

# SYNERGY

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BANGALORE CHAMBER OF  
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Foreword January 2019



Kishore Alva  
President, BCIC

According to AT Kearney, the American global management consulting firm that focuses on strategic and operational agenda facing businesses, governments and institutions around the world, Global growth will not move beyond 3 percent for the coming fiscal year.

In its recent global economic outlook report titled 'On Thin Ice,' AT Kearney states that shifting supply chains out of China promises to be disruptive, but won't do much to stop Asia from being the world's growth engine over the next five years. Higher tariffs on account of Trump's trade war, however, will make those disruptions worse, leading to declines in corporate profit margins.

Citing that lower growth is not USA's fault, but some of the deceleration is caused by business cycle and structural factors that will be contributing to growth deceleration. Deceleration sometimes leads to more debt, which in a higher-interest-rate environment could be problematic.

AT Kearney warns that the trade war can undercut growth prospects throughout Asia, not just in China which faces the brunt of Trump's tariffs. It states that the current truce between Washington and Beijing was set to expire in March, but US recently said they would need more time and should extend the ceasefire period.

The global consulting firm looking at the bigger picture indicated that the US and Indian economies did well heading into 2019, but China, the EU—led by Germany—and Japan are stagnating. The emerging markets are still expected to do better this year than last year, with the one key exception being China.

Russia, Brazil and India are all expected to grow their economies more in 2019 than in 2018.

Taking the cue from AT Kearney, back home, despite a few negatives due to implementation of GST, De-globalisation and Brexit, India to a large extent still remains immune to external economic vagaries.

As the year 2018 closed, India has emerged as the fastest growing major economy in the world and is expected to be one of the top three economic powers of the world over the next 10-15 years, backed by its strong democracy and partnerships. It's GDP is estimated to grow at 7.3 per cent in 2018-19. With the improvement in the economic scenario, there have been various investments in several sectors of the economy. Exports from India increased 15.48 per cent year-on-year during April-November 2018 India's FDI equity inflows reached closed to US\$ 390 billion between April 2000 and June 2018, with maximum contribution from services, computer software and hardware, telecommunications, construction, trading and automobiles.

Overall, India's economic growth has accelerated, driven by an upswing in consumption, and investment growth has firmed as the effects of temporary factors wane. The domestic demand has strengthened as the benefits of structural reforms such as the GST harmonisation and bank recapitalisation take effect.

As far Karnataka State is concerned, Government has already begun the process of hosting a series of Ease of Doing Business meetings with various stakeholders so that more investment flows into the State. Karnataka is offering a wide range of fiscal and policy incentives for businesses under the Karnataka Industrial Policy, 2014-19.



## Interactive Session with Prof. Dr. Sven Michael Nobel Executive Chairman, Nobel Sustainability Trust

January 7, 2019



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd delivering the Welcome address at the interactive session. Mr. Thyagu Valliappa, Past President and Prof. Dr. Sven Michael Nobel are also seen**

Of late the word sustainable development has gained immense credence simply because there has been a lot of disruptions happening around us especially, on issues related to environment. The concept of sustainable development or growth can be interpreted in many different ways by many peers. But sustainability at its core is an approach to development that looks to balance different and often competing needs against an awareness of the environmental, social and economic limitations we face as a society.

To get a bird's eye view on sustainability from the global perspective, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) organized an Interactive session with Prof. Dr. Sven Michael Nobel, Executive Chairman, Nobel Sustainability Trust in Bangalore.

Prof. Dr. Sven Michael Nobel addressing BCIC members said that the Nobel prize was largely awarded in the streams of chemistry, physics and other pure science

paths. But now the Nobel Sustainability Family is looking at honouring people involved in innovation in green and clean-tech environment streams. Innovators involved in creating wellness to mankind and solution providers who are actively involved in better management of water crisis and emission / pollution controls can now actively participate in the award process.

The Nobel Sustainability Trust is looking at companies/NGOs/Organisations providing local solutions to protect environment and the key driver is sustainability. Dr. Nobel cited the example of how LED lights, photovoltaic panels and water treatment equipment which have revolutionized the use of energy and usability aspects.

Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd. delivering the Welcome address at the session said that "All too often, development is driven by one particular need, without fully considering the wider or

## Key Speakers at The Session



Prof. Dr. Sven Michael Nobel addressing BCIC members



Mr. Thyagu Valliappa, Past President, BCIC addressing the members



Mr. T R Parasuraman, Vice President, BCIC seeking a clarification



Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC honouring Ms. Stina, COO, Nobel Sustainability Trust



Industry captains as the sustainability session



future impacts. We are already seeing the damage this kind of approach can cause, from large-scale financial crises caused by banking, to changes in global climate resulting from our dependence on fossil fuel-based energy sources. The longer we pursue unsustainable development, the more frequent and severe its consequences are likely to become, which is why we need to take action now.

Mr. Kishore Alva further said that the focus of sustainable development is far broader than just the

environment. It's also about ensuring a strong, healthy and just society. This means meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity.

Mr. Thyagu Valliappa, Past President, BCIC, Mr. T R Parasuraman, Vice President, BCIC, Prof. KB Akhilesh, Department of Management Studies, Indian Institute of Science and several other luminaries were present at the programme.



## BCIC President Mr. Kishore Alva Calls on Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena IAS (R) Chairperson, KERC



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd met Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena IAS (R) Chairperson, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission at his office. Seen along with him are Mr. Prithvi, Secretary, BCIC and Mr. Girish Navada, Co-chairman, Energy, Environment and Water Expert Committee, BCIC**

Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. met Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena IAS (R) Chairperson, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) to discuss on Power situation in the State.

Mr. Kishore Alva also showcased the advocacy role that BCIC plays in improving the overall business climate in the Karnataka to the KERC Chairperson.

The Chairperson was also briefed about BCIC's active role in KERC's Advisory Committee which meets every quarter to discuss on various energy related issues. Mr. Kishore highlighted that BCIC submit research papers to the KERC on power related issues to KERC on a regular basis in the form of industry representations.

Mr. Kishore Alva assured KERC Chairperson that the Chamber will continue to support Commission in whatever form it may require to improve power situation in

the State. Mr. Kishore Alva said that the primary role of BCIC is to ensure that Karnataka continues to be the most preferred business destination for not only the domestic sector but overseas corporations

Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena was appreciative of the effort initiated by the BCIC to reach out to him and the State Government to share his plans and support the Government in its various endeavours.

Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena is a retired IAS officer and was sworn in as Chairperson, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission, Bengaluru on 31st December, 2018. He is a Post Graduate in Business Administration and has adequate knowledge in Commerce, Accountancy, Management, Finance and professional experience in Public Affairs and Policy formulations. Prior to joining IAS, he was in Indian Police Service and Indian Revenue Service.



## Economic Outlook and Digitisation Trends in Banking

January 7, 2019



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd delivering the Welcome address at the Economic Outlook event**

In the last two years we have been constantly hearing the four economic words Demonetisation and GST. De-globalisation and Brexit in not only the corporate boardrooms but also at various economic fora. These four economic elements have literally shaped major part of Indian and global economies in the recent past.

As far India is concerned, all the four have impacted our economy.

At the Macro level, Demonetisation completely disrupted liquidity and consumption patterns. It affected the inflation and negatively impacted markets on account of increased uncertainty. In addition, it also put severe pressure on small business which largely operated on cash economy.

While the introduction of Goods and Services Tax – GST - has created a lot of confusion, on the way appropriate taxes need to be collected and payed to the government, as the Law is still being decoded by Corporate and Government.

To get a better macro picture of the global and domestic

economic, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) in association with Standard Chartered Bank organized a Breakfast session on Economic Outlook and Digitisation Trends in Banking in Bangalore.

Delivering the keynote address at the session Ms. Anubhuti Sahay, Executive Director and Chief Economist, Standard Chartered Bank said that the global economy for fiscal 2019 will moderate and growth will hover between 3 and 3.2 percent mainly due to the US economy growing at the over the expected trends. However, Ms. Sahay cautioned that the markets are expecting to see the continued slide in the China's economy in the next quarter as well. The Executive Director also indicated that the crude price which had flattened a bit is likely to spiral in the next couple of weeks.

As far India was concerned, Ms. Anubhuti Sahay indicated that India did not participate in the global growth during 2017-18 as it was implementing Demonetisation and GST.



**Ms. Anubhuti Sahay, Executive Director and Chief Economist, Standard Chartered Bank delivering the keynote address**

However, she said that going forward, Investments and consumption are likely to pick up in the next few quarters. Consumption will be the key driving the economic growth in India. “Net-Net growth of 7 percent and above for FY 2019-20 should not be a challenge for India” she said.

Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. delivering the welcome address said that despite a few negatives, India to a large extent still remains immune to external economic vagaries. He said that India has emerged as the fastest growing major economy in the world and is expected to be one of the top three economic powers of the world over the next 10-15 years, backed by its strong democracy and partnerships. He also said that India’s GDP is estimated to grow at 7.3 per cent in 2018-19. NASSCOM reported that India has retained its

position as the third largest startup base in the world with over 4,750 technology startups, with about 1,400 new startups being founded in 2016-17. RBI data indicates that India’s foreign exchange reserves were US\$ 393 billion in the week up to December 21, 2018. With the improvement in the economic scenario, there have been various investments in several sectors of the economy. Mr. Kishore Alva further said that Exports from India increased to 15.48 per cent year-on-year during April-November 2018 while India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) stood at 53.2 in December 2018, showing expansion in the sector. India’s FDI equity inflows reached closed to US\$ 390 billion between April 2000 and June 2018, with maximum contribution from services, computer software and hardware, telecommunications, construction, trading and automobiles. India has improved its ranking in the World Bank’s Doing Business Report by 23 spots over its 2017 ranking and is ranked 77 among 190 countries.

Mr. N Venkatakrishnan, Chairman, Banking, Finance and Corporate Expert Committee-BCIC while setting the theme for the session touched upon various contentious issues including petro-prices and trade tensions which are likely to impact Indian economy directly or indirectly in the coming quarters.

Ms. Annapoorna Venkat, MD, Head-Financial Markets Sales, South India and Sri Lanka, Standard Chartered Bank and Ms. Sanjana Pani, Standard Chartered spoke on how to manage foreign exchange risk and the trends that are emerging from digitisation in the Banking sector at the session.

Mr. Venkat Kedlaya, Past President, BCIC summed up the session for the benefit of the audience where over 50 financial heads participated at the breakfast session.



**Finance and Banking professionals at the Breakfast Session**



## Organics & Millets 2019: International Trade Fair

January 18-20, 2019



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd delivering his speech at the Organics and Millets International Trade Fair**

Millets are gaining enormous credence and acceptability with the passage of each day now. No other State, across India, is better placed to promote Organics and Coarse Millets than Karnataka, for the very simple reason that it grows a large varieties of millets in the State. You name it, the state grows it—the Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millet, Barnyard Millet, Foxtail Millet, Kodo Millet, Proso Millet, Little Millet, Amaranth millet and the list goes on.

In order to promote Organics and millets, Karnataka government had organised a three-day international trade fair in Bangalore where Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) was the industry partner. A large number of companies from BCIC involved in this important agro sector had participated in the fair.

Mr. Kishore Alva, President-BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd who was Chief Guest at the inaugural session said: "We believe Coarse millets is gaining a lot of importance considering the

fact, that there is a conscious effort from not only the State Government and the industry but also health conscious and people at large, to promote and consume coarse millets which anyway was a staple diet traditionally for over past few millennia.

Only now, perhaps five decades or so, that with the advent of fast food and the element of emulating ourselves to western world and changing taste patterns, that there has been a discernible shift from consuming millets which from a health point of view is also very nutritious and adaptable to the normal body physiology. We are seeing green shoots with the changing times. We shall once again begin to extensively adopt and increase millets into our diets.

He further said: "Millets as we understand are the staple food crops of dry land farmers in India and are much valued for their nutritional value and are thus intimately tied to the nutritional security of the nation. Millets in general, are rich source of fibre, minerals and B-complex vitamins besides

## International Trade Fair



Mr. Kishore Alva with Shri H D Kumaraswamy, Chief Minister, GoK and other Dignitaries



Release of Organics and Millets Souvenir



Mr. Kishore Alva sharing a lighter moment with Shri. Ramesh Kumar, Minister, GoK



Mr. Kishore Alva having a word with Mr. Maheswar Rao, IAS, Principal Secretary, Gok



Mr. Kishore Alva with Agro professionals



Mr. Kishore Alva at the BCIC stall

being high in proteins and low in carbohydrates.” Recognizing its importance and concerned about reducing in their acreage across India, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India (MoAFW), has created Centres of Excellence for four of the coarse cereals, namely, Maize, Sorghum, Bajra and Small Millets under its National Food Security Mission. In fact, the Ministry of Agriculture is monitoring the developments at the CoEs directly. Recognizing its importance and concerned about reducing in their acreage across India, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India (MoAFW), has created Centres of Excellence for four of the coarse cereals, namely, Maize, Sorghum, Bajra and Small Millets under its National Food Security Mission. In fact, the Ministry of Agriculture is

monitoring the developments at the CoEs directly.

### Future of Organics: The Way Forward

Today, a lot of efforts are being put to increase the demand of millets in India and the world, including changing the mindset of the people. Many organisations are coming up in support of this cause. Efforts are being taken to educate farmers about better millets growing techniques. A lot of importance is given to them because of their non-gluten tendency. Many recipes with millets as the base have been floating around too.

In conclusion, coarse cereals have a potential to bring rain-fed green revolution in the country provided a proper policy is in place, which the government anyway is working on.



## PNGRB Opens 10th City Gas Distribution Bidding Round BCIC: Industry Partner at the Road Show

January 9, 2019



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd delivering a speech at the road show. Mr. Arvind Kumar, Additional Advisor, PNGRB, Dr. SS Chahar, Member (Legal), PNGRB, Mr. M Nanjundaswami, IPS, Additional Commissioner of Police (Admin), Bengaluru City, Mr. Dinesh K Sarraf, Chairperson, PNGRB, Smt. Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Managing Director, KSIIIDC, Smt. V Chaitra, IAS, Joint Secretary, Infrastructure Department are also on the dais**

After successfully concluding nine rounds of bidding for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has opened the 10 round of bidding in select cities. PNGRB invited Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) as the industry partner at the road show.

Bidding Rounds for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks will enable selected bidders to lay, build, operate or expand the city or local Natural Gas Distribution network in the Geographical Areas as listed by PNGRB. The recently concluded ninth round for 86 GAs covering 174 districts in 21 states/ union territories (covering 26% of India's population and 24% of its area) was a huge success and almost all GAs have been awarded. As per commitment made by various entities in this bidding round, around 2 crore PNG (Domestic) connections, 4346 CNG stations and 1,12,696 Steel Pipe (Inch-km) are expected to be installed across the country. Various pre-project activities for these GAs have already commenced and efforts are being made to commence the physical works at the site.

PNGRB is now inviting applications-cum-bids for grant of authorization of 50 GAs under 10th CGD Bidding Round.

Speaking at the Road Show organised by PNGRB in Bangalore Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani-Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. said: "Energy is very important for our progress. Statistics show that almost three-fourths of the demands of the energy in the world is fulfilled by fossil fuels. The overuse of these fossil fuels for our vehicles and domestic application are also contributing to the growing environment problems. Making smarter choices is the need of the hour."

He also said: "At the household levels, many are still waiting to be enrolled by a gas agency, while in rural areas; food is cooked on polluting coal, wood or dung fires. Traditional fuels are thermally inefficient; a substantial amount of fuel carbon is lost to incomplete combustion. The use of these traditional fuels causes health, particularly among women and children due to their



**Mr. Kishore Alva, President, BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd is seen with Mr. Dinesh K Sarraf, Chairperson, PNGRB and Mr. Girish Navada, Co-chairman, Energy, Environment and Water Expert Committee, BCIC**

exposure and close contact with burning fuels.

Mr. Kishore Alva highlighting the benefits said: “As compared to a Liquefied Petroleum Gas cylinder also known as LPG cylinder, Piped Natural Gas or PNG is a cost-effective, safer and more economical choice. Moreover, the nonstop supply of PNG will also help you to overcome the need to book and wait for cylinder replacement or for changing the bottles in between cooking. The latter one can especially be difficult for aged family members to move the cylinder around.”

He further said: “On the other hand, Compressed Natural Gas of CNG is a clear, odourless, non-corrosive fuel. It is also a cheaper, cleaner and more efficient alternative to the traditional fuels used in vehicles. CNG also reduces the emission of Carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons.

Mr. Kishore Alva said: “I would also like to take this moment to express my gratitude to our Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modiji for brining such progressive policies to life. The usage of PNG will simplify the lives of millions of women in our country. It will also take PNG supplies to hotels, religious places, restaurants, industries, crematorium and homes. Moreover, by giving up your LPG connections and taking up a PNG, you can help gas reach

distant corners of our nation. On the other hand, CNG will help us save money and our priceless environment too.”

Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) was established by an Act of Parliament with objective to regulate the refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas so as to protect the interests of consumers and entities engaged in specified related activities and to ensure uninterrupted and adequate supply of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas in all parts of the country and to promote competitive markets. With this objective, PNGRB has been extensively focusing on building a robust City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in the country and to take forward steps in achieving the vision to ‘Make India a gas-based economy’.

Mr. Dinesh K Sarraf, Chairperson, PNGRB, Dr. SS Chahar, Member (Legal), PNGRB, Smt. Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Managing Director, Smt. V Chaitra, IAS, Joint Secretary, Infrastructure Department, Mr. M Nanjundaswami, IPS, Additional Commissioner of Police (Admin), Bengaluru City, Mr. Arvind Kumar, Additional Advisor, PNGRB and several others participated at the roadshow.



## Seminar on “WhatsHapp Foods –v4.0 Towards A Greener And Sustainable Future

January 11, 2019



**Mr. S Ganesh Kumar, Chief Operating Officer Staples, Snacks & Meals, ITC Limited delivering the keynote address at the flagship WhatsHapp Foods event. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Chairman, Agro and Food Processing Expert Committee, BCIC is also seen**

There is a new wave of budding entrepreneurs and emerging startups in the country that are leading the way to disrupt the Agro and Food Processing (AFP) sector in the country. In spaces like Digital Marketing, Packing and Sustainable Agriculture sectors, neo technologies are being deployed to make Agro and Food Processing sector get attuned to future needs especially the sustainability aspects. The sector holds tremendous potential for technology adoption, considering the sheer size of the population involved.

Considering this development, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) under the aegis of its Agro & Food Processing Expert Committee organised a day-long Seminar on “WhatsHapp Foods –v4.0: “Towards a Greener and Sustainable Future” in Bangalore.

The primary objective of this seminar was to enlighten participants on how this crucial sector is evolving in the new and challenging industry environment and catering to discerning customer base and more importantly the reach of products through new age branding and digital marketing channels.

BCIC invited top industry and domain experts to share their thoughts with participants so that there is clarity and

industry is assisted to effectively navigate the emerging landscape. In its fourth edition WhatsHapp Foods event was anchored by Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Chairman, Agro and Food Processing Expert Committee, BCIC.

Mr. S Ganesh Kumar, Chief Operating Officer Staples, Snacks & Meals, ITC Limited who delivered the keynote address at the seminar said that India is scaling up very



**Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Chairman, Agro and Food Processing Expert Committee, BCIC setting theme at the session**

rapidly across the sectors and more so in the Agro and Food Processing industry. He said: Labour reforms are happening in tune with the evolving economy. Post-harvest incentives are making farmers economically comfortable and rain-fed area is being extended very rapid under various government schemes. All these farmer-oriented initiatives, actively supported by Private Public partnership, is turning the agriculture sector to pass through very exciting times.

Mr. Shuvadip Banerjee, Vice President - Marketing Services, ITC Limited Foods Division delivering the presentation on “Changing Indian Consumers and Challenges and Excitement in Marketing in today’s era” said that marketing products is now a very niche domain. You need to understand very minute details of consumer preferences so as to cater to their indulgences and tastes. There is a clear divide between urban-rural, mass-affluent, man-women,

modern values-traditional values and a host of other affinities are now extremely critical factors for marketing professionals to weigh through, so that they exactly cater to the emerging demands in the food industry. Pampering, indulgences and my space are the new lexicons floating in the food industry and the industry has to factor these in all their marketing strategies.

Mr. Amit Ray, Executive Director and Member of the Board, Uflex Limited delivering a presentation on Sustainable Packaging said that more capital investment on plastic waste recycling is needed and also the government has to promote simplified packaging structures. The government also has to intensify research for bio-degradable plastics.

Mr. Afsar Ahmed, Head - Plastic Waste Management, ITC Limited delivering a presentation on Plastic Waste Management said that over 2 million tons of waste per

### Key Speakers at The Session



Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Senior VP BCIC



Mr. Amit Ray, Executive Director and Member of the Board, Uflex Limited



Mr. Afsar Ahmed, Head - Plastic Waste Management, ITC



Mr. Shuvadip Banerjee, Vice President - Marketing Services, ITC Limited



Ms. Shauravi Mallik, Founder, Slurrrp Farms



Mr. N R Shetty, President, Sahaja Samrudda Organic Produce



Mr. Lakshmipriyan V G, Founder & CEO, FarmFolks Agro



Dr. K B Suresha, Dairy Technologist



Mr. Varun Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, Pro Nature Organic Foods

## Key Sponsors



annum is generated and the same is dumped in the landfills, which is a grave situation. We need to address this gigantic problem on a war footing, if we have to save environmental disaster in the making. He said that ITC under its Wealth out of Waste (WOW) project, is helping reduce waste in several cities by recycling methods.

Ms. Shauravi Mallik, Founder, Slurrp Farms speaking on how to promote millets globally said that today, a lot of efforts are being put to increase the demand of millets in India and the world, including changing the mindset of the people. Many organisations are coming up in support of this cause. Efforts are being taken to educate farmers about better millets growing techniques. A lot of importance is given to them because of their non-gluten tendency. Many recipes with millets as the base

have been floating around too.

Mr. Lakshmi Priyan V G, Founder & CEO, FarmFolks Agro spoke on Safe Food with Traceability for the future while Dr. K B Suresha, Dairy Technologist and Asst. Prof. & Principal Investigator, Centre of Excellence for Nutri-Cereals, UAS, Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK) touched upon Transition towards sustainability in Agriculture and Food Processing. Mr. Varun Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, Pro Nature Organic Foods spoke on Organic Products Industry - Growth prospects, while Mr. N R Shetty, President, Sahaja Samruddha Organic Produce spoke on Sustainable agriculture.

Close to 400 professionals related to the Agro and Food Processing industry participated in the day-long event.

## Masterclass: JobsForHer- Better Than Before: Problem Solving Workshop



**Ms. Ira Gilani Lal,  
Director, Goldratt India**

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) as the Outreach Partner with JobsForHer organised a Webinar on Better Than Before - Problem Solving masterclass knowledge series Webinar in Bangalore.

Ms. Ira Gilani Lal, Director, Goldratt India who hosted the master series webinar said that the biggest barriers are the barriers of the mind: Challenge your assumptions to find breakthrough solutions.

While dealing with conflicts, there is often a sense of helplessness or feeling of being a victim. So many times, we feel trapped between a rock and a hard place! There is a tendency to feel that everything is “out of control”. A simple change in thought process, and acknowledgement that there are plenty of alternatives available is enough to help women “take charge” and resolve conflicts.

**TOC Thinking Processes** provide a step-by-step methodology to surface the limiting assumptions. Once these deep-rooted assumptions are surfaced and invalidated, it enables us to unlock huge hidden potential.

Ira Gilani is a management consultant and a trainer in the area of Theory of Constraints (TOC). She is a TOCICO certified expert, and has been trained in TOC Thinking Processes at Goldratt’s Odyssey program at Netherlands in 2007.

The webinar was an interactive session and Ira Gilani urged participants to challenge some of their deep-rooted assumptions and provided them simple tools to resolve conflicts. Some of the issues faced by women such as getting back to work after a career break, work life balance etc. were addressed.

**Theory of Constraints (TOC)** is a management philosophy developed by Dr. Eli Goldratt, an internationally recognized leader in the development of business management concepts and systems, author of the best-selling book THE GOAL. Dr. Goldratt was, first and foremost, a thinker who provoked others to think. With the

mindset of a scientist, he truly believed that: All complex systems are governed by inherent simplicity; all conflicts can be eliminated, if we can find the erroneous assumptions.

Core beliefs of Thinking Processes

1. Inherent Simplicity
2. Inherent Potential
3. Harmony (Win-win solutions are always possible)
4. “Good people” with bad assumptions

It is extremely important to approach any conflict with a belief in the goodness of people. They may have certain assumptions about the situation due to their past experience and that leads them to behave in a particular way. For example, the HR manager who didn’t hire you when you came back from a 5-year break – Maybe his behavior is based on his/ her experience with women returnees in the past.

Most women feel that they are forced to compromise constantly, and always feel guilty about not doing enough. If they focus on their career, they feel guilty about neglecting



## 3rd Edition of BCIC –Play Factory Indoor Cricket Tournament Paypall Wins the Coveted Trophy

January 5, 2019



### 3rd Edition of BCIC –Play Factory Indoor Cricket Tournament just about to kick off

The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) organised its flagship Indoor Cricket Tournament in association with Play Factory, a leisure centre on the outskirts of Bangalore. This is the third edition of the Indoor Cricket Tournament being jointly hosted by BCIC and Play Factory.

In all 8 teams from BCIC membership participated in the day-long tournament.

### Paypall won the 3rd Edition of Indoor Cricket Tournament organised by BCIC-Play Factory.

Right from the start of the knock-out format tournament, Team Paypall and Sansera India B were considered hot favourites. Though Sansera India B played a very strategic game, at the end Paypall completely outsmarted its opponent and notched up the coveted BCIC-Play Factory trophy with its highly planned and tactical gameplay.

Paypall scored 53 runs in the stipulated overs while Sansera India B got bundled out for just 31 runs in the allocated overs. Happiest Minds, Fundermax and Sony



Mr. Thyagu Valliappa, Past President, BCIC providing a pep talk to the teams



*List of the corporate cricket teams that participated at the third edition of the Indoor Tournament*

- Paycall (Winners)
- Sensera India B (Runner up)
- BIOCON
- Happiest minds
- Sensera A
- Sony
- Fundermax
- Griffith Foods

Action packed session at the indoor leisure centre



were the three new entrants who also played admirably well. BIOCON and Griffith Foods also showcased their skills at the indoor cricket tournament.

Captain of the winning team said: "Considering that our opponent was playing very calculated game as far as adding and saving runs, we needed to match their mind game. Right from the start we decided to play very cautiously, piling up our scoreboard without

getting rattled when we were losing negative runs. At the end, we are really happy to be proud to win the 3rd edition of BCIC-Play Factory Indoor Cricket Tournament Trophy.

He further added: "The Indoor Cricket facility at the Play Factory meets the global standards and we would love to come back next time as well. Overall it was a very captivating experience for our team".

## The Leadership Vacuum for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

**GUEST COLUMN**

**Mr. Suresh Iyer**  
(Senior VP – Sri Sankara  
TV/AYUSH TV/  
Director-Wintergreens -Training  
Division- part of Shakthi Resorts/  
Director-Tenora International)

Leadership – Has the sheen of royalty gone? There are no more royal families in India. They are notional. Kept in past decorated legacy. Many are in politics. The politics of today is a mix of power, people, policies, performance, probity, priority etc. Add punching the opposition with words and votes. This forced leadership vacuum that has us in throes every five years or so, will continue. That is part of our life. As executives we live and breathe behind conference doors, glasses, work spaces and daily grind of work and life.

Leadership was considered a trait, worthy of royalty and kingship. It changed over centuries and as organizations and corporate sprouted globally. The management jargon has one word that is spoken world-wide daily by at least a million people- that is leader or leadership. Be it in the classroom in schools or MBA institutions or management training programs or board room discourse, there is a timing and tone in the way the word is uttered.

The present-day corporate has a spectrum of structures ranging from a one-man firm to a conglomerate spread over hundred countries. It is assumed and collectively agreed that without a leader at the helm of affairs no company can run. That is a myth and there are many examples to prove that Organizations can run effectively, efficiently and enthusiastically without a leader. India is a vast country where all the farmers who are independent in their vocation and entrepreneurship contribute to the nation's food needs. The railways, roadways, postal department to name a few are those organizations that have been running without too much bother of who is the top man heading the organization. While we can put forth examples to hear the story of both sides- those who want a leader and those who feel that a leader is irrelevant.

We will focus on leaderless organization.

In a vacuum situation, the company executives must have a plan/ agenda/ objective to work on with proper budgets, time frames and resources allocated to complete tasks. There will be a propped up temporary leader or one who will spring up and take the lead. However, if this leadership is only filling up the post without accountability and responsibility- the organization suffers.

Olden days as history tell us, the king could not face the enemy and ran away from the battle field, leaving his people to be subjugated and ruled by the enemy. History books talk of the great king Ashoka who won the battle and later renounced life, no one wrote what happened to his kingdom and subjects. Prince Siddhartha became Lord Buddha, from royalty to spirituality there was a transition in leadership. A vacuum in the kingdom, a celebration amongst followers.

While Ramayana / Mahabharat as an epic throws up good illustrations of leadership vacuum it would be interesting to note two situations. One when Bharata installed Rama's paduka and ruled the kingdom. No one narrates the way the kingdom was run. But that it existed and after fourteen years, Rama ruled the kingdom speaks for presence or absence of leadership vacuum in Bharat's sacrificial non-acceptance of leadership role. The other is, various times we have seen when a king is killed immediately a next important person is coronated as leader. In Mahabharata a sequence of leaders emerged in quick succession and all got killed by a virtuous team. This means if a corporate sees quick succession of leaders – then it must be a case to check -if there is a lack of ethics or non-governance, poor quality products/service, employees not cooperating, loss making company etc.



**Prof Mamta Hegde**  
Ph.D. Scholar -Asst Prof.-Amity  
University

By resignation, retirement, death, illness over long period, being sacked, non-performance, being transferred, being arrested, absconding, vacationing period etc are ways a company can find vacuum in leadership. If proper procedures are adopted for each situation the organization can run easily and with no loss of work, worth, wisdom and wealth creation.

A few companies in recruitment and consultancy mode are enabling temporary leaders to be provided to organizations to ensure there is no leadership vacuum. While that is a good trend and opportunity, the case where companies take a long time to fill up a leadership position and if the organization runs well, then it is a case for checking – how the organization could be run without a leader. Many companies cannot be without a leader and so recruit someone to fill that post for reasons that may either swell profits or show the corporate world that all is well.

Like politics – where there is cry for dynasts to be shunned, the same can't happen in the corporate world. Family owned businesses that are huge and successful will always find a 'heir to the throne' of managing the organization in any eventual leaderless situation.

Small sized organizations by virtue of the factors stated above for leadership vacuum could close. Even such companies may have great leaders and teams and yet be affected by a policy or process or technology change. The art of surviving in a

vacuous organization is when the workforce and teams are united by the work they do, the technology they adopt to quickly, the costs they collectively reduce and the products/services they sell/offer. If all aspects are good, the organizations can survive a dozen hurdles, leadership vacuum then becomes just one factor.

Time for organizations to work on this- Don't make leaders only to be responsible for success. Make the team count. There is a leader in everyone. But leadership may be only in a few. There must be teams within teams that work in perfect unison. It is happening today.

Companies where the leader is not present and is doing well means the employee-centric factors rules more. On the other hand, if the employees don't turn up and the organization runs well means the organization must be highly automated or the lean team at top must be entrepreneurial in nature.

All essential services (or few more) /products like newspaper, milk, trains, railways, buses, etc seems to be delivered/running without a glitch daily.

I have just described the aspect of "leadership- in absence" seeing one side of the coin. The other side that leaders are very very important, cannot be denied. Yes, that is another issue. Rather for another issue.

## Issue of Visa Recommendation Letter

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been successfully offering the following services to its Members / Non – Members at a very nominal fee for more than three decades. BCIC has excellent working relationships with all the High Commission/Trade Offices.

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Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce

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# Mandatory Mediation under Commercial Courts Act – A Boost to Effective and Efficient Dispute Resolution in India

**GUEST COLUMN**

**Shantha Chellapa**



**Tara Ollapally**

## **Mediation Ordinance under the Commercial Courts Act**

The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Court (Amendment) Ordinance of 2018, dated May 03, 2018, has inserted section 12A to the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, contemplating pre-institution mediation and settlement, before the filing of any commercial disputes.

Specifically, Section 12A (1) states that “a suit which does not contemplate any urgent relief under this Act, shall not be instituted unless the plaintiff exhausts the remedy of pre-institution mediation and settlement in accordance with such manner and procedure as may be prescribed by rules made by the central government”.

The model contemplated by the ordinance is similar to the most successful opt-out model widely used in Italy in limited civil and commercial cases since September 2013, wherein litigants will not have direct access to the Italian courts if they cannot prove that they have attended an initial mediation meeting. Lithuania, Luxembourg, United Kingdom, Ireland also use this model for a certain category of disputes.

This mandatory mediation meeting is an opportunity for parties and their legal counsels to meet with a professional neutral mediator at a neutral place to learn about the process and decide whether they would like to give themselves the opportunity to collaboratively settle the dispute. If after this mandated initial session, the parties are amenable to try and settle their dispute through mediation, the process can start right away. If the parties, however, decide not to proceed with mediation, they are deemed to have fulfilled the requirements of the law.

Mandatory mediation with an easy opt-out has proven to generate a substantial number of mediations in several jurisdictions. Italy, the poster child for this model resolved 200,000 disputes through mediation in 2017 alone – 90% of the mediations came through the mandatory opt-out requirement. Greece and Turkey have also used this model with great success. Turkey went from 0 to 30,828 Mediations in just one Month.

## **Creating an enabling environment for Mandatory Mediation under the Ordinance**

### **A. Addressing the Limitations of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987**

To ensure the success of such an initiative, an effective mediation policy should be administered to ensure that parties are not burdened and unnecessarily delayed from accessing the courts. An enabling environment for mediation must be created to ensure a good percentage of mediations will result in an amicable settlement.

The mode by which the Commercial Court Ordinance contemplates the conduct of pre-litigation Mediation is uncertain on whether it will create such an enabling environment. The law contemplates authorizing the authorities constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act of 1987 (hereinafter the LSA) for the purposes of pre-institution mediation under section 12A(2).

The LSA has been constituted to provide ‘free and competent legal services to weaker sections of society’. The authorities under the LSA such as National Legal Services Authority, State Legal Services Authority and District Legal Services Authority are heavily

burdened with implementing the ambitious objectives of providing free legal aid to those who need it. Extending their reach to commercial mediations is hardly appropriate and suitable. Commercial disputes contemplated under the Commercial Courts Act will require a focus and skill set that is very different from that envisioned under the LSA.

Additionally, under chapter VIA section 22A, the LSA contemplates pre litigation conciliation and settlement through Permanent Lok Adalat. The said provision is mainly meant for public utility services. Members of the permanent Adalat are one judge and 2 members with minimal commercial experience. The process of dispute resolution followed by the permanent Lok adalats under the LSA is vastly different from the mediation process. Permanent Lok Adalats formulate terms of the settlement, after hearing the Parties, which is then given to the parties concerned for observation. If the parties do not arrive at a settlement, the Permanent Lok Adalat proceeds to decide the dispute by the majority. The process of 'mediation' followed by the Lok Adalats under the LSA compromises the self-determination and voluntary elements of mediation.

The authorities under the LSA are not the appropriate forum to implement pre-mediation services envisioned by this Commercial Court Act ordinance. Ensuring experienced and trained mediation professionals who can effectively manage commercial disputes is a critical element to ensure the success of this Ordinance.

#### B. Expand the scope of mediation service providers under the Ordinance

The Ministry of Law and Justice must recognise outside institutions such as mediation centres run by Bar Associations, Professional Associations, Chambers of Commerce and other recognised bodies to be able to effectively sustain such an initiative. In fact, the Ministry of Law & Justice has recognised certain private institutions for conducting Mediations<sup>[1]</sup>. For starters, this list must be included under Section 12 A (2) to expand the scope of mediation service providers under this Ordinance.

It must be noted that the Italian Law that successfully executed the mandatory "opt-out" model for a certain category of commercial cases authorised a large number of service providers including Chambers of Commerce as institutions where parties can access mediation services. The Italian Model has proven to be highly effective with 50% of the mediations that were mandated under the Law resulting in a settlement. 1800,000 cases were referred to mediation in 2017 under the Opt-out Category.

#### **Additional Recommendations to promote Mandatory Mediation**

While making rules under section 12A the Central Government must consider the following:

- a. The parties (or one of the litigants) submit a written mediation request to an "independent qualified professional ADR provider accredited by the Ministry of Law & Justice". Ministry must ensure that there is an adequate group of experienced and well trained professional mediators who can meet the demand that results from the mandatory "opt-out" requirement of the ordinance ;
- b. The parties and lawyers must be present for this initial meeting with the mediator.
- c. The mediation session must be held within a short period after the mediation request is made to the service provider. The ordinance must explicitly state the time frame within which the mediation must be scheduled to ensure this does not prove to be a barrier to accessing justice.
- d. The ordinance must stipulate a sanction that Judges can impose on Parties in case they do not appear for this initial mediation meeting.
- e. Parties will pay a nominal fee for this Mandatory Mediation meeting to ensure minimum barriers to access this requirement of the law. If after this initial mandatory mediation meeting, parties choose to proceed with the mediation, the mediator should be free to charge a reasonable professional fee.
- f. If the parties are able to reach an agreement in mediation, the settlement agreement is drafted and once signed by the Parties, is binding and enforceable as an Arbitral award on agreed terms under section 30 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of 2015. If need be, the agreement can be filed before the court for legal scrutiny and acceptance within a specified If no agreement is reached among all the participating parties, the parties are free to commence a lawsuit in Court, with only the fact that parties tried mediation recorded.

#### **Conclusion**

Italy executed a "Required Initial Mediation Session" for limited civil and commercial matter in September 2013. Four years later, Italy has seen a huge increase in the number of mediations and a drastic decrease in matters clogging their courts. A thought out Step-by-step approach allowed for a much-needed reformation of the Italian legal system – it must be noted that Italy has jumped 49 places in the Ease of Doing Business Index over the past year – credit can be given to the effective use of ADR in Italy with the implementation of the mandatory Opt-out mediation model.

The recent ordinance of the Commercial Court Act is a step in the right direction. We must ensure that this well-intentioned ordinance may truly make a difference in ensuring commercial cases find quick, cost-effective and appropriate resolutions.

[1] See <http://doj.gov.in/page/online-dispute-resolution-through-mediation-arbitration-conciliation-etc>

## Meetings with Government Officials



### Meeting to discuss on organizing joint session on Ease of Doing Business - November 29, 2018

President Mr. Kishore Alva had a meeting with Mr. H D Kumaraswamy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka; Mr. K J George, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Industries, GoK; Mr. Darpan Jain, IAS, Commissioner for Industrial Development & Director Industries & Commerce, GoK; Mr. Gaurav Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Government, Commerce and Industries, GoK and Mr. H M Revannagowda, Managing Director, Karnataka Udyog Mitra to seek the support from the State Government in jointly organizing a Session on Ease of Doing Business during Jan 2019.

The meeting was held coinciding with the 21st edition of Bangalore Tech Summit.

Mr. Kishore Alva extended the invitations to the Hon'ble Ministers and said that the objective of organizing the session was to update and share the initiatives implemented by various departments and present issues that have been addressed / streamlined in order to eliminate the bottlenecks in doing business in the State and also on resolving grass root issues faced by the industry while operating in Karnataka.

The Chief Minister and the Minister for Large and Medium Industries appreciated the efforts of the Chamber and agreed to participate at the session.

### Combined GST Regional Advisory Committee - Quarterly meeting on December 6, 2018

The above meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Mr. A K Jyotishi, IRS, Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Bengaluru Zone.

The Pr. CCCT complimented the Chamber for submitting a comprehensive Representation covering on vital concerns of GST.

Mr. B Shekhar, Secretary, BCIC represented the Chamber at

the above meeting.

### Workshop on skilling India in a Digital Age held from December 3 – 7, 2018

The BCIC was the Principle Partner at the above Workshop jointly organized by the Skill India, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India and GIZ (The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH).

Mr. Prithvi K, Secretary, BCIC and Mr. Subbu M Hegde, Member of the Management Committee, BCIC represented the Chamber at the above Workshop.

The Workshop deliberated on topical themes relating to skill development and promotion of entrepreneurship and a Roadshow to raise awareness about recent skill development initiatives and share best practices.

The Workshop also comprised a Panel discussion "Development of the Labour Market Information System in Karnataka" addressed by Mr. Bimal Kumar Sikdar – Director, International Cooperation, MSDE, GoI; Mr. Atif Khan - Manager, Association of Skill Training Providers; Dr. Shripad S B, Joint Labour Commissioner, Government of Karnataka and Mr. Subbu M Hegde, Member of the Management Committee, BCIC.

During the conclusion of the Workshop, a proposal on forming 3 task forces for development work during 2019 with Representatives from:

Group A - Improving the partnership between public and private actors in cooperative VET

Representatives: CMIA; UWDMA; KASSIA; BCIC; NSDC; DGT

Group B - Attracting the right candidates for cooperative VET

Representatives: CIIS; KASSIA; MASSIA; BMA; BCIC; CMIA and Regional Directorate, Mumbai

### Meeting under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble LMI Minister regarding revision of industrial water rates on December 15, 2018

A meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Mr. K J George, Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Industries, GoK to discuss the following subjects:

#### 1) Revision of industrial water rates

#### 2) Less consumption of electricity by the industries in the State

BCIC submitted its Recommendations on Revision of Industrial Water rates and Electricity Tariff to the Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries, GoK requesting the Government to re-look into the revision and bring down the Royalty rate on water to a reasonable level for a sustainable development of manufacturing sector across the State.

BCIC was represented by Mr. Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd.), MC Member, BCIC; Mr. Girish Navada, Co-Chairman, Energy, Environment and Water Expert Committee, BCIC and Ms. B S Anuradha, Member, Environment and Water Expert Committee, BCIC and Mr. Prithvi K, Secretary, BCIC.

### International Trade Fair: Organics and Millets 2019, Government of Karnataka on January 18 -20, 2019

We are happy to inform the members that the Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka has extended an invitation to BCIC for associating with them as "Industry Partner" in organizing their forthcoming 'International Trade Fair Organic & Millets 2019' scheduled from January 18 – 19, 2019.

The primary objective of the Fair is to bridge the gap between demand and supply of organize products and millets by establishing market linkages between producers' and marketers.

The fair comprise high quality exhibition, Buyer – Seller Meets, National Conference, Consumer Connect Program, Formers' Workshop among other thinks related to Organics & Millets.

Dr. G K Vasanth Kumar, former Additional Secretary, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Karnataka and Member, Agro & Food Processing Expert Committee, BCIC has facilitated the Chamber's participation in the above Trade Fair

### AUCC for "Express Cargo Terminal" project at BIAL on December 21, 2018

Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Vice President, BCIC and Mr. B Shekhar, Secretary, BCIC represented at the Chamber at the above meeting convened by the BIAL Airport Users consultation for "Needs Identification, Options Development and Detail Project Design Stages" intended for "Express Cargo Terminal" project of BIAL.

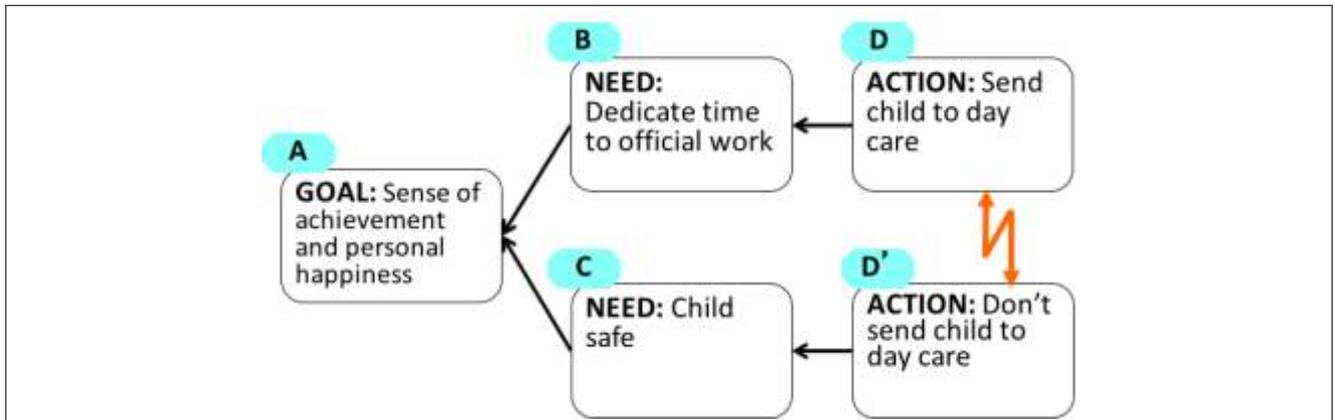
The Agenda for the meeting comprised discussions on Express Cargo Terminal, Need Identification, Options Development and Design details. .



## New Members



- Stove Kraft Ltd
- Torry Harris Business Solutions
- GEA Westfalia Separator India Pvt Ltd
- Doctor Pack India Pvt Ltd
- Samuthana Consultancoaching LLP
- Kros-Chek Consultancy Services LLP
- PIF Services Pvt Ltd
- Event Equipment Services Association



their children. If they stay at home, they feel bad about missing out on a career. Ira used a simple technique, called the Evaporating cloud or conflict diagram to define the conflict of a mother returning to full time work after maternity break.

The cloud is helpful in articulating the problem. Underlying each arrow, there are assumptions. The next step is to challenge assumptions which are so deep rooted that we are not even aware about them.

Some of the assumptions underlying this conflict are:

1. There is no day care centre near my place of work that is safe for my child.
2. Day care centre cannot provide the same comfort and care that a home can.
3. I cannot arrange/trust a nanny to take care of my child at home.

Once these assumptions were surfaced, the mother decided to find a job at an organization that provides good day care facility for children. She was able to address both her needs i.e. professional achievement and child's wellbeing and safety simultaneously. While it might look like a simple solution in retrospect, it took her months of going over the issue in her head, discussing it with family and friends, speaking to potential employers and consultants to take the first step forward.

**Often when we don't have a clear understanding of our goals and needs, we feel paralyzed or helpless when we have a tough decision to make.**

TOC Thinking Processes can be used for solving both inner dilemmas, interpersonal issues and professional issues. These tools are excellent for change management and problem solving in organizations growing at a rapid pace.

### Issue of Certificate of Origin

As you are all aware, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to issue the Certificate of Origin to exporters for the products manufactured in India. This Certificate is an integral part of the export document.

We hereby request you to kindly utilize this unique service offered by the Chamber. The Secretariat has been strengthened effectively to provide you the Certificate within the shortest time keeping in mind your utmost requirement and convenience.

We therefore earnestly request you to avail this facility and also give us an opportunity to serve you and interact on a regular basis.

**For Members we charge Rs.60/- per certificate**

**For Non Members we charge Rs.120/- per certificate**



# THE ECONOMIC TIMES

## Industry body BCIC hails steel bridge project, wants govt to build it in priority

ET Bureau  
Tue 05, 2019, 06:47 PM IST

The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has welcomed the government's move to revive the controversial steel bridge project from Chaiyapuri Circle to Rajalaxmi Flyover at the airport road in Bengaluru.

The Government, it said, should give green signal to the project on priority without delay.

The project will be executed by private players along with the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) overseeing the entire project.

BCIC president Kishore Alva, President welcomed the mega infrastructure project, indicating that the average traffic flow in Bengaluru is 18 KM/h. This is abysmally low for a global city which is ranked as one of the fastest growing metropolises in the world. The new Steel bridge flyover will significantly clear all bottlenecks holding up the traffic and also allow smooth flow of vehicles to and from the route. "he said in a BCIC release.

"We should commend the Government for the new infrastructure being built, which will basically reduce signal time and delay, increase travel speed, ease for unhindered movement of traffic from NH-7, airport bound traffic and factor for increase in traffic in the near future," he said.

The BCIC said the costs involved in putting up a steel bridge is justified considering the overall maintenance and repair costs compared to the Concrete Flyover. Alva said, "The steel bridge is better than concrete one in terms of life cycle.



# MY TIMES NOW

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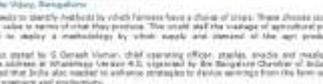
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# rediff.com

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# FnBnews.com

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## BCIC in its WhatsApp 4th anniversary sustainable food processing

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In a major effort to support the food startups in the country, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) highlighted the need and challenging industry-related business through a daylong seminar that was held here on Friday.

The event, WhatsApp Foods in its fourth edition was evolved around food and sustainable future.

There is a new wave of budding entrepreneurs and emerging startups, the way to disrupt the Agri and Food Processing (AFP) sector in the packaging and sustainable agriculture sectors, new technologies are being get attached to the future.

BCIC also said that it is important for startups to enter the agri, tremendous potential for technology adoption, considering the sheer size of the sector.

The key objective of the seminar was that it was intended to educate the sector was evolving, according to Semnath Chatterjee, chairman, expert committee, BCIC, and head procurement and logistics, ITC for Agri.

S Ganesh Kumar, COO, staples, snacks and meals, ITC, delivered the opening address, while Shreejit Banerjee, vice-president, marketing services, ITC, and director, ITC, and Afzar Ahmed, head, Plastic Waste Management, ITC, also addressed the gathering.

# Indian agri needs methodology to balance supply of, demand for produce

Indian agri needs methodology to balance supply of, demand for produce

The vice president of S Gemnath Kumar, chief operating officer, staples, snacks and meals, ITC Limited, in his keynote address at WhatsApp Forum 4.0, organized by the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) to address the need to address strategies to balance supply from the farm sector, which typically follows seasonal patterns and methodology.

"There is a need to develop a methodology by which there is a value creation for farmers. Indian agriculture is growing at 2.1 per cent, as against industry and services generating growth of 8.3 per cent. The per capita income from the agriculture sector is 40 per cent of the total income. India is an agricultural economy where 65 per cent of the population is dependent on it," he added.

"From the 40 per cent of the farm sector, the need to fully utilize agricultural resources and enable farmers to earn is to move into the services sector. This will be the economy to be further enhanced by AI, ML, IoT, etc," he added.

There are a large number of address and solutions for farmers, come, crop, irrigation, seeds and inputs. There is also a massive support programme of product promotion that the farmers produce through an MSP (Minimum Support Price) system. Therefore, India has a positive framework, climate and soil system.

It is vital for Indian agri-businesses to adopt precision farming, promote plant-based products, focus on produce which is organic and pesticide-free and build the adoption of new-age technologies.

"The challenge, India faces is to adopt a programmatic approach to agri. There are regional agri products, a type of fruit, grain and oilseed. BCIC is looking for India to move into agri-processed, said Kumar.

"However, there is a need to see the farmers have a good return in their basket of products, as opposed to the traditional produce of wheat, rice, etc., where production is in excess and reaching its unsustainable levels," he added.

# Promote non-adversarial approach to Tax dispute resolution: Balakrishnan

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# News Tread

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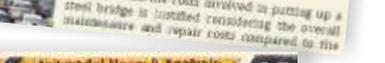
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# Power Sourcing through Open Access Market will be a player in the future



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# Corporate Debtor Disposal of Cases Quite Encouraging

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