleasure to cherish the long and productive relationship with BCIC in various capacities – as a member, then as the President of BCIC in 2011-12. I was fortunate that the people who chaired this prestigious chamber before I took over, had very effectively structured it into one of the most approachable; an epicentre of fruitful engagement, for the industries and corporates of Karnataka.

Since I was representing the steel industry and JSW Steel was one of the largest steel companies in India and had made the largest investment in Karnataka, I was logically instrumental in bringing up practical issues of the manufacturing industry along with the erstwhile BCIC-Presidents, who were the guiding force to pursue and conclude the concerns of member companies.

As a Chamber, we made regular efforts to expand registration not only in Bangalore but also in the distant and

remote areas of the state in order to ensure more effective and inclusive representation of business matter – small or substantial before the government.

Representing BCIC, I advocated to the cause of banning iron-ore exports from Karnataka, stressing on the first right of domestic players on India's natural resources. In turn, the cause was slated to improve employment as well as revenue to the exchequer through the potential promotion of industrialisation in the state. As one of the internal reforms, I did recommend introducing Key Result Areas (KRAs) for the BCIC staff to bring in accountability and transparency through clear-responsibility in order to award the deserving performers.

During my presidential stint at BCIC in 2011-12, the then Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda was instrumental in providing an undivided focus on Karnataka's economic development and left no stone unturned to attract investment to set up more industries in the state and also ensured a conducive business environment for the ease of doing business.

I also recollect that the Chief Minister had made a praiseworthy contribution when he had announced the birth anniversary celebration of India's pioneering engineer-statesman Sir M. Visvesvaraya as the state's annual official function as a mark of respect to the great engineer who had placed Karnataka on the industrial map of the country. It was a great gesture indeed.

I clearly remember Mr Chief Minister speaking at the seminar pressing on the development agenda with a specific emphasis on North Karnataka; home to the flagship steel plant of JSW Group, assuring his support to Industry. His efforts were significant that also helped JSW Steel Vijayanagar Works to expand

and contribute to the cause of the economic development of the region and its people – Kannadigas, to a great extent. While spearheading the BCIC, we too as an industry body made several facilitating measures to help Karnataka emerge as an investor-friendly destination that tapped the youth power by generating employment.

So, when I took over the responsibility of BCIC-Chair from an Industry stalwart like Mr Shekar Viswanathan of Toyota-Kirloskar fame, it was a cakewalk for me to manage and run the show as he had already set the BCIC in motion and in good stead.

At the same time, I also felt it was my moral responsibility to make every available attempt to position BCIC as the most credible industry body before I passed on the baton to my successor - Mr M Lakshminarayan, then Managing Director and Country Manager for Harman International, India.

I also want to share that I always found BCIC members free from politics & biases and to date, it's been an extended family to me.

Many years have passed and a number of presidents have guided the BCIC after my tenure but we continue to meet and share a wonderful relationship with the same warmth. I can put it on record that I treasured every moment during my active association with BCIC and going down memory lane has been a memorable experience.

As always, I appreciate this opportunity to jog my fond memories, and wish the BCIC, the very best for all future endeavours.

*Many thanks!*



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ➤ Preliminary discussions on reducing cost of electricity for industries in Karnataka using open access on September 30, 2020

Preliminary discussions on reducing cost of electricity for industries in Karnataka using open access on September 30, 2020. The team consisting of BCIC expert leaders of the infrastructure, energy, environment and water committees, senior representatives from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP, Government of Haryana and Indian Energy Exchange Ltd held a comprehensive discussion on the subject that covered topics such as:

- Cheaper electricity for industries to become globally competitive and attract new investment to the State
- Impact of open access on industries and economy

- Benefit of cheaper electricity for industries and economy in India
- Impact of open access on Discoms
- Key issues preventing open access in Karnataka
- Way forward to support industries in getting cheaper electricity

The team also proposes to submit a joint representation to the government on the subject.

### ➤ BCIC Webinar on National Education Policy 2020 on October 3, 2020

The above awareness session Webinar organized under the aegis of Industry-Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee was addressed by Dr. K N Subramanya, chairman, 3i Expert Committee, BCIC and Principal & Professor, Dept. of Industrial Engineering and Management, R V College of Engineering, on the growing developmental imperatives of our nation with the policy proposing the revision of all aspects of education structure, including governance, meeting aspirational goals of 21st century education, as well as and building upon individual's traditions and value systems.

Dr. Subramanya presented on the policy that is focused on developing cognitive capacities such as critical thinking and problem solving and also social, ethical, emotional capacities and dispositions.

The session was moderated by Mr. Nitin Garg, co-chair, 3i Exert Committee and Founder & Director, International School of Management Excellence.

### ➤ Webinar on Audit Issues and Annual Compliances on October 14, 2020

Due to continuing pandemic situation, various government departments like Income Tax Authorities and Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) have extended the deadline for completion of audit and filing of returns/annual compliances. Further, due to the current situation, entrepreneurs as well as corporates are facing severe financial and working capital crisis. Amidst this crisis, the audit and financial compliances are due in the coming months.

With this background, BCIC under the aegis of its Banking, Finance & Corporate Affairs Expert Committee and in association with Institute of Company Secretaries of India,

Bengaluru Chapter organized the above session. The Speakers of the session included:

- CA Krishna Prakash Easwaran, Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells
- CS Karthick Varadarajan, Founder Partner, JKS & Co.
- CA Vivek Hegde, Chairman, Bangalore chapter, ICSI
- Moderator: Dr. K V Omprakash, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Committee, BCIC and Advocate & CS, Conscientia Consultancy



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ➤ Session on improving competitiveness of Indian manufacturing through appropriate and affordable automation towards Atmanirbhar Bharat on October 15, 2020

The BCIC under the aegis of Industry 4.0 organized the above session that deliberated on the most appropriate and affordable automation one needs to choose post-COVID19 in the challenging scenario for the automation industry for India, and that too for an MSME sector which appears more prohibitive.

The following speakers presented on the typical case study with ROI calculations during the session:

Mr. Pradeep S David, General Manager – South Asia, Universal Robots (India)

Mr. Jagannath V, Co-Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC and Business Head, m2nxt, A BFW Subsidiary

Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC

Their presentation was followed by a lively Q & A from the floor.

### ➤ Panel Discussion on RBI Circular on current account with banks on October 20, 2020

The BCIC under the aegis of its Banking, Finance & Corporate Affairs Expert Committee organized the above Webinar that brought out the pros and cons of the circular issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) related to revised guidelines on opening current account with Banks and its effect and impact on industry as a whole.

The Reserve Bank of India set new conditions for banks to open current accounts for large borrowers in order to strengthen credit discipline. The purpose of the revised guidelines is to ensure that borrowers route their payments to and from a current account with a bank that has the largest exposure to the borrower, instead of having multiple current account across banks. The said RBI circular came into effect from November

5, 2020 and shall be enforced by all the banks.

Mr. Anand B, Assistant General Manager, Department of Supervision, RBI, Bengaluru; Mr. Ajit Raghavan, Vice President & Head Compliance, Bank of America; Mr. Sachit Sahni, Executive Vice President & Head of Transaction Banking, IndusInd Bank; Mr. N. Ravichandrar, Advisor – Treasury, Taxation, Secretarial & Insurance, Praxair and Linde group; Mr. Laxman Joshi, Senior Advisor, Corporate Banking, Deutsche Bank, Mumbai shared their views on the subject. The session was moderated by Dr. K V Omprakash, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Committee, BCIC. The chairman on behalf of the Chamber acknowledged IndusInd Bank for sponsoring the programme.

### ➤ Human Development for next generation job roles of Industry 4.0 on October 22, 2020

The above exclusive session organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Committee deliberated on jobs of the future and helped visualize to understand what is possible today will not only make a difference in peoples' lives but will also enrich communities for the future.

The speakers and the topics that they addressed is given herewith:

Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC

- Important skills for the industry: knowledge about ICT; ability to work with data; technical know-how and personal skills

Mr. Sai Krishna Rao, General Manager- Education & Training, Field Services, Schneider Electric

- Smart city curriculum;
- Smart factory – Smart manufacturing technologies; digital training platform; levels of competitiveness of Industry 4.0 in the near future; benefits of Industry 4.0 in the Assembly line
- Module selection – based on Employment/Applied Research; upgraded curriculum meeting the requirements of ITI,

Diploma and Engineering; labs being designed to meet world skills standards

Mr. Shankar Narayanan, Business Dev. Manager, Siemens - Motion control Business Unit and Head - Digital Experience and Application Center (DEX)

- Industry 4.0 and challenges in manufacturing
- Practical demonstration of Digitalization/Industry 4.0 in discrete manufacturing along with cloud-based services; developing partner ecosystem to handle skill development in operation and programming

Mr. Harish Nachnani, Head - Didactic, Festo India

- Effects of Industry 4.0 on all areas of training; practical based learning approach; leveraging technologies; benchmarking international standards

At the Q & A session, speakers responded to various queries including: Highest demand of Industry 4.0 job role over the next five years; Industry 4.0 competencies for training organizations; highest technology impact of Industry 4.0.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ➤ Webinar on new initiatives by Customs Department for the exporters and importers on October 22, 2020

The above session organized under the aegis of International Business Expert Committee elucidated on the recent launch of the revamped and streamlined programme by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes (CBIC) and Customs to attract investments into India and strengthen the "Make in India" initiative through manufacture and other operations under bond scheme, under Customs Act, 1962.

The session was addressed by Mr. M Srinivas, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Karnataka Zone, Bengaluru; Mr. Ashok, IRS, Principal Commissioner of Customs, Airport & ACC Commissionerate, Bangalore.

The speakers addressed topics such as the Bonded

Manufacturing Scheme promoted by the Government of India that allows duty-free import of raw materials and goods for manufacturing and other operations in a customs bonded manufacturing facility. The scheme under "In Bond Manufacturing" offers deferred import duty on both capital goods as well as raw materials or inputs used in bonded manufacturing. The scheme also envisages a minimum physical interface with officials, and the monitoring of units under this scheme is entirely record-based and risk-based and thus non-intrusive.

CA K Ravi, Chairman, International Business Expert Committee moderated the Session.

### ➤ Talk by Prof. T N Venkata Reddy, Retd. Professor, UASB, GKVK, Bangalore on October 29, 2020

With the objective to understand the pros & cons of the recently passed Agriculture & APMC Bills, the BCIC under the aegis of its Agro & Food Processing Expert Committee organised the above session.

Prof. T N Venkata Reddy, Retd. Professor, UASB, GKVK, Bangalore & Dr. Sharan Angadi, former Head of Research (Asia Pacific), NUNHEMS Netherlands and R&D Adviser, Ankur Seeds, said that three farm bills passed by the Parliament, are expected to create a major impact on Indian agriculture and agro-trade. The three farm bills passed by the Parliament are:

1. Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill
2. Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill (Also referred to as APMC Bypass Bill)
3. Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill

Provisions of these bills may result in elimination of the monopoly of government-run APMCs (Agricultural Produce Market Committees). As per older laws and provisions, farmers have to sell their produce at APMCs. It was mandatory that the first sale of agri-produce took place in the market yard of the 'mandis'. As per the new bills, farmers will now be free to sell their produce even to private buyers, including big companies. Farm bills passed in the Parliament give farmers the freedom to sell their crop anywhere in India.

The session was moderated by Mr. Ankur Bhaumik and Mr. Narasimha Nakshatri, Chairman and Co-Chairman respectively, of Agro and Food Processing Expert Committee.

### ➤ Interactive Session with Mr. Bhaskar Bhat, former MD, Titan Co. Ltd and Non-Independent Director, Tata Chemicals Ltd on October 30, 2020

BCIC President Mr. T R Parasuraman thanked Mr. Bhaskar Bhat for addressing the session and acknowledged the immense contribution of Tata Group for the Indian economy.

He then gave a brief background on the exclusive Leadership Forum constituted by BCIC with the objective of providing the foundation to advance the leadership skills, engage in meaningful and purposeful conversations with cross section of

executives and thought leaders across the spectrum and to reinforce the initiatives considered most critical to the organizational business success. He said the earlier sessions under the aegis of the Committee was addressed by Mr. Harish Bijoor, Mr. M R Venkatesh, Mr. N. Ravi Vishwanath, Mr. Krishnakumar Natarajan, Padma Shri Mr. TV Mohandas Pai and many others.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

In his presentation, Mr. Bhaskar Bhat spoke about his experience with Tata Group as an institution pursuing a larger role in:

- Achieving the mission of long-term stakeholder value creation based on leadership with trust; disciplined process in the company practicing walk the talk
- Tata Values: Integrity, responsibility, pioneering, excellence and unity. Mr. Bhat said business is not about business but creation of values
- Tradition of Trusts – CSR activities towards education, hospitals to the present COVID-19 care centres

- Tata Vision
- Successful joint venture with the Government: Encapsulated articulation of all strategic decisions of running business with promoters and board to protect financial investment and encourage the company to grow

Mr. Bhat walked the participants through the journey of Tata Group viz., Incubation, Quartz, People, Jewelry, and Category through his thought-provoking address.

### Young BCIC - Tech Talk on Cyber Security as a Rewarding Profession on November 6, 2020

A youth enablement initiative under the aegis of Young BCIC Expert Committee was organized wherein the speakers deliberated on:

Threat Landscape: How business and governments are under constant cyber threats

Cutting edge technologies: Used in protecting us from cyber threats

Career Opportunities: How cyber security is a highly rewarding career option

Eminent speakers and domain experts viz., Ms. Arathi Ramesh, Infosec Leader, ANZ Bank; Mr. Maheshan, Principal Architect, Philips Product Security and Mr. Vijay Bharati, CISO, Happiest Minds addressed at the session.

Dr. Vikram Venkateswaran, Director, Cyber and Strategy Services, Deloitte moderated the session.

### Ice breaker session of the jury panel constituted for the BCIC Emerging Stars Award on November 6, 2020

#### Members of the jury panel:

**Chairman:** Mr. K Jairaj, IAS, Retd, Former Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka

**Mr. T R Parasuraman**, President, BCIC

**Mr. K R Sekar**, Senior Vice President, BCIC

**Dr. Ravindran L**, Vice President, BCIC

**Dr. Lakshmi Jagannathan**, CEO, DERBI Foundation

**Mr. Chandu Nair**, Entrepreneur

**Mr. Manas Dasgupta**, Chairman, Young BCIC Expert Committee

**Ms. Richa Sarna**, Co- Chairman, Young BCIC Expert Committee

**Dr. Anant Koppar**, Past President, BCIC

**Mr. Ravi Challu**, Founder, Bulletproof Your Startup

**Mr. Raju Bhatnagar**, Partner, ITI Consultants

**Mr. Giridhar Rajagopal**, Group Editor, Nine Dot Nine Mediaworkx

**Mr. Pravin Iyer**, Managing Director, Relicare Tech Services Pvt Ltd

**Mr. N Venkatakrishnan**, Executive Vice President and CFO, Tata Hitachi Construction Machinery Company

The jury panel engaged over a preliminary meeting to decide the winners of the 'BCIC Emerging Stars Award 2020' at the meeting scheduled on November 11 and 12, 2020.

A total of 19 companies are in the fray for the awards.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ➤➤ C4i4 Industry 4.0 Orientation for engineers & managers on November 6 and 7, 2020

With its endeavour to establish mentoring system for handholding of MSMEs for digital transformation and create experiential learning through real-life case studies in industry, the BCIC under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee of BCIC jointly with Centre for Industry 4.0 (C4i4) organized a two-day session on Industry 4.0 Orientation for Engineers & Managers.

ABOUT C4i4 LAB: The Centre for Industry 4.0 (C4i4) Lab, an initiative by Department of Heavy Industry, Government of India, is a leading advisor for manufacturing enterprises on Industry 4.0 with the objective to pave path for organizational transformation in adapting new technologies.

The sessions deliberated on the transformational potential of Industry 4.0 for the enterprise and facilitated the participants to

understand and adapt to create value for the company and their stakeholders.

Topics covered: Importance of digital transformation for manufacturing; Technology tools and transformation; What to transform and how to transform?

**The sessions were addressed by:**

C4i4: Mr. Sivaram P V, Advisor; Mr. Dattatreya S N, Director, Mr. Sanket Waykar, Sr. Consultant

BCIC: Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee.

Masterclass Certificates were provided to the participants jointly by BCIC and C4i4 Lab.

### ➤➤ BCIC Members' Day on November 7, 2020

With the objective to understand concerns of the members and address them at the appropriate platforms through interactions with the Government, representations, the BCIC Office Bearers had an interaction with members on Members' Day.

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President; Mr. K R Sekar, Senior Vice President; Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President presented on the activities and new initiatives of the Chamber comprising: Focus areas; Plans – Immediate and future; Road Map 2020 – 2023.

Their presentation was followed by a lively interaction with the members.

Dr. Ravindran moderated Our Members' Voice (OMV) session.

Mr. Sunil Koshy mesmerized the audience by singing a beautifully composed Kannada song depicting the heritage of Karnataka.

The session provided an opportunity for the members to know more about the Chamber's initiatives and the role played by BCIC as one of the apex Chamber of Commerce in the State of Karnataka.

#### BCIC Music Competition

Coinciding with the Members' Day Celebration, President announced the names of the 18 winners amongst the 90 participants who had participated in the singing competition organized by the Chamber. The 18 declared winners will be presented a gift hamper.

Mr. N Ahmedali	Mr. T R Parasuraman
Mr. A N Chandramouli	Mr. P K Narayana
Dr. S Devarajan	Mr. Rama Mohan Hegde
Mr. Gurumit Singh	Dr. L Ravindran
Mr. B R Indushekar	Ms. Richa Sarna
Dr. K V Omprakash	Ms. Roopashree
Mr. K Vishwanath	Ms. Srilatha
Ms. KalaVenugopal	Mr. Sunil Telkar
Mr. B Parameshwaran	Ms. Vani Ravi

### ➤➤ BCIC and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) joint virtual Awareness session on NSDC Qualification Pack – National Occupation Standard on November 10, 2020

The BCIC jointly with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) organized a virtual Awareness session on NSDC Qualification Pack – National Occupation Standard.

The session organized under the aegis of Task Force Team on Skill Enhancement, Sustainability through Continued Education

of Manufacturing Expert Committee provided awareness on the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) comprising process required, professional knowledge, professional skill, core skill and responsibility.



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### The speakers at the session included:

Ms. Deepti Saxena, Head – Standards and Quality, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC and President and Whole Time Director, Toyota Industries Engine India

Mr. F R Singhvi, Joint Managing Director, Sansera Engineering

Mr. A N Chandramouli, Past President and Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC

Mr. Dinakar Krishnamurthy, doHow® Facilitator and Managing Partner, SamuthánaConsultancoaching LLP

Mr. Jayarama T, Advisor- Cluster Bangalore, Indo-German Programme for Vocational Education and Training (IGVET), GIZ

Mr. Prakash G, General Manager, Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts

Mr. P S Ramesh, ED - Group Technical Services & HR, Dynamatic Technologies

Dr. S Devarajan, Sr. VP - Prodn Engineering, TVS Motor Company

### Interactive Session with Mr. Kamal Bali, President and Managing Director, Volvo Group, India on November 11, 2020

In his welcome address, Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC thanked Mr. Kamal Bali for accepting the Chamber's invitation to address the members and briefly elaborated on the initiatives and activities of the Chamber. Mr. K R Sekar, Senior Vice President, BCIC gave a brief background on the Leadership Forum under the aegis of which the above session was structured.

Here is a summary of Mr. Kamal Bali's presentation on "Leadership Imperatives in Volatile Times":

- Despite the shocking health & economic consequences of the pandemic, India is at the cusp of socio-economic transformation, not evidenced in a generation.
- India needs to leverage its talent pool and emerging work force that is digitally oriented.
- The post COVID-19 future will not be a re-inflation of the pre-Covid world; therefore for realizing India's full potential growth and new mind-set of multi-stakeholder partnership and collective intelligence is the key.

- The new world is even more difficult to predict. Organizations, society and governments need to invest in building resilience through adaptability, agility, flexibility and partnerships.
- There is a need for all of us to embrace and exhibit the 9Cs of Calm, Confidence & Conviction, Communication, Collaboration, Community, Compassion and Cash & Cost to tide through these unprecedented times.
- This is the right time for India to grab global trade opportunities in the geo-political terms. Manufacturing indeed is a great opportunity and a potential game-changer for India.
- The leadership getting growth back is non-negotiable, but not without addressing the prism of crucial imperatives.
- Future of jobs and social security.
- Six leadership secrets of highly successful and people driven companies viz., having higher compelling purpose; exist to grow; let go of what holds them back; make a lot of small bets; simplify and systematize everything and led by a good steward.

### Young BCIC - Accelathon Curtain Raiser on November 12, 2020; and Inter-college Hackathon - Finale and Awards Ceremony on November 30, 2020

#### Curtain Raiser on November 12, 20

The AccelATHON was organized under the aegis of Young BCIC inviting Technology/Innovation problems/challenges from organizations for taking it up as problem statements for solving by the participants at the Hackathon-AccelATHON.

With the theme of Hackathon being "Social Innovation", it provided a great opportunity for students to demonstrate their innovation and excellence and also helped motivate them through winning attractive cash prizes.

Dr. AS Deshpande, Registrar, VTU, Belgaum while complimenting BCIC for this initiative, urged the students to have and develop insights and work towards shaping their future.

Mr. K R Sekar, Senior Vice President, BCIC said that in the challenging world at this moment, skills and employment are of particular focus and priority and are also of utmost importance to the students. He then appreciated Young BCIC Expert Committee for working with the vision of goal of enabling the youth of Karnataka in key aspects.

#### Grand Finale and Award Ceremony on November 30, 2020

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC in his address urged the student fraternity to continuously seek improvement. He also gave an example of the Johari window, a widely used model for understanding and training self-awareness, personal development, improving communications, interpersonal



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relationships, group dynamics, team development and inter-group relationships. He said BCIC was the best platform for them to work together with doyens of industry and profession in igniting their minds.

With the amazing wealth of expertise and knowledge repository, Team BCIC will inspire, guide and be the lighthouse to the startups in realizing their dreams, he further added.

Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President and Mentor, Young BCIC Expert Committee addressed the students and said that the AccelATHON Hackathon platform provided an opportunity to hone and showcase their skills and talent and for organisations to enable and support them.

- Mr. Carl Broadbridge, Head of Technology, ANZ Operations and Technology addressed on the future technologies.
- Mr. Vineet Jain, CEO & Co-Founder, Bluerose Technologies addressed on Digital Transformation using BPM and Low-Code No-Code Platforms for the future.
- Ms. Bindu Sagadevan, Founder and CEO, PALEETU Educon and Enablement Services, addressed on Career Opportunities in BPM/LC-NC Platforms.
- Dr. Krishnashree Achuthan, CEO, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham in her presentation on incubator opportunities for innovators, addressed on Core competence / Niche areas of startups; Technology commercialization; Amritha Nidhi EIR – Entrepreneur in Residence and various incubator models.

Mr. Manas Dasgupta, Chairman, Young BCIC Expert committee gave an overview of the problem statements, awards criteria and participation details viz.,

- Accelathon 2 Online:
- National level; All streams; visual aids, Inclusive, Social
- 92 teams registration; 400 + participants; 40 colleges from 18 States; 12 days of Hacklathon; 19 finalists; 6 winners

### Jury comprised of:

- Mr. Sandeep Agarwal, EVP & COO, Digital Business, Happiest Minds Technologies
- Mr. Soumitra Bhattacharyya, Director Engineering, Akamai Technologies
- Mr. Biswajit Biswas, Chief Data Scientist, Tata Elxsi
- Mr. Gowrishankar Paramasivam, Head - Maersk Accelerator, Ocean Pro India & China, Maersk Global Service Centres

### Winners

- 1st prize: MSRIT
  - 2nd prize: CMRIT and MVJ College of Engineering
  - 3rd prize: New Horizon College of Engineering; VSMSRKIT College and MHCE – PES – Christ Colleges
- Ms. Richa Sarna, Co-Chairperson, Young BCIC Committee briefed on the key takeaways and proposed vote of thanks.

### BCIC acknowledged the support of:

- Sponsors – ANZ Operations and Technology, Indus Business Academy, Paleetu, Skillenza, Bluerose Technologies and Inficert
- New Horizon College of Engineering for their tremendous support in organizing AccelATHON 2
- VTU Centralised Placement Cell for their immense support especially with outreach

## Webinar Series on GST Audit by the Tax Office on November 12, 2020

The webinar series on various policies and procedures of GST Audit is one of the unique initiatives under the aegis of Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.

Here is the summary of session of the first in the series hosted by Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce

Topic: Proceedings by Tax Office under GST can be initiated by the tax office

Addressed by: Mr. Badrinath N R, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC

Highlights: Audit authorities under GST; process to be followed by the tax officers; formats, scope, coverage of proceedings and time limit of initiation, FAQs, and the checklist to be adhered to.



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### ▶▶ Young BCIC Mini Series on Smart Cities on November 16, 18 and 20, 2020

The above sessions were organized under the aegis of Young BCIC that deliberated on digitization of emerging technologies bringing in a revolution in building smart cities.

Mr. Jayaraj Pandian, Director of Engineering, Honeywell Technology Solutions made an exhaustive presentation on developing the entire urban eco-system representing institutional, physical, social and economic infrastructure adding to the layers in transforming the cities into 'smart cities'; challenges, user-cases, sharing of social sentiments concluded the sessions with Smart Grid and City Planning the next two topics that would be looked at.

**Nov 16:** Global Foot Print, Verticals, Social / Economic and Technology Profile of Smart Cities

**Nov 18:** Competency Centres, IoT and Standard Operating Procedures

**Nov 20:** Big Data Analytics, Predictive and Prescriptive

Mr. Manas Dasgupta, Chairman, Young BCIC Expert committee, BCIC and Mr. Girish Nuli, Member, Young BCIC Expert Committee and Founder and CEO, Antara Software and Consulting, moderated the session.

### ▶▶ Special Talk on introduction to Business Evaluation & Transformation on November 19, 2020

The above session organized under the aegis of Aerospace and Aviation Expert Committee was addressed by Mr. SaideepRathnam, Chief Operating Officer, Centre of Excellence, India-Japan Study Centre, IIM, Bangalore.

With the aviation sector being severely impacted with a reduction in demand and consequently the production output of OEMs and their suppliers being affected, especially the SMEs owing to COVID-19, Mr. Rathnam addressed the need for being

lean, nimble, sharp and agile in achieving competitive excellence that has become more critical in the present scenario. He emphasized on the SMEs creating committed identity, capability approach viz. go-to-market approach and must leverage technology.

He then provided an overview of the BET Model for evaluation by IJSC at IIM, B that provides networking as well as partnership opportunities for SMEs with Japanese companies.

### ▶▶ Webinar Series on GST Audit by the Tax Office on November 19, 2020

The webinar series on various policies and procedures of GST Audit is one of the unique initiatives under the aegis of Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.

Here is the summary of the second session in the series

Topic: A legal touch to all such proceedings ... rights and privileges of the tax payer + role, functions and duties of the tax officers

Addressed by: Mr. G. Shivadass, Mentor, Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC

Highlights: Presented on the legal aspects of the proceedings; rights and privileges of tax payer along with role, functions and duties of tax officers; Taxpayer's Charter: Mission, expectations, key timelines, grievance redressal of citizens' charter; commitment of Income Tax Department; provisions under GST Law; audit by tax authorities.

The above session was moderated by Mr. N R Badrinath, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Expert committee, BCIC.

### ▶▶ Knowledge Series 1st Workshop on Enhancement of Productivity - Turning and Milling applications on November 20, 2020

The above session, the first in the series of four workshops, was organized under the aegis of Manufacturing Expert Committee with the objective to "Know how" the Turning and

Milling applications with a comprehensive approach to enhance the productivity.

Mr. Kashinath Patnasetty, Head- VAS & Application Support,



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Ace Designers Ltd and Mr. N Venkateshappa, Manager –Technical Support Group, Marketing & Application Engineering Department, Optimum cycle time spoke about the cost/piece reduction and tool life enhancement, improvement in Aesthetic

and quality of the components inclusive machining approach.

The session was moderated by Mr. G Prakash, Chairman, Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC.



### **Blood Donation Camp organized by Asian Medical students' Association, India, Vydehi Medical College in collaboration with Bangalore Medical Services Trust on November 22, 2020**

The BCIC under the aegis of External Affairs Expert committee was one of the Supporting Partners in spreading the awareness of blood donation in saving lives.

awareness amongst the members of the Chamber saw many volunteers donating the blood for the needy.

In the backdrop of the fear of COVID-19 stopping donors from giving blood that has severely affected critically ill patients, this

The Asian Medical students' Association appreciated and acknowledged the support from BCIC in this unique initiative.



### **Webinar on Digital Twin: Reimagine your manufacturing to become world class on November 24, 2020**

The above session organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee was addressed by Mr. Aiyappan Ramamurthi - Technical director of Siemens Industry Software, a business unit of Siemens Digital Industries Division and Mr. Shankar Narayanan, Business Development Manager, Siemens - Motion control Business Unit and Head -Digital Experience and Application Center (DEX) on Digital Twin Concepts, Application Of Digital Twin In Industry, Case Studies, Benefits.

reimagine manufacturing to innovate and become globally competitive; and also adopt new technologies and innovations to disrupt the value chains and business models.

With the digital twin a virtual representation of a physical product or process, which is used to understand and predict the physical counterpart's performance characteristics, the speakers emphasized on the need for organizations to

The session was moderated by Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee and Past President, BCIC.

The above session explored the possibilities of using "Digital Twin" to reimagine the future of manufacturing. The speakers also presented on "SINUMERIK" — the Siemens platform designed to bring in more powerful simulation tools, faster CNC performance, and improved part quality from virtual to reality.



### **BCIC - IEX Webinar on Optimizing Power Procurement Cost for Commercial and Industrial (C & I) Sectors, Karnataka on November 25, 2020**

The BCIC under the aegis of its Infrastructure, Energy, Environment and Water Expert Committee organized the above session.

(IEX) presented on Power sector snapshot; Electricity Value Chain; Indian power market development; power procurement options; short-term market growth; Day ahead market (DAM) features; DAM trading process; real time market features, price terms and green markets.

The speakers at the session deliberated on the following topics: Introduction to Indian Power Market; Product Portfolio; Trading Mechanism; Market Snapshot; Trading in IEX.

Mr. Rohit Bajaj (Head-Business Development), Senior Vice President and Mr. Ravi Kuchi (Regional Head- South, Eastern, North Eastern), Vice President from Indian Energy Exchange

Mr. Anujesh Dwivedi, Partner, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India presented on the challenges of sourcing cheaper electricity in Karnataka covering on impetus required for attracting new investments in competition with other industrialized States;



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assistance needed by the industries in reducing costs and tackle economic slowdown; open access that can help consumers to source electricity competitively and reduce their operational costs; impact of open access on industry and economy; State-wise assessment of open access impact. With particular reference to Karnataka, he presented on the consumer survey response comprising key issues concerning

open access in the State raised by consumers, and identified based on review of regulations.

Mr. Ramesh Saligrama, Vice President – Projects and Facilities, Bosch India and Ms. B S Anuradha, General Manager - Power Strategy, Praxair India (Linde India), and leaders of the Infra, Energy, Environment and Water Expert committee, BCIC moderated the session.

### Webinar on Food/Agro processing industry segment jointly with Abu Dhabi Port Zone on November 25, 2020

The above session organized under the aegis of Agro and Food Processing Expert Committee provided an overview of the UAE food market and national food strategies; business opportunities for companies to establish their operations in Abu Dhabi and KIZAD with efficient access to global markets with the added benefits of low setup cost and operations through efficient supply of utilities, world-class infrastructure, multi-modal connectivity and favorable policies.

Mr. Salvatore Lavallo, Head of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Abu Dhabi Investment Office (ADIO) presented on various initiatives and incentives for food sector in Abu Dhabi.

Mr. Mansoor Al Marar, Director Commercial Zone Development, Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi presented on

Creating New Opportunities for Food Sector in the Middle East and the UAE. KIZAD offers an integrated eco-system and platform to engage with suppliers, off-takers and service providers through a unique cluster-based approach.

Mr. Chetan L Hanchate, Director, Centre for Processed Foods (CPF) addressed on the factors to consider for Agro-Food Industries running their businesses in UAE.

Mr. Naresh Pagariya, Managing Director, Pagariya Food Products spoke on the market opportunities in UAE and Middle East Region.

Mr. Shubham Gupta, Vice President Projects, Vikrant Group shared his experience on utilizing the most efficient industrial ecosystem in the Middle East.

### Webinar on Future Electrification Technologies and Strategies for low carbon society in India on November 25, 2020

The BCIC under the aegis of Industry – Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee organized an exclusive presentation by Mr. Raju Ketskale, Member, Management Committee, BCIC and Deputy Managing Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motor on future automobile electrification technologies and strategy for low carbon society in India.

Mr. Ketskale made a comprehensive presentation covering Electrification Core Technology; Hybrid Electrical Vehicle, Fuel Cell Vehicle Technology, Toyota's Global experience of electrification, India's Electrification perspective, Make in India – Way Forward and Global - electrification impact on society.

He also presented in detail on Toyota's strategy for electrification, New Vehicle Zero CO2 Emissions Challenges, Development of Core Electrification components and 360

degree approach for Product, Technology & Infrastructure that is the main key to address global issues on Energy Security, Pollution & Global Warming.

Mr. Ketskale further emphasized on the much appreciated ECO ZONE at TKM Plaza, Bangalore, which is an unique initiative from Toyota in creating awareness among stakeholders as well as to experience about Toyota's thinking for "0" carbon mobility, Smart Green Battery Energy storage system and Solar energy for charging (Prius PHEV, COMS) and urged the members to visit the zone once the COVID-19 norms ease.

It is also to be noted that BCIC earlier had urged both the State and the Central Governments to incentivize the hybrid car segment to accelerate our march towards lower emissions.



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### **Workshop on Consultancy in Industry on November 26, 2020**

The BCIC under the aegis of Industry – Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee organized the above session with the objective to inculcate and impart the ability to devise globally recognized solutions for the challenges of industry and to work intensely with industry in pursuit of the goals of education and research, leading to the development of cutting edge and commercially-viable technologies.

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Sanjay Grover, CEO, Informatics Publishing Ltd and Dr. K N Subramanya, Chairman, Industry – Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee, BCIC and Principal and Professor, Dept. of Industrial Engineering and Management, RV College of Engineering.

### **Webinar Series on GST Audit by the Tax Office on November 26, 2020**

The webinar series on various policies and procedures of GST Audit is one of the unique initiatives under the aegis of Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.

Here is the summary of the third session in the series

Topic: What you should really look for and do ... when you get a notice or even any communication from the tax office

Addressed by: Mr. Jatin Christopher, Partner, JCSS Consulting

Highlights : No Sections under which the tax authorities can call for verification of documents; perils of self-assessment of tax systems; necessary of legal norms for the department to take recovery actions; confirm/ raised awareness on the provisions of law under which the laws are initiated; and the various provisions/ laws recast by GST.

The above session was moderated by Mr. N R Badrinath, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Expert committee, BCIC.

### **Launch of Yuva Chakra – Newsletter under the aegis of Young BCIC Expert Committee on December 1, 2020**

The BCIC instituted its new Youth Wing Expert Committee named as “Young BCIC”, to engage and enable the Youth of Karnataka to make help them future ready.

YBCIC focuses on generating employment opportunities, upskill youth to make them suitable for various industry sectors and corporates, make the youth aware of the needs of the society to help them thrive and largely encourage and empower them with entrepreneurial skills.

Under the aegis of the Committee, the First Edition of YUVA CHAKRA was launched on December 1, 2020.

The BCIC acknowledges the support from eminent personalities for sending articles/write-ups on the New Education Policy, new skills expected from the youth to become employable; education is the foundation for preparing young India to build “New India”; Building entrepreneurial ecosystem for self-reliance; various opportunities available for upskilling and reskilling; Low code/No code – a technology that is here to stay; important eighteens for the eighteens and above and guidelines for writing an effective project report.

### **Webinar Series on GST Audit by the Tax Office on December 3, 2020**

The webinar series on various policies and procedures of GST Audit is one of the unique initiatives under the aegis of Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.

Here is the summary of the fourth session in the series

Topic: Keep these in order! For the audit by the tax office

Addressed by: Mr. Deepak Kumar Jain, Director, Accolet

Advisors and Mr. RC Pillai, Tax Director & Head of Taxation-Lenovo Group-India.

Highlights : GST Audit Preparedness – Basic documentation; Corroborative checks; Substantive compliance; Soft skills

The above session was moderated by Mr. N R Badrinath, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.



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### ➤ Workshop on Fundamentals of Cutting Tools: Turning and Milling with Live Examples – 2nd in the 4 part series on December 4, 2020

The second workshop in the four-part series was organized under the aegis of Manufacturing Expert committee, BCIC, with the objective to “Know how” on the cutting tools and parameters to enhance productivity.

Mr. Dinesh Kumar Acharya, Manager, Knowledge Center India and Mr. Pradeep R Jamkhandi, Program Manager Knowledge Center India, Kennametal India Ltd presented on the practice/implementation of advance technologies; common goals of metal cutting industries; ideal cutting tools; factors affecting

productivity – cutting tools point of view; and technical case studies.

Key takeaways comprised proven methods towards Cost/Piece reduction and tool life enhancement; Cycle time reduction and all the factors leading to Quality improvement.

The session was moderated by Mr. Dinakar Krishnamurthy, Lead - Skill Enhancement, Sustainability through Continued Education Task Force under Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC.

### ➤ Session on Factories of the Future – Leveraging Smart Manufacturing with IoT & AI on December 4, 2020

The above session was organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee that explored the impact of IoT on Manufacturing; Combining IoT and Artificial Intelligence – Machine Learning, Deep Learning; AI-Based Prediction of Failures; Concept and necessity of FOG Computing.

The session was moderated by Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee and Past President, BCIC.

With the live and practical user cases of AI in Smart

Manufacturing, the session addressed by Mr. Vivekanand Chikale, National Head – FA Applications, FANUC India presented on technologies that made industry IoT possible, models of computer integrated manufacturing and architecture for digitization of industries. Mr. Chikale also spoke about the application of edge computing to achieve smart manufacturing, application of AI-based solutions and role of IoT in addressing challenges faced by MSM Esbecause of the impact of COVID-19.

### ➤ Webinar on Arbitrations Landscape – Measures to promote ADR on December 5, 2020

The BCIC under the aegis of the Expert Committee for Banking Finance and Corporate Affairs organized a unique session on “Arbitrations Landscape – Measures to promote ADR”.

Arbitration as an Alternate Dispute resolution (ADR) governed under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, and amendments thereof in present days has gained impetus and wide acceptance in India as well as globally as it promises speedy and effective resolution through mediation and simple procedures in much lesser time compared to the normal course of law.

Further, arbitration is a mode of ADR wherein the dispute between the parties goes through a process to achieve an amicable resolution by an impartial third party known as an ‘Arbitrator,’ without recourse to litigation.

Former Justice Shri N Kumar addressed on Principles of CPC as applicable to Arbitrations and Former Justice Smt. Roshan Dalvispoke about Arbitrations Today, a promise for all covering on the importance, principles and procedures of arbitration under the respective topics.

Dr. (HC) K V Omprakash, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee, BCIC and Adv & CS, Conscientia Consultancy and Dr. K S Ravichandran, Managing Partner, KSR & Co. moderated the Session.

The BCIC acknowledges the support of Dr. Ravichandran for structuring and facilitating the participation of former Justices and also for sponsoring the session.



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### Interactive Session with Mr. T M Vijay Bhaskar, IAS, Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka on December 5, 2020

In his welcome address, Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC gave an overview of the initiatives and activities of the Chamber. He emphasized on the Chamber's Vision to be the preferred Chamber in Karnataka to facilitate business growth and add value to its stakeholders.

With the theme of the Chamber for the year being "Namma Karnataka — a Gateway to Future India", Mr. Parasuraman said the Chamber is working very closely with the government and other stakeholders to achieve the common purpose in accelerating growth of industries in the State.

In alignment with its Mission, the Chamber in its endeavor to be the bridge between the government and industry to support "Ease of doing business", is providing strategic support to small and medium businesses to scale their operations and remain competitive in the current scenario.

Mr. Parasuraman then spoke about a few of the new initiatives that BCIC would undertake during this financial year:

- Constitution of Start to Sustenance Cell – Closely working with the government in providing inputs to improve the overall ranking of Karnataka on Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and attract huge investment to the State in the coming years. This Cell is being Chaired by Mr. Vidyashankar, Former Additional Chief Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, GoK.
- Setting up of Centre of Excellence to foster Human Resource Development and help enhance the skills of the workforce.
- Setup a Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Council to understand the pain points of members and address the challenges collectively through members' forum.
- MoUs with prominent government agencies: Aerospace Aviation on Sector Skill Council (AASSC) jointly with HAL, SIATI and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), GoI.
- Capital Goods Sector Skill Council and Tourism & Hospitality Sector Skill Council; Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council (THSC).
- Spreading our reach in different districts across Karnataka – Gulbarga, Bidar, Mysore, Mangalore, Hubli, Dharwad, Belgaum etc.

Mr. Vijay Bhaskar in his address appreciated the initiatives of the Chamber and its support by way of providing timely policy prescriptions to various initiatives of the State Government. Here is the summary of his address:

- Updated on the recent policy interventions taken by the Government.

- Challenges has pushed in finding new ways to address the same.
- The leadership of Honourable Chief Minister, who ensured that Karnataka was one of the first States to impose lockdown, and the first to lift the lockdown to support the industry sector in the State.

Many measures have been initiated by the Government —highest FDI amongst many states, new industrial policy with the mission to make Karnataka a global manufacturing hub, technology transfer, world class industry infrastructure and benchmarking the State with the global standards.

- The new industrial Policy emphasized on advance manufacturing, R & D and builds on innovation in making the State reach the number one position by using its leadership; it aims to boost large companies and MSMEs by introducing various incentives across sectors, infrastructure, and credit taxes as well as skill development training across the State.
- In a first in India, Karnataka has adopted the turnover based incentive system to ensure balanced industrial development of the State and made it easier to procure land directly from farmers easing on the land reforms.
- Been in the forefront by introducing labour reforms easing out on many norms; and propose to provide subsidies to investors to enhance skill development training in less developed regions of the State.
- Extended the invitation to partner with Government ITIs to tailor the curriculum as per the industry requirement.
- Ease of doing business: By bringing in suitable amendments, the Government now ensures any approved project (SWA) by various Committees can start functioning the very next day without needing any downstream permissions; investors need not run around for obtaining permissions /clearances for a period of 3 years till they commence their commercial production. This is to bring in more investors to the State particularly to Tier-2 cities like Mysore, Hubli-Dharwad, Mangalore and Belagavi.
- The Government is actively working on the Industrial Corridor, Tumkur, which would be one of the largest Industrial Township in the entire country with ~5000 acres earmarked to Japanese Industrial Township and Machine Tool Park of nearly 500 acres (Please check this for facts).
- In order to strengthen relationship further with BCIC, the Chief Secretary assured full support of the State Government and sought inputs from the members on their requirement in future endeavours. He then assured sending invitation for BCIC to be represented at the Boards of Commerce & Industry Dept, Skill Development and allied departments.



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There are a number of multinational companies intending to move their operations, and with Karnataka being the most sought after destination, the government has facilitated many international companies to commence their operations in the State.

- While moderating the session, Mr. K R Sekar, Sr. Vice President acknowledged the initiatives to industry sector by the government and said that BCIC has also aligned its

theme on Ease of doing business. He further acknowledged the support from the government by way of implementing many a representations from the Chamber during and post COVID-19 period.

The address by the Chief Secretary was followed by a lively interaction from the floor. The Chamber proposes to submit a Representation based on the outcome of the discussions held thereafter.

### Webinar Series on GST Audit by the Tax Office on December 10, 2020

The fifth session in the Webinar series on various policies and procedures of GST Audit is one of the unique initiatives under the aegis of Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC.

**Topic:** Keep these in order! For the audit by the tax office

**Addressed by:** Mr. Muralikrishna B V, Joint Commissioner of Commercial Taxes (e-audit) CTO, Karnataka

**Highlights:** GST Audit – From the Government Perspective

### Online Certificate course for Hospitality Sector: Joint initiative of BCIC – Brigade Hospitality and THSC on December 10, 2020

In its endeavor to support the hospitality sector, which is the most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, BCIC, Brigade Hospitality and THSC jointly conducted the Online Certificate Course for the freshers' and the existing employees to enhance their skills and knowledge with particular reference to

Accommodation Division and Food & Beverage Services.

This initiative under the aegis of Tourism, Hotel and Hospitality Expert Committee, BCIC, was launched on December 10, 2020.

### BCIC Webinar on Production Linked Incentive (PLI) - Key to Success on December 11, 2020

The session organized under the aegis of Direct Taxes and Electronics & ICT Expert Committees was addressed by a galaxy of distinguished speakers on Industry/Manufacturing, Supply chain and Indirect Taxes perspectives.

#### Speakers

**Mr. Sanjay Nayak**, CEO & MD, Tejas Networks

**Mr. G Shivadass**, Mentor, Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC and Senior Advocate, Shivadass & Shivadass, Law Chambers

**Mr. K Baskar**, Senior Director, Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP

**Mr. Easwaran PS**, Partner, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP

**Mr. K R Sekar**, Senior Vice President, BCIC and Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP

**Mr. K Balasubramanian**, Chairman, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC and VP and Global Head - Corporate Tax, Wipro

**Dr. V Veerappan**, Chairman, Electronics & ICT Expert Committee, BCIC and President, Tessolve Semiconductor.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ▶▶ Session on Industry 4.0 with Augmented Reality / Mixed Reality December 15, 2020

The above session organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee was addressed by Mr. Rajkiran C, Senior Director & Head of the IOT/AR Business, PTC.

Setting the theme for the session, Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC, spoke about the benefits of implementation of Industry 4.0 technology in the era of customized manufacturing, digitalization and automation by way of prescriptive data analytics.

**Mr. Rajkiran presented on the following:**

- Benefits of embarking on Digital transformation.

- Improvements in Asset Efficiency, Production Performance and Workforce Productivity.
- IoT and AR portfolio help in Industrial IoT implementations.
- Compelling AR use-cases that can augmented human ability to learn, train and service better.
- AR Remote collaboration/assistance technologies; Service/Maintenance/Assembly/Training.

PTC's three decades of Industrial experience that has helped in creating Digital twin creation and high-value IoT/AR use-cases that can be implemented with PTC's portfolio.

### ▶▶ Webinar on Enhancing the Employability of Professional Graduates and Examination Proctoring Solution on December 17, 2020

The above session was organized under the aegis of Industry-Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee, BCIC.

Ms. Ramya Bhaskar, Founder, GiveMeFive presented on enhancing the employability of professional graduates and this is the summary of her presentation:

- Important opportunities for non-computer science students.
- Steps to enhance employability amongst non-computer science students.
- Overview of constant changes in the campus placement procedures; integration of AI in almost all domains.
- Insights & applications of job opportunities of AI/ML/ Data Scientist in various platforms.

Mr. Subramaniam Kannan, Founder, Quiklrn presented on Online Examination with Proctoring with the following takeaways:

- Essential and critical need of online examination in the current context.
- Requirement and challenges of online examination.
- Remote proctoring for online examination (closed book).
- Technology enablers: AI-based remote proctoring; scheduling proctored examination.
- Reviewing proctored data: Video monitoring; online violations; verification scams; on boarding.

The session was moderated by Dr. K N Subramanya, Chairman, 3i Expert Committee, BCIC and Mr. Sanjay Grover, Member, 3i Expert Committee, BCIC and Co-Founder and Director, Quiklrn.

### ▶▶ Webinar on Four Years Journey of IBC – Milestones on January 5, 2021

Mr. Ashoka S N, Zonal Manager – FA Application SZ, NZ, EZ, Fanuc India presented on the subject at the third session in the series of the workshop organized under the aegis of Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC, covering topics viz., Factors of Fine surface Machining: Machine, Tool, Machining condition, CAM, Program, CNC and Servo; Impact of Look Ahead Blocks (BLA), Block Processing Time (BPT) and Spindle speed; Funda clear: block length, step over, Tolerance setting, Feed/blade; Spindle vibration, Tool run out, Coolant; Visual finish, Ra, Rz measurement analysis

The key takeaways from the session comprised knowledge sharing on Die mould machining with regard to various segments; challenges in high precision, factors affecting CNC for mould machining, impact of BLA and BPT, evaluation, case studies and learnings of Die Mould.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### Webinar on Contract Management on January 6, 2021

The BCIC under the aegis of Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee organized the above session to analyze the effectiveness of functioning of NCLT/NCLAT, the accomplishment of the objectives and intent of IBC, role of Insolvency Professionals (IP) and the functioning of IUs.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC), has now been in force for four years. Under the regime of IBC, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), have attained a well sought out platform by the financial and operational creditors for recovery of debts. The establishment of Information Utility (IU) like NeSL has helped

the banking sector to rely on the repository of the creditors. The journey has witnessed many amendments since the implementation of the IBC.

Dr. M S Sahoo, Chairman, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) delivered the keynote address. The speakers at the session comprised Shri. S Raman, Managing Director & CEO, IA & AS, NeSL- National E-Governance Services Ltd, Bengaluru; Shri. Amresh Sood, CA & IP, B R Maheswari & Co LLP, New Delhi and Dr. K S Ravichandran, Managing Partner, KSR & Co. The session was moderated by Dr. K V Omprakash, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee, BCIC.

### Webinar on Contract Management on January 6, 2021

The BCIC, under the aegis of MSME Council jointly with Centre for Sustainable Development (CSD), Green Skills Academy, organized the above session that aligned with the objective of bringing in awareness to MSMEs in particular about the opportunities to land public contracts that require meticulous documentation and are governed by strict rules and regulations given the present context with governments opening up bidding for contracts through e-procurement.

Lt. Col L Shri Harsha, Retd. PgMP, PMP conducted the session

and provided an overview of the necessities of good Contract Management practices that would help deal with contracts in a more efficient and effective manner to reduce bottlenecks in transactions during procurement management and contract implementation comprising: reasons for failure; pandemic times VUCA effects; technical/financial/statutory administration aspects of contract; Process and methodologies; perception of requirements isolation from ground realities and past experiences.

### Session on Vaccines & Vaccination - An Overview on January 7, 2021

The above session organized under the aegis of Pharma and Healthcare Expert Committee was addressed by Dr. Anand Lakhkar, Senior Manager - Global Medical Affairs and Clinical Development, Vaccines and Biologics, Serum Institute of India.

Dr. Lakhkar in his address covered various types of immunity, antigens and vaccines in general and for COVID-19 in particular; efficacy of vaccination; origin and case uses of COVID-19 vaccines.

Dr Lakhkar said though all vaccines are to prevent Covid-19 and treat it there is not enough evidence that it could stop the transmission. This is because corona virus is an evolving disease with new evidences and cases manifesting at each stage, he said. The world has been able to come out with vaccines for coronavirus because of the growing number of cases. This has enabled doctors and companies to conduct clinical trials and reach the end-points faster. It has led to fast

tracking and expediting phase 3 studies, where at this stage the vaccine manufacturers are able to ramp up their production capacity by investing to quickly introduce their vaccines in the market. Despite the speed to market access, companies have the scientifically-backed data available for the quick regulatory response, he noted.

His presentation was followed by a lively interaction on the present scenario of vaccination and common FAQs.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### »» Webinar on Digital Transformation for Smart Manufacturing - January 8, 2021

The above session organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC, was addressed by Mr. Balaji Mohan, IIoTConsultant, EcoStruxure Champion, Schneider Electric India, who presented on

- Trend & Need of Smart manufacturing
- Overview on Schneider Electric Industry 4.0 Solutions: Digital Workforce; Digital Assets and Digital Operations
- Customer use cases

- Schneider Electric, Bangalore Smart factory deployment journey

Key takeaways comprised Reactive to Predictive Asset management; Augmented reality for workforce empowerment and Paperless shop floor deployment.

The session was moderated by Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC.

### »» Webinar: BREXIT and its impact on new UK Regulatory Compliance for Pharmaceutical Industry on January 13, 2021

The above session organized under the aegis of Pharma and Healthcare Expert Committee, BCIC, was addressed by Mr. Santosh Kashyap, AVP – RA and Mr. Anilkanth Tamma, AGM – RA, Adcock Ingram India (Relicare Tech Services) who provided an overview on the new rules for business from January 1, 2021, though the entire negotiations of Brexit are still ongoing and dynamic. They elaborated on the major impact India will face and the need for pharma industry to keep up with the change.

Mr. Iyer, Chairman, Pharma and Healthcare Expert Committee, BCIC, said that there are a lot of changes to grapple with as Brexit comes into being not just for UK and EU but for companies across the world. This essentially means that while it is free movement of goods with some arrangements made to ensure there are no taxes and tariffs for the present, additional paper work and compliances still have to be faced. However, it is still not clear what impact Brexit would have on services and trade with the UK -EU and the world. But there are a lot of new rules across the business that are being framed," he added.

Stating that Brexit is the latest and a contemporary topic in regulatory affairs of pharmaceuticals, Mr. Santosh Kashyap said the Marketing Authorization Holder (MAH) established in the UK will be transferred to a holder in the EU. It will be amended from UK MAH to EU MAH. The reference medicinal products (RefMP) will be referred to as the EU Ref MP. Therefore it is critical for pharma companies to match the information of the generic product that is manufactured. Principally even if it was submitted before Brexit, the UK RefMP will be accepted, but it is still required that the applicant will have to refer to the EU 27 member countries RefMP.

Decentralized procedure (DCP) is a European authorization route resulting in a mutually recognized product (MRP). Mr. Anil Kanth Tamma provided the guidance on handling DCP and MRP for drugs approved before Brexit or pending clearance. He also highlighted on how to handle the variations in marketing authorization of brands.

### »» Discover the business climate of the Netherlands on January 20, 2021

The above session was organized under the aegis of International Business Expert Committee, BCIC.

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC in his address briefed on the continuous support and co-operation the Chamber receives from High Commissions, Embassies and Trade Missions, especially in efforts in holding interactive sessions with visiting delegations from USA, Thailand, Japan, Australia, Austria, Argentina, Algeria, South Africa and Greece. These sessions not only provide a platform for knowledge sharing, business networking and investment promotion for the leading

industrialists but also help members get the flavor of understanding international business and exploring international opportunities to broad-base their business.

Mr. K Ravi, Chairman, International Business Expert Committee, BCIC, in his address said the session would provide a platform for the members to interact with the officials from Netherlands Consulate-General in Bengaluru and learn more about the investment opportunities in Netherlands.

H.E. Mr. Gert Heijkoop, Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in South India, addressed on the economic



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

development and business incentives that would benefit Indian companies considering business expansion in Netherlands.

Mr. Balaji Venkatraman, Area Director South India, Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA), presented on Investment opportunities in Netherlands for foreign investors.

Mr. PrithwickPartha, Head of Business Transformation, iSolve

Netherlands shared the experiences of doing business in Netherlands.

The session was moderated by Mr. Heine Lageveen, Deputy Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in South India.

### **Workshop on Selection of Machine Tools** on January 25, 2021

The fourth session in the series of workshops organized under the aegis of the Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC was addressed by Mr. Y Balaramaiah, Director, Advanced Machine Tool Testing Facility, (AMTTF).

The workshop provided the “Know how” to select the right machine tool for the right application to facilitate metal cutting machine tools users.

#### **Key Takeaways comprised:**

- Segment based knowledge on machine tools selection.
- Machine tools for “High Precision machining”.
- Common machine tool selection to cater different segments.

- Productivity improvement by choosing “right” machine tool with “right” spec.
- Machine tool Testing/ inspection parameters.
- Positioning Accuracy and Repeatability, Spindle Vibration Limits. Power Torque Characteristics – Understanding and Usage.

The recordings of the webinars have been uploaded on YouTube (except for those wherein the Speakers / Organizations they represent have not permitted for sharing)

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZnnH6lwYeiZ\\_S0hboyApqar09ytmZ3-e](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZnnH6lwYeiZ_S0hboyApqar09ytmZ3-e)

### **Launch and Inauguration: BCIC – Amrita TBI – MSME Dept of Govt. of Karnataka and Govt. of Kerala** on January 27, 2020

The BCIC – Amrita TBI – MSME DI, Govt of Karnataka and Kerala jointly launched the first in the series of sessions on MSMEs with the objective to address various challenges of these companies with reference to (but not limited to) Skill Development, Enhancing quality education & development; Role of training & development; Policy and Advocacy; Financing models; Domestic/Global Skill Development Scenario; National/International System of Vocational Education in Schools, Colleges and Higher and Skill India: Entrepreneurship for Job Creation.

#### **Speakers at the session included:**

MSDE, Govt of Karnataka and Govt of Kerala

**Dr. Anita Agarwal**, Scientist E TDT, Dept of Science and Technology, Govt of India

**Mr. RGR Akadas**, Director, MSME-DI, Bangalore

**Mr. GS Prakash**, Joint Director, MSME-DI, Thrissur

#### **BCIC:**

**Mr. TR Parasuraman**, President, BCIC

**Mr. Indushekar B R**, Chairman – BCIC MSME Council and Head - Strategy, Development and Operations, Volvo Group India

**Dr. Crasta J**, Co-Chairman – BCIC MSME Council and Chairman, CM Enviro Systems

#### **Amrita TBI:**

**Dr. Krishnashree Achuthan**, PG Dean, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

#### **Moderated by:**

**Mr. Joydeep Nag**, Head & Advisor, Technology Enabling Center, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

**Mr. Archish Mathe Madhavan**, Co Founder, ZishtaInc, spoke on the theme - An Entrepreneur’s Tale of Belief, Grit, Guts and Gumption.

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### ➤ Special talk by Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Immediate Past President, BCIC on Travelling from Kanyakumari - Kashmir – Kanyakumari on a motor bike on January 28, 2021

In a scintillating presentation on trans-India travel, Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Immediate Past President, BCIC shared his travel experiences of driving a motorbike on a round trip from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

His quest to explore the country and its various food patterns were backed with a lot of determination and support from the family. He emphasized the successful trip had instilled a greater sense of self-confidence.

He presented on the day-to-day journey, shared stories about the people he met, the different kinds of cuisine he ate, and the perseverance that was developed towards dealing with any untoward circumstances after enduring climate change, mediocre roads and ceaseless traffic.

There was no doubt that many of the participants were very much inspired and complimented Mr. Devesh Agarwal for his exemplary presentation.

### ➤ Workshop on Anti Terrorism, Security threats & Mitigation Measures for Hospitality Sector by Internal Security Division (ISD), Karnataka State Police on January 29, 2021

In his Welcome Address, President Mr. T R Parasuraman said that the above Workshop is a first-of-its-kind held by any Industry Associations and complimented Mr. Vineet Verma, Chairman, Tourism, Hospitality and Travel Expert Committee, BCIC in conceptualizing the programme. On behalf of BCIC he acknowledged the support of Internal Security Division (ISD), Karnataka State Police for providing the Chamber this unique opportunity in organizing the Workshop to bring in an awareness on the preparedness to counter a terror attack at hotels.

High-level hotels are an anathema to terrorists because they represent open societies and western ideals. Existing hospitality industry security protocols are on shaky ground, and

existing security measures are either poorly conceived or badly implemented. However, despite hotels being in the terrorist bullseye, the situation in the Karnataka hospitality trade is one of complacency, if not half-measures, the experts opined at the Workshop, Mr. Vineet Verma added.

#### Highlights of the workshop:

Sharing of experience on successfully leading the Operation Black Tornado launched post 26/11/2008 attacks in Mumbai.

Address on Employment of Dogs in Hotel Security and mock drills conducted by Garuda Force

Talk on terrorism in Indian & Global context	<b>Brig S Bubesh Kumar</b> , SM Director, CCT
Opening Address	<b>Shri Bhaskar Rao</b> , IPS, ADGP, ISD
Talk on Operation Black Tornado (26/11 Attacks)	<b>Brig Sunil Sheoran</b> , SM Commandant, Parachute Regiment Training Centre, Bangalore Talk by Staff of Hotel Taj, Mumbai on experience of 26/11 attacks
<b>Talk by Staff of Hotel Taj, Mumbai on experience of 26/11 attacks</b>	
The threat of IEDs & Counter-measures for hospitality sector	<b>Lt. Col A Balakrishna</b> , SM, Dy Director (BDDS), CCT
The Garuda Force – A Brief overview	<b>Lt. Col Rohit Nayak</b> , Dy Director (Training), CCT
showcase Garuda Force capabilities	<b>Lt. Col Rohit Nayak</b> , Dy Director (Training), CCT
Govt guidelines, rules & regulations on security & related aspects specific to hospitality sector	<b>Mr. Ratnakar Shetty</b> , Dy SP, ISD
Talk from the hospitality sector to highlight their capabilities, weakness, requirements & concerns	<b>Mr. Shibil Malik</b> , GM, Sheraton Grand Hotel @ Brigade Gateway
Employment of Dogs in Hotel Security	<b>Mr. Amrut Sridhara Hiranya</b> , Dog Guru He is India's only Canine Behaviourist, Unitec New Zealand & first in Asia to be awarded Australian Dog Whisper Cup. He has delivered Ted Talk on Canine Behaviour, is a dog consultant to the Police Dog Squad & Railway Protection Force Dog Squad and runs a dog training academy.

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The entire Workshop was sponsored by Brigade Hospitality



### Webinar on Digitization of HR and demonstration of ZingHR, an Outcomation™ platform for HR automation on January 29, 2021

The Agro and Food Processing jointly with HR and Women Empowerment and Leadership Expert Committees organized the above Session.

The ZingHR Team comprising Dr. Prasanth Nair, Managing Partner; Mr. Pankaj Pipariya, Sales Director and Mr. Ravi Kikan,

CMO presented on the prowess of ZingHR platform in alignment with HR software that combines technology, effortless Cloud HRIS solutions covering the entire spectrum from Hire-to-Retire processes.



### Live Telecast of the Union Budget 2021-2022 on February 1, 2021

As in the past, the Chamber had organized for the live telecast of the Union Budget 2021 – 2022.

The session was attended by senior members of the Chamber.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### ➤ Post-Budget Analysis of the Union Budget 2021 - 2022 organized by the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) jointly with Bidadi Industries Association (BIA) on February 2, 2021

The BCIC – BIA jointly organized the above session wherein eminent speakers from Industry and Professional discussed threadbare on the key aspects of Direct and Indirect tax proposals and the nuances of the Union Budget.

**Mr. Kamal Bali**, President & Managing Director, Volvo Group India

**Mr. Lakshminarayana K R**, Chief Endowment Officer, Azim Premji Foundation

**Mr. KR Sekar**, Senior Vice President, BCIC and Partner, Deloitte Haskins and Sells LLP

**Mr. Pramod Jain**, CFO, Flipkart Ltd

**Dr. Rumki Majumdar**, Associate Director and Economist, Deloitte India

**Mr. Baskar K**, Partner, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India

**Mr. K Balasubramanian**, Chairman, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC and VP & Global Head - Corporate Tax, Wipro Ltd

**Mr. Sunil Kumar Dhareshwar**, Co-Chairman, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC and SVP and Global Head – Taxation, Infosys Ltd

**Ms. Tapati Ghose**, Coordinator, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC and Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells

### ➤ Webinar on the state of economy and forex outlook on February 4, 2021

Mr. Abheek Barua, Chief Economist and Executive Vice President, HDFC Bank Ltd addressed on the economy and Forex useful for Business Planning and forecasting comprising

- Global Growth 2021: A sharp bounce back
- Central Bank Policy: Lower for Longer
- US growth strategy: Fiscal Support and Monetary Stimulus
- INR Outlook: Supports and Risks
- The Growth Path: When will we reach pre-pandemic levels?

- Fiscal Math: Expanding expenditure, conservative on revenues
- FX Forecasts

The above session was organized under the aegis of Banking Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee, BCIC. The Chamber acknowledges the support of HDFC Bank for sponsoring the session

### ➤ Digital Manufacturing Solutions for Arc Welding Industry on February 5, 2021

The above session organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee was addressed by Mr. Rahul Raje, Regional Business Head – South India Operations, Fronius India.

#### Key takeaways comprised:

- Importance of welding process and technology in Fabrication Industry and the present need to understand the level of other machine tools being considered to match the global industry upgrades.
- Digitization of the welding technology and equipment resulting in huge savings through predictive and preventive maintenance avoiding rework, avoiding rejection, productivity improvement, optimized resources and repetitive capital investment to be at par with industry standards.

- Industry 4.0 compliance in welding is not a cost but an investment with lucrative potential returns.
- The key is taking into consideration the time of investing on welding technology rather than only looking at temporary results.

## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD



### ➤ Felicitation of the Awardees / Finalists - BCIC Emerging Star Awards on February 5, 2021



The BCIC Emerging Star Awards felicitation programme culminated over a grand celebration that brought together Jury, industry leaders who were part of the awards ceremony, Sponsors, Supporting Partners, Knowledge Partner and the Finalists and Winners of the award.

The Jury Chairman and Panel, speakers and the event partners shared on their journey of the awards and appreciated BCIC for this unique initiative. The Chamber acknowledged their support by way of felicitating them along with the Winners and Finalists.

Mr. Manas Dasgupta and Ms. Richa Sarna, Committee leaders of YBCIC moderated the programme.

President Mr. T R Parasuraman and Senior Vice President Mr. K R Sekar along with the members present placed on record their appreciation to Dr. Ravindran for spearheading this initiative.

President further announced the next edition of the Startup Awards proposed during April 2021.

### ➤ Two-Day Workshop on IPR, Trademarks & Patents Registration Process on February 5 and 6, 2021

The two-day Workshop organized under the aegis of Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee, BCIC covered on the topics:

- Introduction to IPR and pre-requisites for Registration & Grant of Patents
- Prerequisites and procedure for Registration of Trademarks

Dr. K V Omprakash, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee set the theme for the session. Speakers comprised:

- Er. Santhanam Lakshmanan, Chief Executive, KSR&Co Company Secretaries LLP. Head Industrial Audits & Patent Agent, will speak on IPR & Patent Registration
- Advocate Ms. S Manjuladevi, Senior Inhouse Counsel & Associate, KSR&Co Company Secretaries LLP will speak on Prerequisites and Procedures for Registration of Trademarks

The Session was moderated by Dr. K S Ravichandran, Managing Partner, KSR & Co Company Secretaries LLP and Member, Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee,

### ➤ Interactive Session with H.E. Mr. Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to India on February 8, 2021

The above meeting was organized under the aegis of International Business Expert Committee, BCIC.

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC in his address briefed on the continuous support and co-operation the Chamber receives from High Commissions, Embassies and Trade Missions, especially in the efforts in holding interactive sessions with

visiting delegations from USA, Thailand, Japan, Australia, Austria, Argentina, Algeria, South Africa, Greece. These sessions not only provide a platform for knowledge sharing, business networking and investment promotion for the leading Industrialists but also help members get the flavor of understanding international business and exploring

## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD



international opportunities to broad-base their business.

Mr. K Ravi, Chairman, International Business Expert Committee, BCIC in his address said the session would provide a platform for the members to interact with the officials and learn more about the investment opportunities in Poland.

H.E. Mr. Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to India and the delegation presented on the business potentials and various schemes / incentives being facilitated towards mutual cooperation, technology transfers and joint ventures.

#### The delegation comprised:

**Mr. Raghu C Rajappa**, Honorary Consul of Republic of Poland in Bengaluru

**Mr. J J Singh**, President, Indo Polish Chambers of Commerce & Industries (IPCCI) (virtual mode)

**Mr. Tchorzewski Klaudiusz**, Consul for Economic & Political Development Embassy of Poland, New Delhi and **Mr. Irzyk Damian**, Consul for Republic of Poland, Mumbai (Incharge of South India)

Including the Office Bearers, BCIC was represented by Dr. Prashanth Reddy, MD, FunderMax India; Dr. K V Omprakash, Advocate and Founder Director, Conscientia Consultancy; Mr. Narasimha Nakshatri, Consultant, Nakshathri Associates; Mr. Vishwas B R, Proprietor, Vishwas Concrete.

Coinciding with the meeting, the BCIC and Indo Polish Chambers of Commerce & Industries signed a MoU to collaborate and work closely in promoting business and trade opportunities between India and Poland with particular reference to Bangalore - Karnataka.

Dr. Bose Nair, Co-Chairman, International Business Expert Committee, BCIC proposed the vote of thanks.



### BCIC – WTC, Bengaluru joint session on Analysis of Indirect Tax provisions in the India Budget 2021-22 on February 9, 2021

The above session was organized under the aegis of its Indirect Taxes Expert Committee to deliberate on mixed bag of amendments – policy related, retrospective, operational, compliance of the Union Budget.

Mr. G Shivadass, Mentor, Indirect Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC will be addressing on the Indirect Tax provisions in the Finance Bill.



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### ➤➤ Special talk on Technical Education in India - challenges, opportunities and a way forward for implementing radical changes on February 10, 2021

Mr. Sharad Marathe, Chairman, Task Force, Ayush Ministry, Government of India and Expert –Agriculture and Technology presented on the present technical education scenario in India covering on:

Present scenario:

- Quality education and poor employability of graduates; loss of competitiveness; competency of faculty;

#### **Opportunities /way forward:**

- Indo Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) which has over 50 colleges' pan-India as its members;
- Working toward bringing fundamental reforms in Indian education system
- Seamless integration and coordination amongst colleges
- Focus on regular formative assessment for learning rather than summative assessment

- Extensive use of technology in training
- Moving towards multi disciplinary undergraduate education;
- Teacher development in multi disciplinary perspectives and knowledge under the best mentors
- Industry involvement in development of content and education – transformation of engineering education
- New generation of problem solving oriented and multi disciplinary content that is market driven
- Interactive e-Book development and publishing for Indian and global market
- Continuous Internship Model
- Proposed Roadmap for implementation – Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Academia

Mr. Sharad Marathe sought the support of the Chamber in this initiative.

### ➤➤ Meeting to discuss on BCIC collaboration with Indo Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) regarding implementation of National Education Policy 2020 on February 24, 2021

Post the meeting with Mr. Sharad Marathe, the Chamber proposes to support Indo Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) regarding implementation of National Education Policy 2020 by way of partnering in designing and implementation of prototypes using AICTE Model Curriculum (for first year engineering courses).

In this regard a Core Committee comprising Mr. T R

Parasuraman, President, BCIC; Dr. K N Subramanya, Chairman, Industry-Institute Interface Expert Committee, BCIC; Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Ind 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC; Dr. S Devarajan, Mentor, Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC; Mr. A Murali, Advisor, BCIC was constituted to discuss on the objectives and role of BCIC in implementation of National Education Policy 2020.

### ➤➤ Interactive Meeting with Dr. K Kasturirangan, Head of Committee, New Education Policy for India, Govt of India on February 12, 2021

An exclusive conversation with Dr. Kasturirangan, Head of Committee, New Education Policy for India, Govt of India was organized under the aegis of BCIC Leadership Forum.

Dr. Kasturirangan is in the forefront of leading the country's science and technology capabilities in the last four decades or so. His contributions to S&T is holistic especially in ensuring the linkages with society and its needs, wealth creation, strategic

capability and overall well-being of the nation and its people.

#### **Dr. Kasturirangan in his address shared on:**

- His unique experiences during his primary and secondary education in Government schools and the role his teachers played in shaping his learning capabilities beyond the general thinking
- His thirst in his studies preparing for variety of possibilities in



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linking theory to practice with a multidisciplinary perspective enabling a deep and wide impact on society

- Experimental High Energy Astronomy at Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad that was his life changing experience, considering his work inspired by scientific contribution of noble laureate Prof S. Chandrashekar and from Prof. Vikram Sarabhai's unique outlook for space research.
- His Doctoral research in enabling higher aspirations towards research and innovation in varied domains and roles related to scientific and social advancements.
- As Project Director and as Chairman of ISRO, being instrumental in several milestones be it in technological innovation, launch of PSLV-D2, opening-up new avenues for India's international space market, successful implementation of EduSat and many more.
- Key transformations at the personal and organizational level that enabled such an ecosystem at ISRO and its missions seeking national, regional and international accolades

including bi-lateral and multilateral cooperation while building a robust social outlook into space and technology.

- His experience on being nominated to the Rajya Sabha as Member of the Parliament; leading role played as part of the Planning Commission as Member (Science). What was the role assigned to you and how did you manage the same, given that the Planning Commission ; strategies adopted in identifying, planning, implementing and monitoring key policy decision as the Member, Planning Commission.
- His recent nomination as the Chairman, Committee to Draft the National Education Policy-2020 and the biggest challenge before the committee in drafting the policy in providing the much needed end-to-end educational roadmap for the country.
- Moderator: Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President & Coordinator-BCIC - CEO Forum, the session was a learning experience for the participation to listen and internalize his professional journey that paved such holistic and unique pathways to the Nation.

### Panel Discussion - Why does it make business sense for Gender Diversity in workplace? On February 18, 2021

The above session organized under the aegis of HR and Women Empowerment and Leadership Expert Committee was addressed by leaders from Large Enterprises, SMEs, and startups to understand what is being done to make gender (women) diversity not only a numbers game, but make opportunities available to women such that they are able to navigate the challenges, across all ranks and at every stage of their professional advancement.

High attrition and a high gender pay gap are attributes that cause this declining trend. While one can look at this as a matter of despair, it also presents a trillion dollar opportunity as many reports state that increasing women labour force participation by 10 percentage points could add 770 B\$ to India's GDP by 2025. If India could rebalance its workforce, the world's largest democracy would be 27% richer).

Ms. Neeraja Ganesh, Consultant, Quinnergy Leadership Academy moderated the session. The Panelists comprised

Ms. Seema Shenoy, Director, HR & People Practices at Incture Technologies

Mr. Somesh Auddy, CEO, Verifacts Services

Ms. Geetha Srinivasa, Managing Director, Ecolab

Ms. Lavanya Pachisia, CFO, Actoserba Active Wholesale (Zivame)

Dr. Augustus Azariah, Chairman, HR and Women Empowerment & Leadership Expert Committee, BCIC presented on STEM and Volunteerism at IBM India highlighting on the IBM collaboration with the government, aiming to enable girls empowerment through 21st century skills building, STEM learning, computational thinking, and self-actualization, to increase their chances of employment and careers

### BCIC - Interactive Session with Prof. K Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India on February 18, 2021

The interactive meeting with Prof. K Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India was held with the

key objective to discuss on the role, agenda and the structure of the proposed BCIC Skill Academy.



## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD

### The Key team members from the Chamber comprised:

Mr. TR Parasuraman, President, BCIC

Mr. KR Sekar, Sr. Vice President, BCIC

Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President, BCIC

Mr. Kamal Bali, President & Managing Director, Volvo Group India

Mr. Ravi Raghavan, Managing Director, BFW & Past President, CII

Mr. M Lakshminarayan, Former Managing Director, Bosch, Past President, BCIC

Mr. AN Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC

Dr. Devarajan S, Mentor, Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC

Mr. Indushekar BR, Chairman, MSME Council, BCIC

Mr. Prakash G M Chairman, Manufacturing Expert Committee, BCIC

Mr. R Srinivasan, Past President, BCIC & Former Managing Director, Widia

Mr. Murali A, Advisor, BCIC

### Webinar on Grow Your Money on February 20, 2021

The BCIC under the aegis of MSME Council jointly with Amrita TBI organized the above session on Personal Finance – Grow Your Money that reflected on the importance for every individual to be financially independent in today's era.

Mr. Nanda Kishore Sethuraman, CMO, PoAncho Solutions presented on the importance of financially being independent and ways to inculcate preparedness for any exigencies well in advance that would enable empowering achieve their life goals.

### Masterclass on Digitalization and Automation on February 25, 2021

The above Masterclass organized under the aegis of Industry 4.0 Expert Committee was conducted by Mr. Jagannath V, Co-Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee and Business Head, m2nxt - ABFW Subsidiary.

His presentation comprised on adoption of various digitization and adoption process and concepts for improving productivity, Performance and Profitability for organizations. He extensively

covered on the benefits of digital format applications in enhancing easy access of process information, simplifying specific operations, integration of digitized data and applications. He showcased the case study of m2nxt application iris (Intelligent – Reliable – Innovative – Seamless) driven under Atmanirbhar Bharat, the active and intelligent device of m2nxt.

### Session on Return to the Workplace on February 25, 2021

In the background of India commencing the world's largest vaccination drives and organizations ramping up their physical operations in a phased, return to work, the above Webinar addressed common questions about workplace readiness for employees to return to work and to assist organizations to adopt an effective return to work strategy.

Ms. Divya Jha, Director HR India, Johnson Controls

Dr. Rupa Kalahasthi, Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist

Ms. Rupal Sinha, Director IFMS, Quess Corp

Mr. Nishanth Ravidran, Employment Lawyer, AZB & Partners

Dr. Augustus S Azariah, Chairman, HR and Women Empowerment and Leadership Expert Committee, BCIC

Ms. Veena Gopalakrishnan, Partner, AZB Partners moderated the session.

The distinguished speakers during the session covered key aspects including employers mandate employees to return to work; basic minimum requirements in terms of workplace readiness; Going beyond sanitization protocols: mental health, wellness discrimination and harassment and Vaccine and the Workplace.

The session helped participants understand the key verticals of organization's structural/logistical modifications; training and sensitization, policy changes; interpreting and understanding Central, State and local laws guidelines, advisories, and SOPs; organisations guidance on vaccinations, healthcare facilities safety mechanisms apart from adoption of best practices.

## EVENTS ORGANIZED DURING THE PERIOD



### BCIC felicitates Mr. K R Girish, Past President

For the first time the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) constituted a yearly research award for outstanding research papers published in the areas of Accounting, Auditing and Taxation.

The entries for the research papers were invited from all countries except USA and Europe and this is one of its kind and an International jury was constituted for awarding the best research paper. There were around 192 entries from countries across Asia, Australia, Bangladesh, Middle East, Pakistan and Africa. Out of the 192 entries only 19 papers were selected including the paper submitted by Mr. K R Girish on the topic of international tax – Limitation of Benefits (LOBs) in Tax Treaties Indian experience an exhaustive paper running to over 70 pages with various research references.

This LOB clause is to prevent Tax Treaty abuse and India started adapting this in its Tax Treaties with other countries after the Supreme Court gave its verdict in the celebrated Azadi Bachao Andolan case.



The BCIC Office Bearers along with Mr. Gopal Hosur, IPS, Retd., felicitating Mr. K R Girish, Past President, BCIC on being awarded at the ICAI International Research Awards 2020



### Interaction with Winners / Finalists of BCIC Emerging Stars Award with Jury and VCs on February 26, 2021

As the way forward post the award ceremony of the BCIC Emerging Stars Award, the Startup ecosystem Jury, Representatives of VCs from Startup / Young BCIC had a brainstorming session with the winners / finalists in seeking their inputs / handholding requirements / suggestions in addressing the challenges and help improve their business.

The discussions revolved around the Chamber's facilitation by way of providing platform for speedy development of their

business establishing network with BCIC members on various sectors.

Members present: Chairman of the Jury panel Mr. K Jairaj, IAS Retd; Jury members Dr. Lakshmi Jagannathan, Mr. Chandu Nair (through virtual mode); Mr. Vijetha Shastry, Executive Director, TiE Bangalore; Core Committee members - Mr. K Ravi, Mr. Raju Bhatnagar, Mr. Sudip Bhattacharya and the awardees.



## BCIC MoUs



BCIC and Amrita Technology  
Business Incubator  
on October 22, 2020



BCIC and Tourism and  
Hospitality Sector Skill Council  
(THSC) on November 5, 2020



BCIC with JSS Science &  
Technology University, Sri  
Jaychamarajendra College of  
Engineering, Mysuru  
on February 3, 2021



BCIC and Indo Polish Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry  
on February 8, 2021



## Inauguration and Pooja of BCIC new office premises on November 27, 2020



The inauguration of the new office as well as a pooja was held on November 27, 2020. The auspicious occasion was graced by past Presidents and senior members of the Chamber.

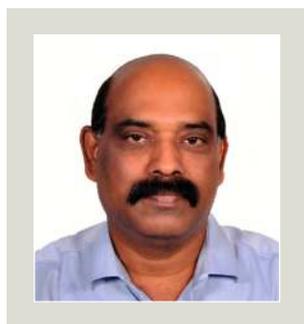
The Chamber strictly adhering to COVID-19 protocol had organized for the live streaming of the inauguration which was much appreciated by the members.

# BCIC REPRESENTATIONS



Date	Expert Committee	Subject	Authority
Oct 20, 2020	Direct Taxes	Representation to extend the audit date till December 31st at least for corporate assesses subject to Tax Audit and TP audit	Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Oct 24, 2020	Bnkg, Fin and Corp Affairs	Representation on Opening of Current Accounts by Banks	Shri. Shaktikanta Das Governor, Reserve Bank of India
Nov 5, 2020	Ease of Doing Business Cell – Start to Sustenance (S2S), MSME Council, Young BCIC including Start-ups, International Business	BCIC inputs for Minimizing regulatory compliance burden on businesses	Shri. Gaurav Gupta, IAS Principal Secretary to Government Commerce & Industries Dept., Government of Karnataka
Dec 1, 2020	HR and WEL	BCIC Representation regarding ordinance raising the threshold from 100 to 300 workmen	The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka
Jan 15, 2021	Indirect Taxes	Summary of issues discussed in the GRC meeting on Jan 8, 2021	Mr. D P Nagendra Kumar, IRS Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Taxes – Karnataka Co-Chairman of Karnataka State GST Grievance Redressal Committee, Bengaluru Mr. M S Srikar, IAS Commissioner of States Taxes – Karnataka Co-Chairman of Karnataka State GST Grievance Redressal Committee
Jan 21, 2021	Ind 4.0; 3i; YBCIC; Manufacturing	BCIC recommendation on Digital Transformation to Hon'ble Finance Minister	Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Feb 6, 2021	General	Appeal to resolve Labour situation at Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd., Bidadi, Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka</li> <li>- The Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries, Govt. of Karnataka</li> <li>- The Minister for Labour, Govt. of Karnataka</li> <li>- The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka</li> <li>- The Additional Chief Secretary of the Dept. of Industries and Commerce, Govt. of Karnataka</li> <li>- The Additional Chief Secretary to the Dept. of Labour, Govt. of Karnataka</li> <li>- Commissioner, Industries and Commerce, Department Government of Karnataka</li> </ul>
Feb 22, 2021	Indirect Taxes	Pre-Budget Memorandum – State Taxes 2021 – 2022	<b>Shri B S Yediyurappa</b> Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka
Feb 24, 2021		Request to reconsider the revised fees levied to industries for obtaining consents	<p><b>Sri. Vijayakumar Gogi</b>, I.F.S Chairman Karnataka State Pollution Control Board</p> <p><b>Shri Jagadish Shettar</b>, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries , GoK</p> <p><b>Mr. P. Ravi Kumar</b>, IAS Chief Secretary to Government, GoK</p> <p><b>Mr. Gaurav Gupta</b>, IAS Addl. Chief Secretary to Government Commerce &amp; Industries Dept., GoK</p> <p><b>Sri. Srinivasulu</b>, I.F.S Member Secretary Karnataka State Pollution Control Board</p> <p><b>Mr. Sandeep Dave</b>, IAS Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Ecology Department, GoK</p> <p><b>Ms. Smitha Bijjur</b>, IFS Principal Secretary to Government (Forest) Forest, Environment and Ecology Department, GoK</p> <p><b>Ms. Gunjan Krishna</b>, IAS Commissioner for Industrial Dev. and Director, I&amp;C, Dept. of Industries and Commerce, GoK</p>

# AN OVERVIEW OF PATENT OPPOSITION SYSTEM



**Er. Santhanam Lakshmanan**  
Chief Executive, KSR&Co Company  
Secretaries LLP. Head Industrial Audits &  
Patent Attorney,

A patent is an exclusive right granted to the original inventor for a novel product or a novel process that provides, a unique way of doing something, or which discloses a new technical solution to a problem. It provides monopoly right to the inventor to make, sell his invention or product. Hence it is very essential that patent is only granted to those innovations which justify the exclusive right and comply with the patentability criteria.

The major change in patent filings in India may be attributed to the revolution in the Indian Patent System on 1st January, 2005, when India signed the **Trade Related Aspects Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)** agreement, wherein **Section 25** of the Act was amended in light of the TRIPS agreement to introduce an "integrated" system of both pre-grant and post-grant opposition in India.<sup>1</sup>

**Opposition proceedings** are designed to restrain wrongful granting of patents and claiming rights of patentees. The Patents Act, 1970 offers two stages for opposing patents. One can oppose at the pre-grant stage as well as after the grant of patent. These are popularly known as the **pre-grant opposition** or **post-grant opposition** depending upon the stage.

## **PRE-GRANT OPPOSITION:**

**Section 25 (1)** of the Patent (Amendment) Act 2005 deals with pre-grant opposition of patent. Under this provision **any person or any third party or Government** may challenge the application of grant of

patent and inform to the controller of Patents for opposition, in writing against the grant of a patent after the application for a patent has been published but **before the grant** of a patent.

## **GROUND OF PRE-GRANT OPPOSITION:**

Indeed, these provisions expect right holders to be very vigilant to understand patents "about to be granted". Prior to grant, as application for grant gets published, any person may, in writing, oppose the grant of patent. Here, it is not necessary that the applicant should be in any way adversely connected to the applicant or interested in the subject matter of the proposed grant. The hallmark of granting patent lies in ensuring that the patent is granted only to deserving inventions and innovations.

**Section 25(1) of the Patents Act, 1970**, consisting of **clause (a to k)** sets out the grounds on which such an opposition could be submitted to the Controller of Patents. For instance, **clause (d)** and **(e)** of **Section 25(1)** are the important ones. Clause (d) will apply if the opponent finds that the invention so far as claimed in any claim of the complete specification was publicly known or publicly used in India before the priority date of that claim. There is an explanation under this clause as to when it would be deemed to have been **publicly known or publicly used in India** before the priority date of the claim. In the case of an invention relating to a process, if a product made by that process had already been imported into India before that date, save and except imports for experimentation purposes. The words "**publicly known or publicly used in India**" are important. Mere importing into India of a product obtained by application or operation of the process is sufficient to constitute a ground.

Another ground for submitting opposition at the pre-grant stage is that when the opponent finds that the invention so far as claimed in any claim of **the complete specification is obvious and clearly does not involve any inventive step**, having regard to the matter published as mentioned in **clause (b)** or having regard to what was used in India before the priority date of the claim.

Yet another ground covered by **clause (g)** is when **the complete specification does not sufficiently and clearly describe the invention or the method by which it is to be performed**. Thus, there are several grounds for submitting opposition to the grant of patent at the pre-grant stage.

A careful analysis of the specific grounds stated in **clauses (a) to (k)** of **Section 25(1)** of the Act will clearly show that ordinarily for mere sake of it, opposition cannot be submitted. There must be cogent description of the grounds supported by illustrations, excerpts and proof of documentary evidence to make the opposition statement strong and valid so that it can enable the controller either to reject the patent application from grant of the patent or it must be such that it results in claims getting amended or deleted.

## **POST-GRANT OPPOSITION:**

In this stage the opposition must be filed within one year after the grant of patent, **Section 25(2)** of the Act allows only "**persons who are interested**" to give notice to oppose the grant. The grounds are similar to what are specified in **Section 25(1)**. **Section 2(t)** of the Act defines this expression. "**Persons interested**" includes a person engaged in, or in promoting, research in the same filed as that to which the invention relates. In addition, interested person may also include any organization that has a manufacturing or trading/ financial interest in the goods related to the patented product. Apart from the above, there is an important difference between pre-grant and post grant oppositions. Infringement proceedings cannot be started during pre-grant opposition prosecution as the patent is still in the application stage, whereas infringement proceedings may be introduced in post grant opposition.

## **OPPOSITION IS A SERIOUS JOB**

We would like to add a word of caution. Whether pre-grant or post grant, there must be substance in the grounds for opposing. Otherwise, the opponent may suffer costs and penalties. Moreover, vexatious proceedings could cause enormous difficulties to the genuine inventors and investors in inventions.

## AN OVERVIEW OF PATENT OPPOSITION SYSTEM



### NOTED CASE LAWS ON PATENT OPPOSITION SYSTEM:

In **Mylan Laboratories Limited v Union of India and others, 2019 (80) PTC 374 (Del)**, a contention was raised by the Writ Petitioner that their pre-grant opposition was not adequately considered. As against this contention, the Deputy Controller of Patents contended that all the grounds taken by the pre-grant opponent was duly taken into consideration and even the claims were indeed amended by the applicant for patent only pursuant to the pre-grant opposition. Court held that the pre-grant opposition was decided only on merits and the remedy now available to the Writ Petitioner is either to file post grant opposition or an application for revocation of patent.

The Supreme Court in **J. Mitra & Company v Asst Controller of Patents & Designs, (2008) 10 SCC 368**, held that as

long as the person who has filed the pre-grant opposition is able to show that he is a "person interested", he is not a person without a remedy after his pre-grant opposition is rejected. He would be entitled to have the remedy of filing a post grant opposition. He has the statutory right to file an application of revocation of patent too.

At the same time, as was observed by the IPAB in **Pfizer Products Inc, v Controller of Patent, Designs and Trademarks, 2020 (83) PTC 422 (IPAB)**, if any opposition is filed either under Section 25(1) or 25(2), which is bogus and without any merit, the same must be thrown out at the earliest by the respondent with heavy costs and penalty. The IPAB said that within a time line of 12 to 15 months post-grant oppositions must be disposed of and if any appeal is filed under section 117 before the IPAB it should be disposed of within a period of 112 months in order

to save the reasonable term of the patent.

It would be interesting to note that in the said case the IPAB had lamented that in Patent Application **No.IN/PTC/2002/00705/Delhi**, in relation to an applicant who had already got patent in 13 countries, even after expiry of 19 years and 7 months, the patent application is now accepted for grant of patent. Less than 4 months are left before expiry of the 20 years during which period only patent granted subsists.

It goes without saying that much better approach would be to carry out a thorough prior art search and study upfront before filing the application for grant of patent so that further journey towards grant of patent is devoid of bumps and potholes.



The Bangalore Chamber of  
Industry and Commerce  
wishes all the members  
who are celebrating  
their birthday during  
January - March 2021

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



### Meeting with Shri R Ashoka, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Government of Karnataka on November 17, 2020



Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC; Mr. KR Sekar, Sr. Vice President, BCIC; Dr. L Ravindran, Vice President along with Mr. M N Vidyashankar, IAS Retd, Chairman, Ease of Doing Business – Start to Sustenance (S2S) Committee, BCIC had a meeting with the Hon'ble Minister and submitted the Chamber's request seeking waiver of stamp duty and registration charges in connection with registration of BCIC's new office at Midford House.

### Meeting to discuss Skill initiatives jointly with Government of Karnataka on December 16, 2020

A meeting with the Managing Director, Karnataka Skills Development Corporation, Govt of Karnataka, was initiated to discuss on the skill initiatives undertaken by BCIC in Skill Development and Employment generation in the Manufacturing Sector.

KSDC had expressed its keenness to collaborate with BCIC in identifying skill demand from member organizations on skilled manpower particularly in Manufacturing Sector comprising:

- Understanding the Industry Demand: Profiles of manpower required; job roles; inputs on their skill level; future demand estimates of manpower required.
- Challenges faced in hiring process.

- Skill Gap and training needs.
- Support from the State Govt.: Incentives and schemes,

#### BCIC was represented by:

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC; Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC and Mr. Prithvi, Secretary General Designate, BCIC.

#### KSDC was represented by:

Mr. Ashwin Gowda, Managing Director, KSDC

Mr. Shaik Mahmood, Manager – Employment & Apprenticeship, KSDC

### Affidavit Based Clearance through Single Window programme launched by Government of Karnataka on December 21, 2021

Hon'ble Chief Minister Mr. B S Yediyurappa launched the Affidavit Based Clearance scheme to boost Ease of Doing Business in the State. The objective of the new scheme is to simplify regulations and reduce procedural requirements as

well as to create a conducive investment environment. To avail of the service, the investor has to fill in the online application form with relevant fees towards required services at Karnataka UdyogMitra. These reforms include land reforms, labor

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



reforms, auto-renewal of various licenses/clearances and central inspection system, the Chief Minister added.

- Fifteen selected industry services from different departments are brought under the purview of the ABC scheme.
- The manufacturing industries/enterprises shall be eligible for the Affidavit Clearance.
- The Affidavit Clearance shall be considered as clearances by the departments for an initial period of 3 years are till the date of commercial operation.

Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC represented the Chamber at the above meeting. He complimented the Chief Minister for initiating monumental steps to improve the business climate for various stakeholders in terms of business reforms in the State. He assured all the support from the Chamber in this initiative.

In the past four assessments, the State has improved significantly in terms of effective implementation of business reform, to create a conducive business climate in the state. The Amendment to Facilitation Act is a milestone which would enable investors to establish business without any clearances/approvals from various departments for the first three years.

The launch meet was attended by Large and Medium Industries Minister Mr. Jagadish Shettar, Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Ashwat Narayan, Agriculture Minister Mr. BC Patil, Gaurav Gupta, Principal Secretary - Commerce and industries, Commissioner for Industrial Development, Ms. Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director of Industries and Commerce, Karnataka UdyogMitra Managing Director Mr. Revanna Gowda and representatives from Trade Bodies and Industry Associations.

## ➤➤ Release of New Industrial Policy 2020 – 2025, Government of Karnataka on January 19, 2021

The BCIC was invited for the launch of the New Industrial Policy 2020–25 by the State Government.

In his address, Mr. Parasuraman briefly explained the initiatives of the Chamber viz., constitution of Committee / Council on Ease of Doing Business – Self to Sustenance; MSME Council and MSME Help Desk and the proposal of opening of BCIC nodal offices outside Bangalore/ Karnataka and especially on setting up of BCIC Skill Academy. He emphasized that the Chamber will work towards its best to promote the investment/business climate of Karnataka.

He further complimented the State Government for its initiatives in land reforms and redefining classification of turnover based for the manufacturing policy by way of encouraging MSMEs at large.

Mr. Jagadish Shettar, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium



Mr. T R Parasuraman with Mr. Jagadish Shettar, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Industries, Govt. of Karnataka

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC speaking at the launch of New Industrial Policy

Industries, Government of Karnataka released the Policy. Mr. Gaurav Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government Commerce & Industries Department, Govt of Karnataka; Ms. Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director, Department of Industries & Commerce, GoK; Mr. H M Revanna Gowda, Managing Director, Karnataka UdyogMitra were present on the occasion.

- Process of e-payment link with bank completed

- Training on availing e-Certificate of Origin was initiated with the members availing the services on the new technological solution enabling them to acclimatize with the features of uploading important/mandatory documents viz. Packing List (PL) and Commercial Invoice (CI) or Invoice cum Packing List.
- Members have appreciated and shown interest in adopting this initiative.

## New initiative of BCIC

### Digitization of Certificate of Origin (COO)

The BCIC has initiated the process of digitization of Certificate of Origin (COO).

Training on availing e-Certificate of Origin initiated with the members availing the services on the new technological

solution enabling them to acclimatize with the features of uploading important/mandatory documents viz. Packing List (PL) and Commercial Invoice (CI) or Invoice cum Packing List.



### Interactive Session with Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India, on December 21, 2020

In his address, Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC, gave an overview of the activities of the Chamber comprising: Theme for the year – "Namma Bengaluru - Gateway to Karnataka"; formation of 18 Expert Committees led by leaders from large and medium scale industries; new Committees constituted viz., S2S (Start to Sustenance) Cell; MSME Council; International Business; the impending creation of Centre of Academic Excellence; BCIC COVID-19 contributions to the Chief Minister's fund; BCIC Leadership summit and Innovation summit on the anvil; BCIC Emerging Stars Awards Ceremony to assess and

build brand Bangalore as a Start-up Epicenter; BCIC MoUs and tie-ups with some of the leading Universities, Institutes, Incubators and Alumni Associations of eminence like IIT, IIM, Amrita, Dayananda Sagar, IIIT, RVCE, C4i4, etc; Promoter of Sector Skill Council in Aerospace and Aviation, with HAL and GoI; MoU - Capital Goods, Tourism and Hospitality Sector Skill Council.

Mr. K R Sekar presented about BCIC submission on Pre-Budget consultation comprising Aatmanirbhar Bharat package

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



Enclosed are few photos / snapshots of the session; the proceedings were well covered in the e-media and Social Media of BCIC as well as the Ministry of Finance, Govt of India



providing fresh impetus to economy (Creations of DFIs; Profit-linked incentives (PLI) scheme); creating cultural corridor on infra to boost infrastructure and tourism sectors; Government measures on introduction of faceless assessment and faceless appeals as it improves the confidence of tax payers; Innovation India and Taxation policy.

The Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in her address appreciated the progress made by the Government of Karnataka in all the sectors; being proactive in industrial sector and make as well as introduce policies that has immensely helped in making the State further industrialized and for being the first State to prepare Budget for agriculture sector.

On the Central Government front, the Minister briefly shared on the major initiatives during and post pandemic - safety of people; strengthening logistics and infrastructure; implementation and strict adherence to the guidelines / precautionary norms that helped the nation have lowest mortality rate; statutory deadlines with particular reference to industry were relaxed/expended; taxation, hand holding needs of emergency credits, liquidity guarantee scheme, partial guarantee scheme; MSMEs were particularly given special assistance through banks. Post pandemic, the government has taken into consideration various views of the industry/stakeholders across the nation on the implementation of the measures initiated.

The Minister appreciated the efforts of the Chamber for its proactiveness in submitting various reform recommendations for the industry/MSME during and post COVID-19. She also sought

inputs for the preparation of the upcoming Budget and requested suggestions for the recovery of the economy as well as the MSME sector.

The above session was widely covered on the social media handles of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India as well.



## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



### ➤ Felicitation of Shri. Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Government of India on February 2, 2021



Photo taken on the occasion of BCIC delegation led by Mr. T R Parasuraman, President felicitating Shri. Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Government of India

BCIC was invited by the Office of Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka for the felicitation of Shri. Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Government of India to acknowledge the support of the Central Government to the Aerospace & Defence Sector Industries of the State.

The felicitation session coincided with the Curtain-raiser of biennial Air Show and Aviation Exhibition "Aero India 2021" — the 13th edition of which was held in Bengaluru from 3rd to 5th

February 2021. The Ministry of Defence, Government of India has cleared the proposal for procurement of 83 LCA Mk1A aircraft from HAL, Bengaluru. This program will support over 100 suppliers from Karnataka, which will catalyze the aerospace ecosystem in the State and will enable India to be an epitome in Prime Minister's vision for "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

The BCIC delegation was led by Office Bearers along with the senior members of the Chamber.



Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC greeting Mr. Jagadish Shettar, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industry, Government of Karnataka at the above meeting; also seen are (L to R): Mr. Ashok Saxena, Mentor, Aerospace Aviation Expert Committee, BCIC; Mr. Gaurav Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Dept. Govt. of Karnataka; Mr. A N Chandramouli, Chairman, Industry 4.0 Expert Committee, BCIC; Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Immediate Past President, BCIC

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



### Meeting with Mr. Yuichi Nagano, Managing Director and Mr. Naoya Matsumi, Deputy Managing Director, Sakra World Hospital on February 3, 2021



Mr. T R Parasuraman, President, BCIC and Mr. Yuichi Nagano, Managing Director, Sakra World Hospital, Mr. Naoya Matsumi, Deputy Managing Director, Sakra World Hospital, Bangalore had a meeting to discuss and explore joint collaboration of BCIC and Sakra World Hospital.

Also present were Mr. A Murali, Advisor, BCIC and Mr. Prithvi K K, Secretary General Designate, BCIC.

### Signing of MoU: BCIC with JSS Science & Technology University, Sri Jaychamarajendra College of Engineering, Mysuru on February 3, 2021

The BCIC under the aegis of YBCIC Expert Committee and SJCE college signed an MoU to collaborate on the initiative of evaluating and connecting potential innovators to investors.

AccelAthon towards innovations brought up through recent past hackathons, contests, projects completed, start-ups, innovation calls, NAIN.

This is an initiative taking forward the recently concluded BCIC



## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



### Meeting with Mr. Vijayakumar Gogi, IFS, Chairman, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board on February 25, 2021



The BCIC delegation led by Mr. TR Parasuraman, President met Mr. Vijayakumar Gogi, IFS, Chairman, KSPCB and submitted the Chamber's request to reconsider the revised fees levied to industries for obtaining consents.

(From L to R): Mr. Vidyashankar M N, IAS, Retd. And Chairman, BCIC Expert Committee on Ease of Doing Business (S2S); Mr. Prithvi K K, Secretary General Designate, BCIC; Mr. T R TR Parasuraman, President, BCIC; Mr. Vijayakumar Gogi, IFS, Chairman, KSPCB; Representatives from KSPCB; Mr. A Murali, Advisor, BCIC

Also as an action agenda, the Chamber has requested its members to share their inputs on the State Government's revised fee structure for Consents (Consent to Operate / Consent to Establish / Consent to Expand / Consent for Operation) under Water Act 1974 & Air Act 1981 to be paid to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) by way of sharing their company's Capital Investment (in Crores) (Gross Block Value of Fixed Assets without depreciation as on 31.03.2020) as per the Chartered Accountant signed document so that BCIC can compile and submit the impact and challenges to the Government.

### Exclusive Interactive Session with Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India on February 21, 2021

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India addressed the members of the Chamber over an exclusive interactive session that witnessed participation of nearly 100 delegates comprising Senior members and C-suite members of the Chamber.

In his opening remarks, Mr. TR Parasuraman, President, BCIC, hailed the Union Budget presented by the Hon'ble Minister on February 1 as the "greatest of the decade" and added that every sector is celebrating it. He also said the target of \$5 trillion

economy by 2025 is no longer a dream as is the intent for the manufacturing sector to contribute 25% to the economy. Mr. Parasuraman said while the fiscal deficit target of 9.5% is challenging, it would help propel India's growth.

Mr. KR Sekar, Senior Vice-President of BCIC, while terming the Budget as an "important and milestone one", said it is committed on infrastructure spend, education and health care. Talking about BCIC's post-Budget suggestions, he said a cultural corridor should be created pan-India to help boost

## Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



tourism and increase infrastructure spend; profit-linked scheme should also include R&D, Goodwill should not be kept retrospective, and clarity should be given on the reassessment of tax to clarify that only evaders would be punished.

Mr. Azim Premji, Founder Chairman, Wipro Ltd; Mr. Mohandas Pai, Chairman, Manipal Global Education Services Pvt. Ltd.; Dr. Devi Shetty, Founder and Chairman, Narayana Health; and Mr. Ravi Raghavan, CEO and MD, Bharat Fritz Werner Ltd also shared their suggestions with the Hon'ble Minister.

Mr. Premji complimented the government for enabling work from home which benefitted Tech sector to grow 2.3% during this fiscal and create 1,38,000 net new jobs. He exhorted the government to engage the private sector in administering Covid vaccinations in large numbers, and also stressed the need for all Indians to contribute to charity in some measure.

Mr. Mohandas Pai spoke about the need to invest in intellectual capital in various sectors as well as the need to liberalise the

policy environment for start-ups and the need for a push towards digital education.

Dr. Devi Shetty emphasised the need to have a national strategy to get \$100 billion annual remittances from health workers in five years and emphasised the need to modify curriculum to PBL to help candidates clear entrance tests. He said this would also help increase the supply chain of qualified doctors and nurses from India. Mr. Raghavan said while the PLI scheme is a great initiative, some more interventions are needed and the government should help the manufacturing sector focus on the end product. He added digitization would help improve the functioning of the manufacturing sector. The Hon'ble Minister was receptive to all the suggestions at the Q & A session. BCIC also presented the post-Budget memorandum and Supplemental Report on Digital Transformation to the Hon'ble Minister at the event.



Meetings with Government Officials / Consulates / other Chambers / Institutions



The proceedings were extensively covered in the media as well.



## BCIC MSME HELP DESK



It's indeed a very proud moment for all of us to engage with Industry experts towards concept of Help Desk. This help desk has been conceived to support MSME Members from the Industry experts in areas of financial management and taxation; Awareness on Government schemes and approach to seek the benefits and finally on lean management to enhance quality and operational efficiency. Our Industry experts are enthused to be part of this very important engagement to enhance MSME competitiveness.

asking all of you to utilize this opportunity to connect with Industry experts and progress towards journey of excellence. We will continuously explore appropriate engagements that enhance overall competitiveness and will keep sharing the future programs that we plan in the near future,

Please find enclosed more details on the objectives, expectations and Help Desk Industry Experts for your kind reference.

On behalf of BCIC MSME Panel, we make this humble appeal in

### Objective:

- To help MSME Members seek Industry Experts suggestion / advice towards resolving their specific issues in the areas (as mentioned below) and also initiating few engagements for continuous improvement.
- Help Desk No 1: Financial Management and Taxation
- Help Desk No 2: Awareness of Government Scheme benefits and process of filing / securing benefits
- Help Desk No 3: Lean concepts to enhance quality and operational efficiency

### How does it work?

- Members to send email to appropriate help desk, basis the issue with a brief on the problem, solutions experimented with necessary data etc.
- Help desk Industry Expert will review the mail and send in his suggestion / advice with in 2 to 3 days,
- Members can also provide status update to Help desk basis the resolution of the issue or can seek additional information or ds to towards further improvement. (More like PDCA Cycle)

### Expectations from MSME Members

- State the problem clearly. (A well stated problem is half solved)
- If help desk requests for additional information, please make sure sending the same on priority
- If there is any delay in receiving reply from help desk, please do be patient as they could be travelling or in some priority work.
- Nothing wrong to send a gentle reminder to help desk for review of the problem.
- More Importantly, we would want all MSME members to take full advantage of these help desks so that their organization gets in to excellence journey.
- A quarterly session shall be conducted and we would like to get a feed back on the progress made and any course correction needed.

### About this program?

- Help Desk is provided by reputed Large Industry experts.
- There is no fee charged towards the services provided through help desk.
- Secretariat will ensure emailing this package to all MSME Members
- This program will be effective January

## Help Desk Industry Experts



**Help Desk No 1**  
(Financial Management and Taxation)  
**Manoj Sebastian**  
Chief Financial Officer  
Volvo Group India  
30+ Yrs Industry Experience  
Email id:  
manoj.sebastian@volvo.com.  
Mobile: 972433887



**Help Desk No 2**  
(Awareness and Process of filing towards Government Schemes)  
**Dr. Balamurugan**  
35+ Yrs Industry Experience  
Email id:  
bala.a@straightegicsolutions.com  
bala.a@growthhackingpartners.com  
Mobile: 9740763799



**Help Desk No 3**  
**G Sunderraj**  
Director; Production Management / Volvo Production System  
Volvo CE India Pvt Ltd  
33 Yrs Experience  
Email id:  
g.Sunderraj@Volvo.com  
Mobile: 9731398811



**For any other suggestions / support, you can also reach out to**  
**B R Indushekar**  
Chairman, MSME Council  
(Head Strategy,  
Volvo CE India Pvt Ltd)  
Email id:  
b.Indushekar@Volvo.com  
Mobile: 9731398830

"LOREM IPSUM DOLOR SIT AMET, DOLI GELI, TO SED DO EISMOD FOR TEMPO INTO DIDU TO LABIR DOLORE MAGNA EXCEPTUR SINT"

# PRESS CLIPPINGS



## SHIELDING STRESSED COS IBC to Stay Suspended till March Sitharaman

Our Bureau

New Delhi/Bengaluru: The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) will stay suspended for another three months until March 31 next year to protect companies hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, said finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

"The suspension of the IBC has been postponed even further from December 25... We've moved to say that it can be up to March 31," Sitharaman said at a Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) virtual conference on Monday. "The IBC has been suspended for the entire year, and rightly so, because every industry has gone through stress because of the pandemic."

The FM said Centre was ready to help industries, especially SMEs, in rapid adoption of tech such as automation, AI and big data mgmt.

Nirmala Sitharaman said she had held more than five meetings in the last three months with all central PSUs to ensure that they clear the dues except those under litigation. "It is not just about outstanding dues, but I am also encouraging the PSUs to spend the capital money given to them," she said.

The minister added that she understands the concerns raised by vendors on overdue payments. To a question on what three factors led to India's first economic recovery after the Covid-induced lockdown, Sitharaman said there were no 2-3 factors.

"There is just one factor, that is, the indomitable spirit of the Indian people and that attitude of 'come what may'," she said. "My greatest support was the spirit of Indian entrepreneurs, and the rock-like support I have received from the prime minister," she added.

## Government should involve private sector in mass Covid-19 vaccination: Azim Premji

OUR BUREAU Bengaluru, February 21

Private participation can bring down vaccine cost under mass vaccination, said Azim Premji, Founder-Chairman, Wipro Limited.



Azim Premji, Founder, Chairman Wipro Limited

Budget 2021 interaction with the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, organised by BCIC on Sunday, developed by the private sector in record time. Now, it is time to participate with the government to effectively

"There is a possibility that we can get the Serum Institute to supply vaccines at about ₹300 per shot, and hostage of 500 million people within 60 days. That's practicality. And I think it is very important that the government considers this as a major supplementation to its effort."

Work from home Talking about Covid-19 hybrid model of work has emerged. Here, earlier during the pandemic, more than 90 per cent of the workforce in technology industry worked from home, and even now, they continue to do so.

Pointing to the hybrid model, he highlighted the comparative advantage. "It will drive inclusive growth, better participation from all parts of the country and from women who would have the flexibility to work from home."

He added: "I think if the government were to engage the private industry, we can achieve a coverage of 500 million people within 60 days. That's practicality. And I think it is very important that the government considers this as a major supplementation to its effort."

## Industry body says Wipro incident is very disheartening



home. "Technology is becoming the lifeline for us as individuals and also businesses. If there was any doubt, the year 2020 showed how fundamental technology has become," he added.

include parts makers in PLI Bharat Fritz Werner, said, "Budget-21 has given confidence to mid-size companies to look at spending to tune of ₹100-150 crore on expansion in the near term." Raghavan requested that component makers supply to key sectors also be considered for the scheme announced in Budget.

ING SIGN: Industry voices can dent investor confidence and take quick and effective countermeasures that these companies can do.

FM: Insolvency code suspension can be extended to March 31

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The Union government is planning a three-month extension for the suspension of fresh insolvency proceedings, a move that will bring much relief to corporate borrowers impacted by the pandemic-induced economic slowdown. This was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday during her virtual address to members of the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC).

The finance minister, who also holds the portfolio of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), said the suspension of IBC will be extended from December 25, 2020 to March 31, 2021. "So the entire year of 2021 will be under suspension of IBC," she said.

She said the move is to provide relief to companies that have been unable to pay their dues to lenders and creditors. "The process of insolvency resolution has been suspended during the pandemic," she said.

The Centre has raised the minimum threshold to initiate insolvency proceedings from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1 crore to insulate small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from bankruptcy. Sections 7, 9 and 10 of the IBC, which pertain to corporate creditor, operational creditor and corporate debtor, respectively, had been suspended to provide relief.

Fresh insolvency proceedings came into effect in March, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the nationwide lockdown through an ordinance. Parliament in September replaced the move with a bill.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro, and IR Parasuraman, President, BCIC, at an interactive session organised by the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce, on Sunday.

## FM Asks PSUs to Clear Payment Dues to Vendors

Our Bureau

Bengaluru: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said she has asked central public sector undertakings, including the BSNL, to clear payment dues of vendors and contractors. She has also urged them to spend the budgeted capital expenditure without any delay.

Her comments came in response to a question from a member of the House. She said the telecom equipment provider to the government, BSNL, was sitting on the dues of the SME sector. When they are already reeling under the Covid-19 stress.

She took a few questions at an interaction she had over the video link with the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC).

"I do encourage all departments to clear the dues. In fact, I have held more than five meetings in the last three months with all central PSUs to ensure that they clear the dues except those under litigation," she said.

The minister added that she understands the concerns raised by vendors on overdue payments. To a question on what three factors led to India's first economic recovery after the Covid-induced lockdown, Sitharaman said there were no 2-3 factors.

"There is just one factor, that is, the indomitable spirit of the Indian people and that attitude of 'come what may'," she said. "My greatest support was the spirit of Indian entrepreneurs, and the rock-like support I have received from the prime minister," she added.

## Private players will play a key role in vaccination drive: Can Help Achieve Coverage Of 50Cr People

OUR BUREAU Bengaluru

Wipro founder chairman Azim Premji said engaging private players will play a key role in accelerating India's vaccination efforts against Covid-19 and bring down vaccine cost. "I think if the government were to engage private industry quickly, we can be sure of achieving coverage of 500 million people within 60 days. That's a major supplementation to the effort," he said.

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## Price hike pushing MSME operational cost up by 30%

OUR BUREAU Bengaluru

The cost of raw materials, energy and other inputs has increased by 30% for MSMEs, pushing their operational costs up significantly. This is a major challenge for small and medium enterprises, especially in the manufacturing sector.

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## Strengthened India's global friend: FM

OUR BUREAU Bengaluru

The participation of the private sector in the vaccine development has led us to be a world leader, that specific India touch, which is more humane and which is bringing everyone together, which is peaceful and which actually wishes that the world progresses for everybody's good. That is the way India approaches its responsibility."

She added: "The Budget will be incomplete unless the government plays the role as a facilitator and the private sector plays its role as a key driver."

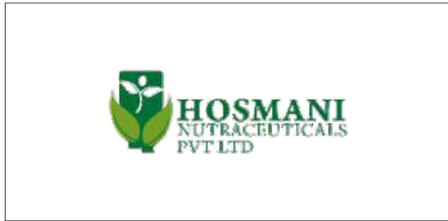
"That is the message this Budget has brought about. This budget is not only for this year but a Budget for setting the path for the decade, a budget of course for both this year and next year because the stimulus package, which is largely dependent on government's borrowing, is aiming at sectors that provide the multiplier effect."

NEW MEMBERS



		<p>Indisart Global Ltd</p>
<p>Kesari Roller Flour Mills Pvt Ltd</p>		<p>Takshasila Hospital Operating Pvt Ltd</p>

# NEW MEMBERS



# A P P E A L

## Creation of New Office Development Fund (NODF)

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Sub: Creation of New Office Development Fund (NODF) & Appeal for generous contributions in money and in kind- regarding.**

We are immensely thankful to you for your continued patronage and in showering your blessings in making BCIC, a model chamber.

While we benchmark ourselves to be the best amongst the best, as you may be aware, we have purchased our new office building and which office is functioning but with infrastructure which requires a significant boost to enhance our image having got situated in the Central Business District which will impose high standards on ourselves and in getting guests from both domestic and international of high order and calibre who require to be showcased with the best-in-class facilities.

Currently the ongoing pandemic has created temporary difficulties on our members thus burdening us with some cash flow mismatches. As a supporter of our members who are overcoming the constraints, we at BCIC are also largely impacted due to continued follow ups and recovery of annual membership fees from existing members and in overcoming the tepid response to our new membership drive.

We would earnestly appeal to each one of you to wholeheartedly contribute generously in creating the New Office Development Fund (NODF) which shall be used only for capital expenditures and nothing else. The details to transfer the fund is given herein below:

BANK DETAILS	A/c No.	IFSC Code
HDFC Bank	50200054097502	HDFC0000075

Members can send in their query to [vp@bcic.in](mailto:vp@bcic.in) and/or [prithvi@bcic.in](mailto:prithvi@bcic.in)

### Opportunities to participate in New Office Development Fund (NODF)

Sl.	Description	Cost of facility (Approx)- Rs.	Justification	Term (in years)
1	Murals / Portraits / Wall hangings	1, 50,000	Beautification around the office	3
2	Storage area in basement office	1, 50,000	Maintain storage racks	3
3	Digitization of office records completely of the past 8 years	2,00,000	Past records require to be mandatorily maintained and stored safely	3
4	Television in Board Room - state of the art facility	5,00,000	AV with Home theatre facility and ability to jot down minutes and record proceedings	5
5	Conference Room -1	2,00,000	Maintenance	3
6	Conference room-2	3,00,000	Maintenance	3
7	Board Room with 40 people seater capacity for 5 years	5,00,000	Maintenance	5
8	Television at entrance	50,000	Marketing materials and branding platform	3
9	Members & Visitors - Biometric attendance and tracking including CCTV	50,000	Biometric tracking	3
10	Miscellaneous (can be paid in multiples with ticket size of Rs.5000)	5,000 *200= 10,00,000	Maintenance and higher facilitation costs for the future	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40,00,000</b>		

#### Salient features

1. The donors company / individual name shall be displayed for a term of 3-5 years.
2. BCIC's Annual Report shall list the donors name, if interested.
3. Anonymous donations are welcome
4. Donations shall be accepted against cheque / bank transfers and receipts shall be issued for the same, upon realisation of proceeds.
5. Minimum ticket size - Rs.5000/- and in multiples of Rs.5000/-
6. Maximum contributions - Rs.5.lakhs and above
7. Books ( printed, audio, video) for the library
8. Member organizations or individuals representing member organizations are welcome to contribute
9. Participation fees will be waived for webinar for contributors
10. In lieu of contributions in cash, sourcing of suppliers of above materials / equipment is welcome
11. Any other suggestion, welcome



## **Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce**

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