



1. BCIC: GST Session
2. Business Delegation - Greece
3. Consulate Meeting - Switzerland



**BANGALORE CHAMBER OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE**

- BCIC Events
- Meeting with Govt. Officials
- BCIC in the Press



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Kishore Alva
President, BCIC

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned that a series of threats are brewing and is expected to upset economic growth in the coming months, if corrective measures are not initiated. The IMF in its world economic report states that the Global growth for 2018-19 is projected to remain steady at its 2017 level, but its pace is less vigorous than projected in April this year and it has become less balanced. Global growth is projected at 3.7 percent for 2018-19, 0.2 percentage point lower for both years than forecasted in April 2018. The downward revision reflects surprises that suppressed activity in early 2018 in some major advanced economies, the negative effects of the trade measures implemented as well as a weaker outlook for some key emerging market and developing economies arising from country-specific factors, tighter financial conditions, geopolitical tensions, and higher oil import bills.

The IMF report observes that the escalating trade tensions and the potential shift away from a multilateral, rules-based trading system are key the threats to the global outlook. Since the April 2018 the report observes is that protectionist rhetoric has increasingly turned into action with the United States imposing tariffs on a variety of imports, including on \$200 billion of imports from China and trading partners undertaking or promising retaliatory and other protective measures.

According to the report, in advanced economies, economic activity lost some momentum in the first half of 2018 after peaking in the second half of 2017. Outcomes fell short of projections in the euro area and the United Kingdom; growth in world trade and industrial production declined; and some high-frequency indicators moderated. Core inflation remains

very different across advanced economies - well below objectives in the euro area and Japan, but close to target in the United Kingdom and the United States.

IMF warns that an intensification of trade tensions and the associated rise in policy uncertainty, could dent business and financial market sentiment, trigger financial market volatility and slow investment and trade. Higher trade barriers would disrupt global supply chains and slow the spread of new technologies, ultimately lowering global productivity and welfare. More import restrictions would also make tradable consumer goods less affordable, harming low-income households disproportionately.

All these have had severe repercussions as far India is concerned. The prime disruptor of India's growth story is the continuing and unbridled rise in oil prices which is pushing up inflation due to its cascading effect on the domestic economy.

Expensive oil means widening of trade deficit for India. This is the key factor that is driving the deterioration in India's trade position. Experts caution that in order to counter the drag on growth, India needs to reduce its reliance on oil, but steadily rising consumption in the country is not helping. This keeps the economy exposed to movements in global oil prices.

Widening deficit results in a weakening rupee, as more imports mean India has to buy more foreign currencies to meet its needs. Oil is a necessary raw material used in a number of industries. An increase in the price of crude oil means that would increase the cost of producing goods. This price rise would finally be passed on to consumers resulting in inflation. Experts believe that an increase of \$10/barrel in crude oil prices could raise inflation by 10 basis points (0.1%).

It is good news for Karnataka as it is ranked first in the country in terms of investment proposals until August 2018. As per statistics published by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India, the state attracted proposed investments of Rs 79,866 crore from January to August 2018. This is a parameter that the state has topped since 2016. The state also accounted for 26.61 per cent of the country's investment intentions. This latest ranking indicates Karnataka leadership's priority in helping industries establish themselves and also start operations in the state. The state should now capitalise on the investments flows and help stakeholders to quickly establish industries which in turn will foster creation of more jobs in the State.



Breakfast Session "GST: A Transformational Tax Reform"

October 11, 2018



Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd. delivering the Welcome address at the session. Mr. V S Krishnan, Senior Civil Servant and Mr. Anup Pujari, IAS, Chairman, Karnataka Skill Development Authority are also seen

A Breakfast Session on "GST: A Transformational Tax Reform" was organised by the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) in Bangalore. On the same occasion Mr. V S Krishnan, a senior civil servant with wide experience in handling matters relating to Indirect Tax Policy launched his book titled "GST: A Transformational Reform".

Delivering the welcome address at the session Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd. said that "GST law is truly facilitating a new era of economic growth. Indian economy presently has been growing approximately at the rate of 7.3 per cent, which is expected to increase further in coming years."

GST is one of the key reforms that has helped in scaling up 43 places in global rankings in the ease of doing business. As such, India is clearly consolidating its position as the fastest growing large economy in the world.

He added that "As the GST regime takes deeper roots in Indian economy, the trade bodies like BCIC and its members have been proactively supporting the Government in tweaking the tax reform by providing suggestions and disseminating related knowledge regularly."

Mr. V S Krishnan who launched his book at the session said that it would be no exaggeration to say that the GST is one of the most important reforms in post-independent India. Its impact is multi-layered, ranging from tax behaviour to strengthening the federal polity to ensuring fiscal equity.

Delivering the keynote address at the session Mr. Anup Pujari, IAS, Chairman, Karnataka Skill Development Authority and Former Secretary, MSME, Government of India said that revenue collections to the government under the GST regime is not very significant. But said analytics and a bit of research is needed to understand whether the lower collection is due to

compliance issues or some structural issues. Once this is ascertained corrective measures can be initiated to stabilize revenue collections under GST regime. However, he did praise the GST Council for taking unanimous decision on several tax issues despite belonging to different political ideologies and backgrounds.

While Mr. A K Jyotishi, IRS, Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Taxes-Bengaluru Zone participating in the panel

discussion said that the Department is continuously receiving feedback on further rationalising the GST law which he said is being responded positively through GSTN Council. He further said that GST is still a work-in-progress and lot more tax rationalisation can be expected in the near future.

Dr. S Selvakumar, IAS, Secretary to Chief Minister of Karnataka who was also in the Panel said awareness of GST law is still in progress. The supply chain needs to be creating



BOOK LAUNCH

Mr. V S Krishnan, a senior civil servant with wide experience in handling matters relating to Indirect Tax Policy today launched his book titled “GST: A Transformational Reform” at a session organised by Bangalore Chamber of industry and Commerce (BCIC) today.

Mr. Krishnan launching the book said that it would be no exaggeration to say that the GST is one of the most important reforms in post-independent India. Its impact

is multi-layered, ranging from tax behaviour to strengthening the federal polity to ensuring fiscal equity.

Mr. A K Jyotishi, IRS, Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Taxes-Bengaluru Zone who was present at the book launch occasion said that the book is very useful for anyone seeking to understand GST System and is written in a very lucid manner for even a layman to grasp the nuances of the one-nation-one-tax legislation.



Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. at the book launch ceremony. Mr. V S Krishnan, Senior Civil Servant, Mr. Anup Pujari, IAS, Chairman, Karnataka Skill Development Authority and Brig. Sreekumar, Secretary General BCIC are also seen.

capacity to understand the law fully and comply with the details so that implementation is seamless. We are continuously engaging with the industry and wherever possible pitching-in to resolve critical issues so that businesses run with ease.

Mr. Shekar Viswanathan, Vice Chairman and Whole Time Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motor who was one of the panelists, responding to a query on how vendors are complying with GST said that most of the vendors in the supply chain are complying with the new law as it is necessary to stay in business. He said that GST law is buoyant.

Mr. Abhishek Dalmiya, Director, Product Management, Tally

Solutions another panelist said that further simplification of the GST law would result in more compliance which will further improve the ease of doing business parameters and help businesses to integrate into the new tax regime completely.

Issues like filing of returns, anti-profiteering, C Forms bottlenecks and other key pain points were discussed at the session where top officials from Central and State Governments and industry captains participated. Mr. G Elango, Advocate, former Vice President – Indirect Taxes, Bosch Ltd proposed the vote of thanks.



Mr. N R Badrinath, Co-Chairman, Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC moderating the panel discussion participated by Mr. A K Jyotishi, IRS, Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Taxes-Bengaluru Zone, Dr. S Selvakumar, IAS, Secretary to Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr. Shekar Viswanathan, Vice Chairman and Whole Time Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motor and Mr. Abhishek Dalmiya, Director - Product Management, Tally Solutions



Industry captains at the session



Care for her: Conference on Women in Leadership

October 05, 2018



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

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) under the aegis of its Women Leadership and Empowerment Expert Committee organized a half day Conference on Women in Leadership: "Care for Her" in Bangalore.

Two broad themes were deliberated at the session. One related to Understanding Biological Changes in Women and Impact on Productivity and the Second was on Stress Management for Emotional Wellbeing.

World Health organization defines health as "A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". It is true that a healthy woman builds a healthy community and if she is working, a better company.

Today's women follow a busy daily routine managing between work and home. This puts them under a lot of stress. Coupled with this, the women workforce also undergoes biological changes impacting her physical and the emotional health. Active married life and maternity further leads to physiological changes impacting her overall productivity and wellbeing.

Delivering the welcome address at the conference Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. said that Woman's multiple roles affect not only her own health and well-being, but affect the overall health and well-being of the family and companies they are engaged with. The heavy stress and strain they face

while combining outside work and domestic work, child care and care for elderly, make her more tiresome and this increases the concern for health issues for her.

India is a land of many contrasts where goddesses are revered for their strength and invincibility, yet discrimination against women in all forms is a common phenomenon. These require creative and immediate response from both the organisations as well as from the legal and regulatory framework. Timely and appropriate support can encourage women to be important stakeholders of organisations.



Women leaders at the conference



Dr. Vinoy Singh, Professor, Chief Consultant, Integrative Medicine, SVYASA Yoga University; Dr. Lavanya Kiran, Consultant, Narayana Health Hospitals; Ms. Lavanya Pachisia, Chairperson, Women Leadership & Empowerment Expert Committee, BCIC; Dr Uma Sheshgiri, Consultant OBG; Central Council Member - Indian Medical Association, Bangalore

He further said that this programme focuses on understanding the challenges that women face by creating awareness about biological and emotional changes that follows throughout her active Career Life and the impact of work pressure on her overall well-being. We believe that a little bit of understanding and care at appropriate and regular intervals, will have a long-term positive impact on individual women workforce which in turn, directly help organisations function better.

A galaxy of domain experts including Ms. Lavanya Pachisia, Chairperson, Women Leadership & Empowerment Expert Committee, BCIC, Dr Uma Sheshgiri, Consultant OBG, Narayana Health Hospitals, Dr. Vinoy Singh, Professor, Division of Yoga & Life Sciences Arogyadhama, SVYASA Yoga University, Ms. Gowri S Ramani, Executive & Career Coach/Mentor, MGSCC, ICF-ACC, Narrative and GrowMore Coach, Dr. Roshan Jain, Sr. Consultant Psychiatrist & De-addiction Specialist, Apollo Hospitals, Ms. Leni Mathews, Founder-Director, Emmpower, Dr. Vinoy Singh, Professor, Division of Yoga & Life Sciences; and Chief Consultant, Integrative Medicine, Arogyadhama, Ms. Ayesha Abuthahir,



Ms. Ayesha Abuthahir, Sr. Manager, Deloitte; Ms. Leni Mathews, Founder-Director, Emmpower; Ms. Gowri S Ramani, Executive & Career Coach, Dr. Roshan Jain, Sr, Consultant Apollo Hospitals, Dr. Vinoy Singh, Professor, SVYASA Yoga University

Senior Manager, Deloitte, Ms. Hema Chinchewadi, Member, Women Leadership & Empowerment Expert Committee, BCIC to name a few, felt that India needs a facilitative and supportive framework of policies and as well as a change in the social setting to facilitate a good and supportive working environment for women.

For this very purpose BCIC has carved a separate Expert Committee on Women Leadership which basically advocates:

- Examining barriers currently facing women workforce and leaders in the Government and private Service and hear how to overcome them
- Gain a deeper understanding of the skills, qualities and Health concerns of women workforce and
- Translate these into encouraging more women leaders to be part of the workforce.

The speakers while speaking on issues related to women and their health at workplace also discussed issues about possible changes that need to be made in this context and how all stakeholders can go one step ahead in ensuring that all workplaces are welcoming to women workforce.



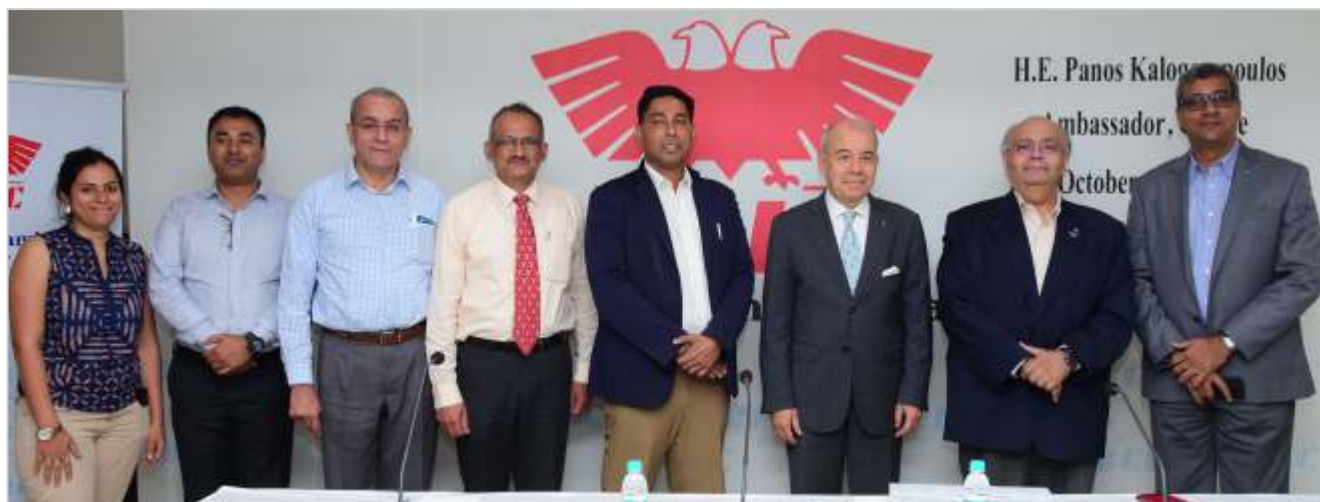
Ms. Hema Chinchewadi, Member, Women Leadership & Empowerment Expert Committee, BCIC summing-up the session





Interactive Session with HE P Kalogeropoulos, Ambassador of Greece

October 11, 2018



Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC and & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd. met HE P Kalogeropoulos, Ambassador of Greece. Seen along with him are Mr. Devesh Agarwal, Senior Vice President, BCIC and Brig Sreekumar, Secretary General, BCIC

Bangalore Chamber of industry and Commerce hosted an Interactive Session with HE P Kalogeropoulos, Ambassador of Greece in Bangalore.

Addressing a select group of industry captains at an interactive session HE Panos Kalogeropoulos spoke extensively on the rebound of Greek economy which was facing an economic crisis after the bailout package that was announced in August this year. Keeping this resurgence of the Greek economy back into the main stream HE Panos Kalogeropoulos sent out an open invite to Indian companies to expand their business horizon by forging new alliances in the form of new technology, business collaboration and exchange of ideas in the sectors of Energy, Food and Agriculture, Life Sciences, ICT, Logistics and Tourism.

HE. Panos Kalogeropoulos also informed that India will be the 'Honoured Nation' at the Thessaloniki International Fair 2019 (TIF) Greece where entrepreneurship and innovation excellence gets showcased in this northern Greek city. Since India is the Guest Nation to participate at this largest International fair in Greece HE. Panos Kalogeropoulos said that he expects a large contingent of Indian companies and businesses to actively participate at the fair.

As part of the resurgence of the economy HE. Panos Kalogeropoulos said Golden Visa is being offered to non-EU residents who would like to settle in Greece by way of investing a sum of €250,000 in the form of real estate acquisition or

partial investment in any sector or a bank deposit. He said that Greece will facilitate and issue a residency permit under this programme on a fast-track now to Indian citizens looking at Greece to settle there.

On the other hand, Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC and & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udipi Power Corporation Ltd. showcasing IT prowess of India to the Ambassador who was very keen to understand the ICT sector said: "We are the topmost offshoring destination for ICT companies across the world. Having proven our capabilities in delivering both on-shore and off-shore services to global clients, emerging technologies now offer an entirely new gamut of opportunities for foreign countries using Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Cloud Computing, Robotics to name a few. Since you are specifically looking at ICT sector, we can facilitate tie-ups based on your requirement.

Mr. Kishore Alva further said that "BCIC has long-standing working relationship with several foreign trade and investment bodies. This bonding with foreign trade bodies has enabled us to work more closely in promoting business and trade opportunities between India and other nations.

Over 15 industry captains representing different industry verticals interacted with HE. Panos Kalogeropoulos, Ambassador of Greece to India to explore business opportunities in Greece.



BCIC President Mr. Kishore Alva Meets Mr. Sebastien Hug, Consul General, Consulate General of Switzerland in Bangalore

October 04, 2018



Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. called on Mr. Sebastien Hug, Consul General Consulate General of Switzerland in Bangalore. Ms. Gaganjout Kaur, Manager, University Partnership, Consul General Consulate General of Switzerland and Brig. Sreekumar, Secretary General are also seen

Mr. Kishore Alva, President BCIC & Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. called on Mr. Sebastien Hug, Consul General Consulate General of Switzerland in Bangalore and CEO swissnex India to explore potential bilateral business opportunities between the two nations.

During the meeting, Mr. Sebastien Hug said that the Government is looking at India, more so Karnataka as an important trade partner and is keen to explore business opportunities between the two nations.

Mr. Sebastien Hug said that Switzerland has a very close and dynamic relations with India. Throughout the 2018, Switzerland and India are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the signing of the bilateral Treaty of Friendship between Switzerland and India.

Switzerland and India are partner countries that cooperate on a wide range of areas. Both nations have signed numerous bilateral agreements in areas such as: Trade, Development cooperation, Basic Education and vocational skills development, Visas, Migration, Air Transport, Investment, Finance, Taxation and Scientific and Technological.

India's is Switzerland's third largest trading partner in Asia and the largest in South Asia. The Indian market and India's strong economic growth, offer great potential for the Swiss private sector. Switzerland is the 11th largest foreign investor in India.

Close to 250 Swiss companies are present in India either in the form of joint ventures, wholly owned subsidiaries or branch operations. Relations between the two countries have been strengthened through regular high-level trade missions. Switzerland maintains an extensive network of representations throughout India to facilitate access and provide services for Swiss and Indian nationals, companies, academic partners and cultural actors. It is estimated that over 800 Swiss nationals are living in India

Switzerland is present in Bangalore since 2011, with its Consulate General and swissnex India. The Consulate General represents all aspects of Swiss interests, and fosters exchange between Switzerland and South India in areas such as trade & investment, tourism and culture. Being part of the Consulate General, swissnex India connects Switzerland and India in the fields of science, education, and innovation.

Mr. Kishore Alva during the interaction with the Consul General informed that BCIC would be organising an interactive session with all Consulate heads where they can freely exchange ideas with the government. He also offered to host an Interactive session with Swiss investors among BCIC members so as to explore possible business synergies between the two nations.



Industrial Visit to Toyota Kirloskar Motors and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts

September 26, 2018



Delegates at the Toyota facility

Top executives of select manufacturing industries based out of Bangalore today had the rare opportunity to visit Toyota Kirloskar Motors and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts, the two world class manufacturing units located in Bidadi on the outskirts of Bangalore. Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) today hosted the industrial visit where top executives were taken around the two facilities.

Mr. Raju B Ketkale Senior Vice President and Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motor said that participants got an opportunity to see and experience the world class production assembly-lines eye-to-eye and learn best practices that Toyota Kirloskar Motors Limited (TKML) and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts (TKAP) are known the world over.

The select group of Executives got to see first-hand cutting-edge manufacturing facilities at Toyota Kirloskar Motors Limited and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts which rolls out high end quality products.

The participants also interacted with the senior leadership team on the lean management innovation that Toyota practices in its manufacturing processes. The Team shared key principles of Lean Manufacturing philosophy with the visiting participants that basically focuses on embedding quality in the assembly lines itself.

The participants also were run through the fundamentals of Toyota Production System (TPS) through daily Management

which is very essential to run any manufacturing facility. The Toyota Production System (TPS) was established based on two concepts: The first is called "jidoka" (which can be loosely translated as "automation with a human touch") which means that when a problem occurs, the equipment stops immediately, preventing defective products from being produced; The second is the concept of "Just-in-Time," in which each process produces only what is needed by the next process in a continuous flow. Based on the basic philosophies of jidoka and Just-in-Time, the TPS can efficiently and quickly produce vehicles of sound quality, one at a time, that fully satisfy customer requirements.

Mr. Katkale said that working with TPS allows companies to produce high-quality, cost-effective products, that are delivered to customers on time. The production respects the environment, which includes recycling of products at the end of their lifetime. And it also creates a safe workplace, both for the employees and the customers.

At both the facilities, the visiting delegates experienced how meticulously each of the processes is planned at the manufacturing facility to roll out end-to-end finished product.

The industrial visit is part of Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce's member-connect programme, wherein best practices are shared with member companies so that they replicate the top-end manufacturing culture back at their own plants.



Webinar: EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

September 26, 2018



Mr. Alan Meneghetti
Partner,
Katten Muchin Rosenman



Ms Yasmin Roland
Associate,
Katten Muchin Rosenman



Mr. Rohan K. George
Partner,
Samvad Partners



Ms Neela Badami
Partner,
Samvad Partners

The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) under the aegis of its Banking, Finance and Corporate Affairs Expert Committee, in association with Samvad Partners and Katten Muchin Rosenman UK LLP organized a panel discussion through webinar on “The EU General Data Protection Regulation”.

With GDPR coming into force starting May 25, 2018, the general theme of the discussion was the experience in implementing GDPR so far. Mr. Alan Meneghetti, Partner, Katten Muchin Rosenman, along with Ms Yasmin Roland, Associate, Katten Muchin Rosenman provided a comprehensive overview of GDPR with a focus on the experiences of European (especially UK) organizations, as well as UK’s Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) rulings. Mr. Rohan K. George and Ms Neela Badami, both Partners, Samvad Partners who were part of the panel, discussed the corresponding challenges and experiences of Indian organizations in implementing GDPR.

One of the key points discussed was on ‘what could constitute a legitimate interest’ of a controller/processor to handle personal data. ICO guidance on this states that legitimate interest should comprise purpose, necessity and balance, i.e., processing must be proportionate to the purpose and organization must balance its interests against individuals. Mr. Alan stated that it is not always easy to determine what could constitute a legitimate interest but organizations should ensure that adequate care has been put in to determine the same. Discussion also hovered on what means of processing one could rely on as a basis of processing, which include consent, performance of a contract and compliance with a legal obligation. These become more stringent when the data being

processed is sensitive personal data, which Mr. Alan described.

Among the other ICO rulings discussed, were the Equifax and Facebook/ Aggregate IQ Data Services Limited cases. The ICO issued Equifax Limited with a 500,000 pound fine for failing to protect the personal information of UK citizens during a cyber-attack in 2017. This fine was imposed under the previous Data Protection Act, 1988, and was the maximum allowed. The company contravened certain data principles including failure to secure personal data, poor retention practices and lack of legal basis for international transfers of UK citizens’ data.

A query was also raised on the liability of the data processing officer (DPO). Mr. Alan clarified that the liability of the DPO is limited. A DPO will not be held liable for all actions of the organization that he is the DPO for and went on to explain when DPOs are required to be appointed for data controllers/processors. Importantly, a DPO should be appointed when core activities of a data controller /processor consist of processing operations that require regular and systematic monitoring of data subjects on a large scale or the core activities of data controller /processor consist of processing on a large scale of “special categories” of data and data relating to criminal convictions.

The GDPR is a compliance driven legislation, with companies having to account for and maintain records for their data activities. Given its nascent stage, Indian organizations are still waiting and watching.

Such discussions about experiences with the GDPR helps organizations identify the important measures and the hurdles that they might face during their compliance.



BCIC Speaker Series: SIT - Tumkur Artificial Intelligence - Deep Learning - Machine Learning

September 22, 2018



BCIC speaker series in progress

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) in Collaboration with Siddaganga Institute of Technology hosted the first BCIC Speaker Series on Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning and Machine Learning.

The new age Artificial Intelligence is pervading across the breadth of our lives, and businesses are trying their best to catch up with technology that are constantly evolving in this rapidly evolving Information Technology space. In addition to several of the verticals in the IT space, in particular AI/DL/ML is offering great opportunities for the workforce to explore and make it big in this sunrise sector.

Of late, the IT Industry in India is experiencing acute shortage of skilled manpower in the AI arena. Hence, it is all important that the industry and academia work in synergy and trigger interests and understanding in this field for not only the professionals but students as well.

In the first of the series hosted by BCIC, the “BCIC Speaker Series on AI/ML/DL organised at the Siddaganga Institute of Technology campus in Tumkuru was a good start. Over 200 students were present to hear top domain speakers on varied topics. The 4-hour session was very engaging as a slew of topics encompassing Machine Learning – Predictive Models, Regression, Polynomials, using Python in ML, Watson, playing with Deep Learning using Tensorflow, Use cases of AI, NLP and a Demo on Automation of Document Processing and Analysis using Natural Language Processing and Text Analytics were presented to the audience.

This was BCIC’s initiative on academia engagement with an attempt to spark interest amongst students to take up AI/ML/DL as career options with the shortage of workforce in these technologies becoming more acute.

The BCIC team also interacted with the Deans and Professors from the MCA, Information Sciences and Computer Science streams on challenges faced and best practices on Curriculum and pedagogy.

BCIC will be collating feedback received at the interaction so as to comprehensively work with the Government, Industry and the Academia to design Curriculum Reforms that meets the agenda of Making tomorrow’s incoming workforce relevant to the Industry.

Domain Experts who spoke at the session



Mr. Vijay Chandra
Cloud Architect, IBM GSI Labs



Mr. Siddhartha
Data Science practitioner, Wells Fargo



Mr. Seilesh M Sankappa
Analytics and Market Research



Interactive Meeting with Bidadi Industries Association

October 04, 2018

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) under the aegis of its Infrastructure Expert Committee hosted an Interactive Session with Bidadi Industries Association (BIA). The President of BIA Mr. Rajendra Hegde KV spoke on the activities of the business chamber.

The BIA model has come up for appreciation not only among the peer groups but also the State Government for its progressive approach towards managing and being a vital enabler of services to this important industrial belt.

Bidadi Industries Association (BIA) is a trade and business body established in February 2012. It operates from Bidadi where some of the leading Transnational companies have their manufacturing bases. Its basic objective is to pool together companies located in the vicinity of Bidadi and Ramanagaram industrial area and offer an array of facilitating services so that they function with seamless ease.

Mr. Rajendra Hegde KV, President, BIA said that the Association is professionally managed industry body with a team of executive members drawn from various companies who are members of the Association.

The Bidadi Industrial Area when developed in 1995-97, was bereft of any basic infrastructure including civic amenities. The existing infrastructure was deteriorating and directly impacting business activities of Industry based out this region. To change the very outlook of the industrial belt, BIA formed a Special Purpose Group, with an objective to create seamless infrastructure which will foster sustenance of business and at the same time promote business growth. All the three agencies, the Government, Community and the Industry came together to achieve benchmarks set by BIA.

Today BIA is being admired for its meteoric rise in just a few years of its existence and is also considered as a replicable model for other trade and business associations to emulated.

Stakeholders at the Interactive Session





Interactive Meeting with Campusknot Team

September 28, 2018



Participants at the Interactive Session

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) under the aegis of ICT and Industry-Institute Interface (3i) Expert Committee organized an Interactive Meeting with Mr. Rahul Gopal, Founder & CEO and Mr. Blake Tarver, Vice President of Global Operations, Campusknot. The meeting was facilitated by Ms. Sushama Kanetkar, Authorized Representative Director for State of Pennsylvania, USA & India Coordinator for IBG Global, Bangalore.

For quite long, the Academia and industry which operated in isolation are now rapidly inching closer to each other to create synergies. The constantly changing management paradigms, in response to growing complexity of the business environment, today, have necessitated these two important domains to come closer. A productive interface between academia and industry given the present knowledge economy scenario has turned into a critical requirement.

The objective of the Interaction was to present and promote on the software most suited for the education institutions that connects the entirety of campus in a way that encourages students to engage with professors and one another both inside and outside of the classroom for a much more intuitive and relatable learning experience.

Ms. Richa Sarna, Co-Chairperson, ICT and 3i Expert Committee, BCIC in her welcome address said that this is opportune time that industry ploughs back its experience into the Academia so as to re-orient the teaching programmes and

methodology of study to enrich knowledge which is contemporary and in tune with the industry demands. It is a known fact that deepening of industry-academia interaction will enhance the quality of teaching and research in the universities. This in turn will translate into enhanced processes and quality production output in the industry. Hence, there is an urgent need to take proactive steps to enhance the employability of Students and make them industry ready.

In his presentation, Mr. Rahul Gopal Founder & CEO, Campusknot said that he has developed a software that basically fosters increased engagement in classrooms

He said Campusknot is a modern tool for educators that brings together features like live polling, attendance tracking, course groups, integrated planners, gradebooks and much more to create a better experience for educators and students alike. It can be accessed via a web browser or our hassle-free mobile app. Signing up as an instructor is free.

The nature of information dispersal has changed with the advent of technology. Classrooms are increasingly connected digitally and with the right tools, educators can fully customize and design the classroom experience that best fits their teaching style.

Over 25 delegates from Engineering and Management Institutions and Senior Representatives from e-learning services participated at the interaction.



Mr. Kishore Alva, BCIC President Charts out Agenda for Government of Karnataka

Mr. Kishore Alva, Joint President and Executive Director, Adani - Udupi Power Corporation Ltd. who took over as the new President of Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) in July this year has listed out a robust vision for the State of Karnataka. Backing his vision is that the State's economy is also growing at a healthy pace. Karnataka has been ranked first in the country in terms of investment proposals until August 2018. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India indicated that the Karnataka attracted proposed investments of Rs 79,866 crore from January to August 2018. This is a parameter that the State has topped since 2016. The state also accounted for 26.61 per cent of the country's investment intentions.

One of the top five industrialised states of India, Karnataka is emerging as an undisputed investment destination for investors. Available opportunities and subsequent benefits along with the investor-friendly policy of the Government make Karnataka an ideal location for work and live.

To further this ambition of making Karnataka the most preferred business destination across India Mr. Kishore Alva, has drawn up an action plan partnering with the government and implemented in a phased manner and on a continual process. He lists out a few considered approaches to further improve Karnataka ranking in the investment flow....



Ease of doing business: Speedy completion of Single-window clearance for projects under Karnataka Facilitation Act, 2002, through online portal including registrations and approvals of 15 line departments. This would also include creation of a detailed Guide to Investors on setting up of Industrial Enterprise providing holistic information on infrastructure, registrations, approvals, etc., on single window portal.













District outreach: Select 10 districts out of the 19, with 5 backward, 3 medium and 2 forward. Work closely with District Directors and officials to help share best practices among the less developed districts. Also identify some of these districts which have large cluster of MSME industries and work with the MSME cluster to elevate their capabilities and make them more competitive. This model, after being tested and fine-tuned can be rolled across the State.



Enabling infrastructure creation for rapid development of industry: Fast tracking establishment of (i) Tumkur Industrial Node across 9,000 acre and (ii) Machine Tool Park in an extent of 500 acre at Vasantha Narasapura Industrial area, Tumkur.



Digital connectivity: The telecommunication network in the State is reasonably good. However, many schools, especially primary schools, are unable to leverage the connectivity. One computer centre should be enabled at every primary level school to spread digital concepts to the masses.

	<p>Airport connectivity: Brainstorm to create an approach paper for creating viable operating model for airports at District Headquarters. Enhance district-wise helicopter service network in the state.</p>
	<p>Labour reforms: Create a time bound focus group that will discuss the labour reforms which should address the two issues (i) ensuring that an adequate safety net exists for workers and (ii) flexibility is provided for industries to manage their workforce without needing to approach Government for approvals for downsizing.</p>
	<p>Minimum wages: Address the issue of minimum wages. The minimum wages set by Karnataka is very high, especially in comparison to the neighbouring States. This could result in a slowing down / reduction of investments into Karnataka.</p>
	<p>Sharpen focus on Skilling of employees: The State needs to have a targeted plan to ensure that skilling of youth is done along lines of the needs of the industry, resulting in twin benefits i.e., (i) unemployed youth are skilled and can be employed and (ii) the cost of operation of industry comes down because they will get “industry ready” employees. This could even support an increase in minimum wages without unduly impacting the viability of industry.</p>
	<p>Leverage diversity of agriculture to enhance growth and exports: The State has varied climate zones which enable diverse cultivation of Fruits and Horticulture. This needs to be supported so that the transit losses are minimised and yield for the cultivator can be enhanced. Strengthen forward and backward linkages in the value chain eg. seed supply and animal care network; fertiliser and plant protection network; network to disseminate and support technology intervention; network to provide access to appropriate credit facilities; produce collection and processing networks; networks for storage and marketing produce</p>
	<p>Chamber outreach: Reach out to Chambers of Commerce in the State, especially those that are outside Bangalore and work to build relationships and partner with them with the intent of getting grass root level inputs from them to form a comprehensive representation to the State Government. Target to hold a Conclave of Chamber of Commerce sometime in January – February time frame.</p>
	<p>Roads: Identify areas in the State where Road connectivity needs to be improved and pursue with the Central Government (Ministry of Highways) to accelerate the development of these roads. BCIC can create a monitoring and tracking mechanism in order to ensure that time lines are adhered to.</p>
	<p>City Mobility Infrastructure: Address issues of traffic infrastructure – create elevated corridors to manage traffic thereby reducing load at ground levels. While this is not acceptable to many citizen forums, there is no other option left to the city to address this burning issue. A time-bound effort needs to be undertaken to build consensus on options that can be implemented. At least 50% of all arterial roads in Bengaluru to be converted to TenderSURE roads.</p>
	<p>Power Tariff: Addressing issues of repeated tariff enhancement without looking at the root cause of T&D losses. Karnataka’s T&D losses are among the highest in the country. T&D losses need to be capped and ESCOMs need to be held accountable to control losses within the mandated threshold.</p>
	<p>Rejuvenation of Lakes: Fast tracking rejuvenation of lakes on a time bound basis. Identify two or three lakes and work to rejuvenate them in a 90-day time frame.</p>



Indirect Taxes & State Taxes Expert Committee

BCIC ensures continuous support for the development of businesses by creating and disseminating cross-industry best practices and critical knowledge and help members understand and keep abreast of changing economic conditions, the regulatory and taxation environment and rapid technological change. Operating through 15 Expert Committees representing all industry verticals, BCIC regularly organizes workshops, seminars and industrial visits to enhance corporate governance norms and best practices among membership base.

One such Expert Committees which plays an interface conduit between the Government and Industry is Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee. The committee is headed by Mr. P V Srinivasan and Mr. S Venkataramani as Mentors. The Chairman and Co-chairman of the committee are Mr. G Shivadass and Mr. N R Badrinath.

Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee plays a crucial advocacy role in actively participating in the government deliberations on issues concerning industry. This expert committee comprises of Taxation experts, government representatives, finance heads and Tax consultants.

This committee usually organizes four to five major events which are of topical in nature so that BCIC members are aware of the various policy and procedural changes effected by the State and Central Governments. At the same time this Expert Committee also regularly submits comprehensive representations on various reform measures and related tax issues to both the State and the Union Governments. A few of the members of the Expert Committee are also part of the State and Central Governments' advisory committees which regularly interacts for seeking policy inputs.

Indirect & State Taxes Expert Committee's Work Schedule for 2018



- Series of Seminars on GST
- Training sessions for member companies
- Representation on IT side - GSTN related issues
- BCIC GST Helpdesk to Continue
- Interactive Sessions with Senior Officials from Tax Departments

- 1 Mr. P V Srinivasan Mentor**
Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee-BCIC
- 2 Mr. S Venkataramani**
Mentor, Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee
- 3 Mr. G Shivadass**
Chairman, Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee-BCIC
- 4 Mr. N R Badrinath**
Co-Chairman, Indirect and State Taxes Expert Committee-BCIC





Brig. Sreekumar M (retd.) Joins as Secretary General of BCIC



Brig Sreekumar, a veteran has done over 34 years of military service to the nation. He was commissioned into the Corp of Signals after his training at Indian Military Academy. He is a B. Tech in Telecommunication and Electronics from JNU, underwent Technical Staff course at Defence Institute of advance Technology, Pune and Master in Business administration from Cochin University of Science and technology. While in service he has served in various Telecommunication operations and engineering units spread over major operational commands. He also held staff appointments in the Indian Army at various levels including at HQ Integrated Defence Staff, New Delhi. He was selected to represent the country as a military observer to serve with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). He had the unique opportunity to be an Instructor in Indian Military Academy for training Gentleman cadets to become officers of Indian Army and also had been as Chief Instructor at The

Signal Training Centre to train recruits to become information warriors in the Corps of Signals.

Brig. Sreekumar has also had a stint in the corporate world as an advisor post his retirement before joining Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce as Secretary General.

As Secretary General, his vision for BCIC is to spread its footprints beyond Bangalore to nearby Industrial hubs. Upscale foreign consular and trade mission interactions to provide opportunities for esteemed members. Improve skill development initiatives in partnering with Government of Karnataka and other partners where BCIC has MoUs. And also to explore to Associate and bring in digital marketing platforms for initiating B2B and B2C for BCIC membership base.

Thus enhance chamber outreach to members through digital initiatives for brand recall and more visibility.



Exposure cum Study Tour for the Key Stakeholders of Indo-German Programme on Vocational Education and Training (IGVET) on German Dual VET



Ms. Corinna Kusel, Head of Division, South Asia, GIZ with Indian Delegates

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) was one of the key Chambers identified in the country to nominate a representative for the study tour to Germany hosted by the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Government of Germany in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India.

Mr. Prithvi. KK, Secretary, BCIC was nominated to represent BCIC for the study tour on Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Germany – and Global Trends. The objective of this study tour was to understand the role of Government Agencies, Industries and Chambers in Skill development training as well as develop linkages and other possible exchanges.

Key learnings from the tour included:

- The Dual System of Technical and Vocational Education and Training
- Apprenticeship Training and Dual Studies in a Technology leading Company
- The role of a Chamber of Industry and Commerce for their member's companies and for Apprenticeship Training
- Apprentices studying general and vocational subjects at a Secondary Technical School / at a Cooperative State University – in part – time



Mr. Lucas, Founder and CMC Lucas Nulle with Mr. Prithvi

- Training of Master Trainers and Instructors
- TVET research and development / promoting learning for the world of work – Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, UNESCO-UNEVOC
- Strategies and Action Plans in the field of Education and Digitation

The Chamber will explore the possibility of jointly working with various projects that are being implemented by GIZ in India under Indo-German Programme on Vocational Education and Training (IGVET).

The discussions that evolved were:

- Projects to promote Innovation specially among the MSME segment, covering domains like Manufacturing; Industry 4.0; Digitalization (Block Chain; AI)
- To come out with Research papers / White paper on the above subject/s jointly
- Women Entrepreneurs exchange programme: visit of women entrepreneurs to Germany and vice-versa, for cross fertilization of successful initiatives
- Energy, Clean Technology and Sustainability
- Bi lateral or tri lateral projects involving India – Germany – South Africa on continuous basis over a period of 3 to 5 years by involving the BCIC members, targeted at BCIC members who currently operate or plan to operate in these three geographies
- To closely work with GIZ on the DUAL System of Training Scheme for the ITI Graduates and on the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme as per the guidelines of

Gol. This could be really benefit the ITI Graduates who could be directly absorbed by the industries

Research Paper Suggested Title: “Disruptive Technology Trends Upending Established Paradigms in the Manufacturing Sector”

The sections that the Research paper would cover would encompass:

- 3D Printing
- Nanotechnology
- The Internet of Things (IoT) or the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT)
- Intelligent Things viz., autonomous vehicles in the farming /mining/warehousing etc. sectors; self-diagnosing hospital equipment; Geo-Fenced UAVs; Robotics etc.
- Machine Learning -Augmented and Automated Data Analysis, encompassing Big Data and AI
- Cloud and Edge Computing
- Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality viz., Digital Twinning (encapsulated software objects or models that mirror a unique physical objects) etc.
- Cyber Security: Issues of Trust stemming from dilution of privacy and Continuous Adaptive Risk viz., Block Chain as a directional attempt to (i) remove business and technology friction or (ii) providing a managed trust model

In all 10 delegates from Aurangabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Delhi participated in the 10-day study tour to Germany. The Delegation was led by Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India.



Mr. Christoph Mussener Managing Director Lucas Nulle briefing delegates on the latest from Industry 4.0 technology



Mr. Christian Heinz, Dy Business Manager, Technology Education Center, Ludwigshafen of Chamber of Crafts with the Delegates

Meeting with Government Officials



» During the period, the President, made courtesy visits and held meetings with the Government Officials. During the meetings, views were exchanged and updates given on the activities of the Chamber. President assured the Government functionaries of the Chamber’s continued support and cooperation in its endeavour in making Karnataka the most sought-after investment destination.

The officials met included:

Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary / Commissioner Secretary, Labour Department	Mr. Amlan Aditya Biswas, IAS
Commissioner of Police – Bengaluru City, Bangalore City Police	Mr. T Suneel Kumar, IPS
Director General and Inspector General of Police, Karnataka State Police	Smt. Neelmani N Raju, IPS
Commissioner of Cane Development and Director of Sugar	Dr. Ajay Nagabhushan, IAS
Consul General – Consulate General of France, Bangalore	Mr. François Gautier

NEW MEMBERS



BusinessLine

Greece invites Indian companies to explore biz opportunities
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 16

The Ambassador of Greece to India Panos Kalogeropoulos interacting with Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) invited Indian Companies to explore business opportunities in Greece.

In an interactive session organised by the BCIC in Bangalore, Kalogeropoulos, spoke extensively on the rebound of Greek economy after the country's exit from a bailout programme in August this year. Keeping this resurgence of Greek economy into the main stream...

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Bengaluru Police to step up tech deployment to deal with traffic

Bengaluru Police to step up tech deployment to deal with traffic



DECCAN Chronicle

19 SEPTEMBER 2018

India may ease tourist visa process

There are many unexplored destinations like Port Elizabeth, North Cape Town, Green Desert, Kosi Bay and many more. Stressing on the scope for culture tourism, she pointed out that her country has one of the world's best golf courses. Mr. Hichory Alva, president, BCIC, said, 'India's links with South Africa go back to the days of our freedom struggle and Mahatma Gandhi started his Satyagraha movement in South Africa, which that number travelled from that country, she said. The number of tourist arrivals (PTA) India has shown a six increase in the last 10 years, but in Karnataka has been mixed. A total of 6,275 tourists visit Karnataka in 2017, which dropped to 4, 67,52 in 2017. Mr. Vineet Verma, Chairman, Tourism Expert Committee BCIC, said, 'Tourism goes through ups and downs, it will pick up eventually'.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

04 BENGALURU

South Africa to ease visa norms for Indians

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

SOUTH African Consulate General from Mumbai Maropene Ramogopa said that the Visa process to visit South Africa will be eased further. In the coming days, on Wednesday.

Speaking at a session on South African tourism organised by Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC), Ramogopa said the South African government was in the process of simplifying the visa process in order to not only increase tourist arrivals into the country but also to enhance the tourist experience.

Indian Business Review BCIC organized a Conference on Women Empowerment titled "Care for Her"

The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) organized a Conference on Care for Her which focussed on understanding and bringing awareness on the challenges faced by women on the biological and emotional changes throughout her active life. The impact of work pressure on...

BusinessLine Toyota Kirloskar Motors showcases best practices



Bengaluru companies give first-hand account of concepts of Jidoka, Just-in-Time

To promote sharing of best practices, Toyota Kirloskar Motors (TKM) has opened its doors to Bengaluru-based manufacturing industries. The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC), which took the lead, hosted an industrial visit for top executives, who were taken around the Toyota Kirloskar Motors facility.

UNI United News of India India's Multi Lingual

BCIC hosts industrial visits to top manufacturing industries

Bengaluru, Sep 27 (UNI) Top executives of select manufacturing Thursday visited Toyota Kirloskar Motors Limited, the world class manufacturing plant in Bengaluru. Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) hosted it were taken around the facility. Mr. Raju B. Bhatkal, Senior Vice President and Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motors Limited (TKML) said 'This is an opportunity to see and experience the world class production...

NEWS NOW

Toyota Kirloskar Motors showcases best practice

To promote sharing of best practices, Toyota Kirloskar Motors (TKM) has opened its doors to Bengaluru-based manufacturing industries. The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC), which took the lead, hosted an industrial visit for top executives, who were taken around the Toyota Kirloskar Motors facility. Mr. Raju B. Bhatkal, Senior Vice President and Director, Toyota Kirloskar Motors, said participants got an opportunity to see and experience the world-class production assembly-line and learn about best practices that Toyota Kirloskar Motors (TKM) and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts (TKAP) are known for the world over. The group of executives also got to see first-hand cutting-edge manufacturing facilities at the facility, which includes high-end quality products. The senior executives also interacted with the senior leadership team on their management practices that Toyota practices in its manufacturing processes. The team explored the Lean Manufacturing philosophy with the visiting...

Bengaluru News Industrial News & Analysis

BCIC: Conference on Women Empowerment-Care for Her



Bengaluru News Industrial News & Analysis

BCIC keen to assist Traffic Police to Ease Traffic Bottlenecks



Bengaluru News Industrial News & Analysis

V S Krishnan's book 'GST: A Transformational Reform' released





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- Specialization courses taught by Senior Practitioners
- Live **Project Management** Course
- Art of Living **Yes+ Program** to handle Stress
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Many Fulfilling Partnership with Industry Placements 2016 -17

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 Sikasso, Niger Kumari Kavita	 Kolkata, AP M. Satya Srilekha	 Mumbai, India, MP Aklank Jain
 Jaisans, Jharkhand Pranav Mandal	 Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh Sapna Soni	 Jashpur, Odisha L.J. Monica
 Jashpur, Jharkhand Harsha Mehra	 Badagaon, Maharashtra Mayuresh Kalambe	 Bhopal, MP Abhishek Singh Lalwani
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 Sawai Mathurji, RJ Ria Sharma	 Sangrur, Punjab Gurpreet Singh	 Varnani, UP Shalu Agarwal

and many many more