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CHALLENGES &
OPPORTUNITIES

Reliance is best described as the face of India in the New Millenium.

- Mukesh D. Ambani







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From the Editor's Desk

Dear friends,

Warm greetings to you.

The fourth issue of "GCCI Voice" has the theme: "India – Global Challenges & Opportunities". It elaborates the factors favourable & areas of challenges. What is needed is to make optimum use of positive factors and ensure that benefits accrued are not offset by several limiting factors. Demographically we are in the forefront with our young population. Their strength needs to be harnessed by providing skills and then along with Government's pro-active approach we can surely zoom forward in our global economic pursuits.

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Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Ashram Road, P. O. Box No. 4045, Ahmedabad - 380 009. Tel: +91 79 26582301 / 2 / 3 / 4,

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President's Message

- શૈલેષ આઇ. પટવારી

સ્નેહી મિત્રો,

જીસીસીઆઇના આપણા આ પ્રસ્તુત અંકમાં વૈશ્વિક અર્થ-વ્યવસ્થાના સંદર્ભમાં ભારત માટે રહેલ તકો તથા પડકારો અંગેના વિચારો તથા મંતવ્યો સમાવિષ્ટ કરવામાં આવેલ છે.

વર્તમાન સંજોગો જોતાં ચોક્કસ લાગે છે કે વર્ષ ૨૦૧૮માં ભારતીય અર્થતંત્રનો વિકાસ ધાર્યા કરતાં સારો થશે જેના બે મુખ્ય કારણોમાં ગ્રામ્ય વિસ્તારોમાં માગનો પુનઃસંચાર તેમજ સરકાર તરફથી ખૂબજ મોટા પ્રમાણમાં થનાર ઇન્ફ્રાસ્ટ્રક્ચર પાછળનું રોકાણ ગણી શકાય. આ સંદર્ભમાં ચોક્કસ કહી શકાય કે વર્ષ ૨૦૧૮ દરમ્યાન પણ ભારત વિશ્વના ખૂબજ ઝડપથી વિકસતા અર્થતંત્ર તરીકેનું સ્થાન જાળવી રાખશે.

છેલ્લા ઓક્ટોબર-ડિસેમ્બરના ત્રિમાસીક સમયમાં ૭.૨%નો અર્થતંત્રનો વિકાસ આ બાબતનો પુરાવો પુરો પાડે છે, જેના કારણોમાં ખેતી, બાંધકામ તથા ઉત્પાદનનો વધારો ગણી શકાય. સમગ્ર નાણાકીય વર્ષ ૨૦૧૭-૧૮ માટે પણ અર્થતંત્ર દ.દ% ના દરે વધશે જે વિશ્વના દેશોમાં ચોક્કસ અગ્રગણ્ય ગણી શકાય.

પાછલા વર્ષના સુધારાત્મક પગલાંઓ પછી હવે એમ કહી શકાય કે અર્થતંત્ર હવે વિકાસની સાચી દિશામાં અગ્રેસર થઇ રહેલ છે. જે બાબત ફોરેન ડાયરેક્ટ ઇન્વેસ્ટમેન્ટમાં સતત થઇ રહેલ વધારામાં પણ દેષ્ટિગોચર થાય છે. વર્ષ ૨૦૧૬-૧૭ની એફ.ડી.આઇ. જે યુ.એસ. ડોલર ૬૦ બીલીયનની હતી તે કોઇ પણ એક નાણાકીય વર્ષમાં સૌથી વધુ હતી. એમ કહી શકાય કે જીએસટી તેમજ નોટબંધીની નકારાત્મક અસરોને હવે આપણે પાછળ મૂકી દીધેલ છે.

આ જ સંદર્ભમાં અન્ય નોંધનીય બાબતો છે સરકારની નાણાકીય અર્થવ્યવસ્થામાં અધિક્તમ નાગરિકોને સમાવી લેવાના પ્રયત્નોને મળેલ સફળતા, તેમજ નોટબંધીની અસર સ્વરૂપે ડીજીટલ પ્રક્રિયાને મળેલ વેગ. આ બાબતો પણ ભારતના અર્થતંત્ર માટે ખૂબજ ઉપયોગી નિવડેલ છે.

૨૦૧૦માં વિશ્વના ટોચના ૧૦ અર્થતંત્રમાં ભારત નવમા સ્થાને હતું પરંતુ તે પછી લેવામાં આવેલ અનેકવિધ સુધારાલક્ષી પગલાંને આધારે વર્ષ-૨૦૧૮માં આપણે પાંચમાં સ્થાને હોઇશું તથા વર્ષ ૨૦૨૫ સુધીમાં ભારતીય અર્થતંત્રનું મુલ્ય પાંચ ટ્રીલીયન અમેરીકન ડોલરનું હશે. આ સમગ્ર પ્રક્રિયામાં અર્થતંત્રને "ડીજીટલ પેમેન્ટ" તરફ વાળવાના પ્રયત્નોનો ફાળો પણ નાનોસુનો નથી. વર્ષ ૨૦૧૬-૧૭માં થયેલ કુલ ૨૦૯૯ કરોડ રૂપિયાના ડીજીટલ પેમેન્ટની તુલનામાં ૨૦૧૭-૧૮માં ડીજીટલ પેમેન્ટની રકમ ૪૮૮૮ કરોડ પર પહોંચેલ છે.

કે.પી.એમ.જી.ના અહેવાલ પ્રમાણે સમગ્ર સાઉથ એશિયામાં ભારતીય અર્થતંત્ર સૌથી વધુ સ્પર્ધાત્મક અર્થતંત્ર તરીકે ઉભરી આવેલ છે. આપણે જે રીતે સોલાર પાવરને લોકપ્રિય બનાવવા માટેના પગલાં લીધા છે તે પણ એક પ્રશંસનીય બાબત છે. વર્ષ ૨૦૨૨ સુધીમાં પુનઃઉપયોગ કરી શકાય તેવી ૧૭૫ ગીગા-વોટ ઉર્જાનું ઉત્પાદન કરવા આપણે પ્રતિબદ્ધ છીએ. ભારતના સ્માર્ટ સીટી અભિયાનના આધારે પસંદ કરવામાં આવેલ ૯૦ જેટલા શહેરોના ૯૫ મીલીયન નાગરિકોને સીધો કાયદો થશે.

ભારત સરકારના સ્ટાર્ટ અપ અભિયાન અન્વયે ૬૦૦૦ નવા સ્ટાર્ટ-અપને સરકાર દ્વારા માન્યતા તેમજ ટેકો આપવામાં આવેલ છે. તથા સ્કીલ ઇન્ડિયા અન્વયે સરકાર એક કરોડ યુવાનોને વ્યવસાય વિષયક તાલીમ પુરી પાડવા પ્રતિબદ્ધ છે. વર્લ્ડ બેન્ક દ્વારા આપવામાં આવતા રેંકીગમાં માત્ર ત્રણ વર્ષ પહેલા એટલે કે ૨૦૧૫માં ભારતનું સ્થાન ૧૪૨માં ક્રમાંક પર હતું જે ત્રણ વર્ષમાં ૧૦૦માં ક્રમાંક પર આવેલ છે. સામાન્ય પ્રજાજન માટે તે પણ આનંદની બાબત છે કે નાણાકીય વર્ષ ૨૦૧૮ના એપ્રિલ-જાન્યુઆરી ગાળામાં ફુગાવાનો દર ૩.૪% પર સ્થિર થયેલ છે; જે આગલા વર્ષનાં આ જ સમયગાળામાં ૪.૫%નો હતો.

કેન્દ્ર સરકારે EODB એટલે કે "Ease of Doing Business" અન્વયે પણ ૭૦૦૦ થી વધુ નાવીન્યસભર પગલાં લીધેલ છે જે ખુબજ ફાયદારૂપ સાબિત થશે, જેથી આપણો ક્રમાંક ૧૩૦ થી ૧૦૦ પર આવેલ છે.

કેન્દ્ર સરકાર માર્ચ-૨૦૨૨ સુધીમાં ૮૦,૦૦૦ કિલોમીટર જેટલા રસ્તાઓનું નિર્માણ કરવા માર્ગ છે જે થકી નિર્માણના તબક્કામાં તો અર્થતંત્રને ટેકો મળશે જ પરંતુ તે પછી પણ ઉભા થયેલ આ ઇન્ફ્રાસ્ટ્રક્ચરથી અર્થતંત્રને આગામી અનેક વર્ષો સુધી મોટો ફાયદો થશે. વાસ્તવમાં છેલ્લા કેટલાક સમયથી આપણો વિકાસ દર BRICSના દેશોમાં અગ્રગણ્ય રહેલ છે અને આપણી આર્થિક સ્થિરતાનું મજબુત કારણ આપણી ૪૨૦ બીલીયન અમેરિકન ડોલર જેટલું વિદેશી હુંડિયામણની અનામત પણ છે. હાલમાં GDP વિશ્વમાં સૌથી વધુ ૭.૪% છે, જે ચીનથી પણ વધુ છે.

"A stable macroeconomic environment is a precursor to growth" અને કેન્દ્ર સરકારના અને કવિધ પગલાં આ બાબતની સાક્ષી પુરે છે.

- <mark>શૈલેષ આઇ. પટવારી</mark> પ્રમુખ



Sr. Vice President's Message

- ડૉ. જૈમિન વસા

સ્નેહી મિત્રો,

વિશ્વના મોટા ભાગના દેશોનું અર્થતંત્ર જ્યારે કપરા સમયમાંથી પસાર થઇ રહેલ છે ત્યારે ભારતીય અર્થતંત્ર એક આશાનું કિરણ પુરું પાડે છે.

આ જ સંદર્ભમાં જે બે પરિબળો ખાસ નોંધ લેવા જેવા છે તે (૧) ઉત્પાદનલક્ષી વિકાસ જેમાં રોબોટસ તેમજ આર્ટીફ્રીશીયલ ઇન્ટેલીજન્સ મહત્ત્વનો ભાગ ભજવી રહેલ છે અને (૨) મોટાભાગના દેશોનો રાષ્ટ્રવાદી અભિગમ જે થકી ઉભી થઇ રહેલ માલ-સામાન તેમજ સેવાઓના હેરફેર અંગેની અડચણો.

જયારે એક બાજુ સમગ્ર ૨૦મી સદી દરમ્યાન વ્યવસાય અને ઉદ્યોગના સંદર્ભમાં વિશ્વ એક સર્વસામાન્ય માર્કેટ તરીકે ઉભરી આવ્યું હતું ત્યારે ૨૧મી સદીમાં અમેરિકા તેમજ અન્ય દેશો સતત ટ્રેડ બેરીયર ઉભી કરી રહેલ છે.

આજ સંદર્ભમાં ભારત દેશ માટે મોટો ફાયદો એ છે કે આપણી પાસે આપણું પોતાનું જ ખૂબજ વિશાળ ઉપભોક્તા માર્કેટ છે. ખૂબજ મોટી સંખ્યામાં આપણા ઉપભોક્તાઓનો ફાયદો આપણા દેશને ચોક્કસ થશે.

વૈશ્વિક અર્થતંત્ર અન્વયે બીજું અગત્યનું પાસું એટલે ઉત્પાદન ક્ષેત્રે રોબોટસ, આર્ટીફીશીયલ ઇન્ટેલીજન્સ, ૩-ડી પ્રિન્ટીંગ તેમજ ઇન્ટરનેટ ઓફ થીંગ્સનો મહત્તમ ઉપયોગ. જયારે એક બાજુ ભારત જેવા દેશ પાસે ઉપભોક્તાનો મોટો વર્ગ છે, ત્યાં બીજી બાજુ રોબોટીક્સ વગેરેના મહત્તમ ઉપયોગથી રોજગારીનો પ્રશ્નવધુ જટિલ બનશે તેવું કહી શકાય.

રોબોટીક્સના કારણે માત્ર ભારત જ નહીં પરંતુ અન્ય અનેક તૃતિય વિશ્વના દેશો જે પોતાના સસ્તા માનવશ્રમ થકી પ્રથમ વિશ્વના દેશોને માલ-સામાન પુરો પાડતા હતા તે બધા જ દેશોના અર્થતંત્રને નુકશાન થશે કારણ કે હવે અસંખ્ય જીવન જરૂરિયાત તેમજ મોજશોખની વસ્તુઓનું ઉત્પાદન યુરોપ અને પશ્ચિમના અન્ય દેશો રોબોટ થકી પોતાને ત્યાં જ કરશે તેવું કહી શકાય.

પરંતુ ભારત માટે આપશુ પોતાનું ખૂબજ મોટું સ્થાનિક બજાર એક અગત્યનું જમા પાસું છે. ઉપરોક્ત સંદર્ભમાં ચોક્કસ એમ કહી શકાય કે નિકાસલક્ષી ઉત્પાદનના ક્ષેત્રમાં વૈશ્વિક સ્પર્ધા સતત વધતી જશે અને ભારત જેવા દેશે સ્પર્ધામાં ટકી રહેવા રીસર્ચ તથા ડેવલપમેન્ટ, સ્કીલ ડેવલપમેન્ટ, ઉત્પાદન ગુણવત્તા વગેરે પાછળ ખૂબજ મોટું રોકાશ કરવું પડશે.

આપણા દેશને "સ્માર્ટ" ઉત્પાદન પ્રક્રિયાઓ તરફ વાળવા તથા અદ્યતન ટેકનોલોજી હસ્તગત કરવા સ્કીલ ડેવલપમેન્ટમાં ખૂબજ મોટું રોકાણ કરવાની તાત્કાલિક જરૂરિયાત છે, વધુ અધ્યતન માહિતી તેમજ સંદેશા વ્યવહાર ટેકનોલોજીની વ્યવસ્થા કરવી પણ જરૂરી છે, તથા વધુ મજબૂત બૌદ્ધિક મિલકત હક અંગેના નિયમો અમલમાં મુકવા પડશે અને આ સમગ્ર પ્રક્રિયા ત્વરિત ગતિએ ચાલુ કરવી પડશે. ભારત દેશ પાસે સાચા અર્થમાં વિશ્વ કક્ષાની શૈક્ષણિક સંસ્થાઓ જેવી કે આઇ.આઇ.ટી., આઇ.આઇ.એમ. વગેરે અસ્તિત્વમાં છે. આ બુદ્ધીધનનો તેમજ ભારત દેશમાંથી અન્ય દેશમાં જઇ વસેલા બુદ્ધીધનનો ઉપયોગ કરવાનો સમય પાકી ગયો છે.

આ ઉપરાંત ઉત્પાદન ક્ષેત્રમાં રોબોટીક તથા ટેકનોલોજીનો મહત્તમ ઉપયોગ થવાના સંદર્ભમાં આપણે આપણા આઇ.ટી. ક્ષેત્રના પ્રભુત્વનો લાભ લઇને આ પરત્વે પણ સંપૂર્ણ ફાયદો મેળવી શકીએ તેમ છીએ.

આપણાં દેશ માટે એક ખૂબજ મોટું જમાપાસું ખૂબજ વિશાળ સંખ્યામાં આપણું યુવાધન છે. સમગ્ર વિશ્વમાં ભારત જેટલા યુવાન/યુવતીઓની સંખ્યા બીજા કોઇ પણ દેશ પાસે નથી. મને લાગે છે કે સુયોગ્ય નીતિ અને સઘન પ્રયત્નોથી આપણાં સરકારી પરિબળો આપણાં આ મહત્તમ યુવાધનને વિશ્વકક્ષાની બૌદ્ધિક સેવાઓ તથા વિશ્વ બજારની સ્પર્ધામાં ટકી શકે તેવી સમગ્રીના ઉત્પાદનની તાલીમ પુરી પાડીને, આ એકજ પરિબળના ઉપયોગથી વૈશ્વિક અર્થતંત્રનો ખૂબજ મોટો હિસ્સો પ્રાપ્ત કરી શકે તેમ છે.

આ જ સંદર્ભમાં GCCI દ્વારા સંપન્ન થયેલ "ફાર્મ ટુ ફેશન" સમીટમાં પણ આ બાબત પર આપણે ભાર મુકેલ. મને લાગે છે કે સમગ્ર ભારતનો ટેક્ષટાઇલ ઉદ્યોગ, વૈશ્વિક સ્પર્ધાના સંદર્ભમાં ખૂબજ મોટું યોગદાન પુરું પાડી શકે તેમ છે. આ પરત્વે સૌ પ્રથમ જરૂર છે ટેક્ષટાઇલ ઉદ્યોગના બધાં જ તબક્કાઓને સુયોગ્ય રીતે સાંકળી લેવાની, જેથી ફાર્મ, ફાઇબર, ફેબ્રીક, ફેશન તથા ફોરેન, આ બધાજ પરિબળો તથા તેઓ સાથે સંકળાયેલ વ્યવસાયકર્તા એક સુદઢ એકમ તરીકે કાર્ય કરે અને તેઓનું એક માત્ર ધ્યેય વૈશ્વિક સ્પર્ધામાં સર્વોપરી થવાનું હોય. ભવિષ્યમાં આ જ પદ્ધતિ અન્ય અનેક ઉદ્યોગોમાં પણ લાગુ કરી શકાય.

"It is a matter of collective will"

- **ડૉ. જૈમિન વસા** સિનિ. ઉપ-પ્રમુખ







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કેન્દ્રીય બજેટ ૨૦૧૮-૧૯ લાઇવ ટેલીકાસ્ટનું આયોજન | February 1, 2018

ભારતની કેન્દ્ર સરકારના માનનીય નાણામંત્રીશ્રી અરૂણ જેટલીએ તા. ૧-૨-૨૦૧૮ના રોજ કેન્દ્રીય બજેટ ૨૦૧૮-૧૯ લોકસભામાં રજુ કર્યું હતું. આ બજેટના લાઇવ ટેલીકાસ્ટના કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન ગુજરાત ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રી ખાતે કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.

આ લાઇવ ટેલીકાસ્ટ કાર્યક્રમમાં ચેમ્બરના મોટી સંખ્યામાં કારોબારી સમિતિના સભ્યો, એસોસીયેશન અને ચેમ્બરના પ્રમુખ અને અન્ય પ્રતિનિધિઓ, ચેમ્બરના પૂર્વ પ્રમુખશ્રીઓ અને પ્રેસ-મીડીયાના પ્રતિનિધિઓ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. આ લાઇવ ટેલીકાસ્ટનું અગત્યની ચેનલો ઉપર સીધુ પ્રસારણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. બજેટની રજૂઆત બાદ ચેમ્બરના પ્રમુખશ્રી શૈલેષ પટવારી, સિનિ. ઉપ-પ્રમુખ ડૉ. જૈમિન વસા, ડાયરેક્ટ ટેક્ષ કમિટિના ચેરમેન શ્રી ધિનલ શાહ અને જીએસટી કમિટિના ચેરમેન શ્રી નયન શેઠ ગુજરાત ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રી વતી પ્રતિભાવો આપ્યા હતા. અમદાવાદના પ્રેસ-મીડીયાના પ્રતિનિધિઓએ આ બજેટની વેપાર-ઉદ્યોગ ઉપર અસર અંગે ઇન્ટરવ્યુ લીધા હતા. આ કાર્યક્રમને પ્રેસ અને મીડીયામાં સારી એવી પ્રસિદ્ધી મળી હતી





Seminar on Budget Analysis | February 3, 2018

Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Seminar on Budget Analysis 2018 today for the tax professionals, concerned office Staff/ accountants and tax payers and public at large.

- In the Seminar, guest speaker CA Shri Saurabh Soparkar explained that long term capital gains earned up to 31st January 2018 are grand fathered, thereafter chargeable at 10%
- He also explained that while selling land or building below jantri price and the difference is more than 5% of the jantri price; then difference of sales price and jantri price becomes income in the hands of buyer as well as seller and liable to pay taxes on the same.
- He also told that under MAT (Minimum Alternate Tax as per section 115JB), business loss as per books or unabsorbed depreciation whichever is lower, was allowed earlier.

Now as per this budget, both will be allowed.

• For newly employed employees, additional deduction of 30%

is allowed for first year and second year. The condition is employment should be for 240 days for other industries or 150 days for seasonal industries. The logic behind allowing second year is for allowing the benefits for those employees who are being hired at the end of the year.

- For senior citizens, interest on Bank / Post deposits up to 50,000/- is not taxable and no TDS shall be deducted.
- For senior citizens, as per section 80D, Mediclaim limit increased from 30,000/- to 50,000/-; whereas as per section 80DDB, dependents with specified deceases limit increased from 60,000/- to 1,00,000/-.
- Concept of Standard Deduction introduced with a limit of 40,000/- is welcome relief for salaried people.

Shri Soparkar concluded the session by sharing his observation since number of years' budget experience that "this is for the first time the Budget is not over ruling any judgement". The government this time has not made any retrospective change and only brought prospective changes. The budget is neither growth driven nor hindrance to the growth of economy.

Interactive Meeting along with visit of GCCI ADRC Centre (Arbitrator Meet) | February 9, 2018











Seminar and Interactive Session on GST | February 10, 2018

In order to make the members aware about the exact procedure for making refund application online under the system and clear their doubts and queries regarding pending refund issues, GCCI organized a Seminar and Interactive session on Saturday, 10th February 2018, from 4 PM onwards at GCCI Premises.

Shri Nitin M. Tagade, Deputy Commissioner, Customs Commissionerate, Ahmedabad shared a very informative and detailed presentation on the online refund application procedure. Mr. Tagade, in his presentation which took approximately an hour, covered all important aspects of the online refund filing procedure, the frequent errors, the Do's and Don'ts as well as the precautions to be kept in mind while making the application for refund or for rectification of wrong refund application filed earlier.

Mr. Tagade also answered at length all the queries that were raised by the members present at the seminar, during the presentation and afterwards during the interactive session.

Shri C.L. Patel, Dy. Commissioner, State Taxes (SGST) highlighted the process to be followed in cases of manual filing of applications for SGST and LUT. He also explained the common errors and methods to avoid these errors.

The session proved to be immensely useful and provided very good understanding about the process for claiming refund. It also helped clear many myths and doubts about the process that existed in the minds of the members.

AEO Programme (Customs Dept.) | February 19, 2018





GCCI AT WORK

Interactive Meeting with H.E. Mr. Demetrios A. Theophylactou, High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus | March 1, 2018

- Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized Interactive meeting with the H.E. Mr. Demetrios A. Theophylactou, High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus on March 01, 2018 at 11:00 AM onwards at GCCI.
- Shri Shailesh Patwari, President, GCCI welcomed H.E. Mr. Demetrios A. Theophylactou, High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus and mentioned that Chemicals, Dyes, Pharmaceuticals, Textiles, Medical Tourism, Mining, Renewable Energy and Shipping could be potential areas of cooperation between two countries.
- H.E. Mr. Demetrios A. Theophylactou, High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus, highlighted in his address that Cyprus has competitive advantage due to its strategic location, access to EU markets, robust legal and taxation framework, high safety and ease of doing business.



- He stated that Education and Economy are their principal focus. He mentioned that Shipping, Tourism, Real Estate, Banking & Financial Services are traditional business sectors of Cyprus and Renewable Energy, Mining, Ports, Sports, Thermal Energy, are some of the emerging sectors.
- He further said that Cyprus has huge reserves of Natural Gas and India could import it.





Budget for New India - A different Perspective with Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya | March 3, 2018

- Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in association with Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association organized a Budget for New India on March 3, 2018 with Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State, Road Transport, Highways, Shipping, Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India, and Dr. Kirit Solanki, Member of Parliament of India representing Ahmedabad.
- In his welcome Speech, Shri Shailesh Patwari, President of GCCI, admired Prime Minister's Vision of New India and excellent leadership he and his team of ministers have been providing towards this vision and mission. He further added that the growth of our GDP from 6.5% to 7.2% is very positive sign that we have strong fundamentals in right place to build the future of India.
- In his address to the industry, Hon'ble Minister said that Budget is a roadmap explaining in which direction the government is working. From earlier 489 unimplemented projects, Govt. has taken up 355 projects for implementation and 270 are completed.
- There are 1.87 crore people are without houses and the govt.
 has planned and every year 51 lakhs houses are planned for
 building by which within next 5 to 6 years, most of the families
 will be having their own residences.

- Pharma industry growth currently of 15% will be doubled soon. GST will automate the whole tax system.
- New generation is expecting transparency in business. The patent will be registered within a year this process was taking 3 years of time which made the patent registration useless.
- He also told that Banks' NPA burden will not be shifted on to MSMEs. He shared his views that as Chanakya rightly said that a state can be prosperous only if its trade and industry is given support. Therefore, they should be incentivized for betterment and growth of wealth creation.
- The current budget of 21 lakh crore should reach to 40 lakhs crore within 5 to 6 years. He also highlighted the importance of minimum infrastructure requirement of country.
- Dr. Kiritbhai Solanki, Member of Parliament, GOI, representing Ahmedabad constituency, that the budget is agriculture oriented. They also resolved the queries of audience.
- Dr. Viranchi Shah, Chairman of IDMA, in his vote of thanks explained in summarized manner that the key takeaways of Govt. is focusing on economy towards growth and better opportunities for all.
- Other suggestions or inputs were also invited by the Minister.



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Open House on Income Tax | March 7, 2018





- Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in association with Ahmedabad Branch of WIRC of ICAI, Chartered Accountants Association, All Gujarat Federation of Tax Consultants, Income Tax Bar Association and Tax Advocates Association organized an Open House on Income Tax on March 7, 2018. Shri A.K. Jaiswal, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Gujarat), Madam Asha Agarwal, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax - II and Shri R.K. Srivastava, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax -TDS, Gujarat along with their esteemed team of commissioners remained present and respond to the queries of taxpayers.
- In his welcome Speech, Shri Shailesh Patwari, President of GCCI, admired the way income tax department sympathetically responded to the queries of members and also expressed their concerns about various issues that a tax payer faces while filing tax returns in earlier Open House Sessions held at GCCI.
- In his address to the industry, Shri A. K. Jaiswal, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, urged to utilize maximum their portal of grievances on Gujarat Govt website. As on date only 30 to 40 grievances are submitted. They requested to utilize the portal on a maximum basis. He also told the house to convey their genuine issues to higher authorities. He told that impact of GST on direct taxes will be revolutionary. He also conveyed that the unaccounted sales / unaccounted purchases / unaccounted expenses will disappear slowly and will become history. He assured that certain policy matters

- which can't be decided by the dept., will be taken up with the board.
- In response to one of the queries, CCIT TDS Shri R. K. Srivastava explained that compounding is up to the assessee and department official can't force for compounding. It is a facility given to assessee.
- For the matter of payment of 20% of the demand till disposal of first appeal, department assured that at the discretion of PCIT, in genuine cases, payment of 20% can be reduced. The house also complained that the department is issuing lengthy questionnaires seeking voluminous information irrelevant to the aspects identified in the scrutiny. The CCIT told to inform them in case specific items.
- Madam Agarwal, CCIT, told the house that w.e.f. 1st April, 2018, there will be e-scrutiny / face less scrutiny which will instill confidence in the assessee. She also requested to all the dignitaries and members to motivate small tax payers to pay tax and file their return in time.
- The dept confessed while one of the query of charitable trust raised that dept is not having data for 12AA certificates issued in earlier years and therefore can't reissue 12AA, even though the trust has its 12AA registration number. However, a trust can apply a fresh for 12AA, and there will not be any sec.147 proceedings for not having 12AA.
- The dept. also resolved on spot queries of audience.

Business Mindset - Weekly Training Programme | February 24, 2018

GCCI ના ઉપક્રમે "Business Mindset" વિષય પર ટ્રેનિંગ કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.

આ કાર્યક્રમમાં ટ્રેઇનર તરીકે શ્રી સરવન સિંગને આમંત્રિત કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા

શ્રી સરવાન સિંગ દ્વારા આંત્રપ્રિન્યોર્સને ધંધાકીય માનસિકતા વિષે ખૂબજ માહિતી આપવામાં આવી હતી.



GCCI ની રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલની યોજવામાં આવેલ ચતુર્થ મિટિંગ | March 8, 2018



- GCCI રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલમાં નક્કી થયા પ્રમાણે દર ૩ મહિને યોજવામાં આવતી રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલની ચોથી મિટિંગ ગુરુવાર, તા. ૮-૩-૨૦૧૮ના રોજ વડોદરા ખાતે ધી વડોદરા ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીના યજમાન પદે યોજવામાં આવી હતી. તેમાં GCCI તરફથી GCCIના પ્રમુખ ચેરમેન શ્રી શૈલેષ પટવારી, માનદ્-મંત્રી શ્રી અનિલ સંઘવી, માનદ્-મંત્રી (રીજનલ) શ્રી સૌરીન પરીખ, માનદ્-ખજાનચી શ્રી પ્રતાપ ચંદન તેમજ સેક્રેટરી જનરલ શ્રી જગદીશ શાહ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા.
- મિટિંગની શરુઆત વડોદરા ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીના પ્રમુખ શ્રી નિલેશ શુક્લએ સ્વાગત પ્રવચન દ્વારા કરી સૌ સભ્યોને આવકાર્યા હતા અને રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલના ચેરમેનશ્રી શૈલેષ પટવારીનો વડોદરા ખાતે મિટિંગ યોજવા બદલ આભાર વ્યક્ત કર્યો હતો.
- આ મિટિંગમાં રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલના સભ્ય ઉપરાંત વડોદરાના અગ્રગણ્ય એસોસીયેશનો ચેમ્બરો ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા.
- રાજકોટ ખાતે તા. ૭-૧-૨૦૧૮ના રોજ યોજવામાં આવેલી મિટિંગમાં એક્સઝ ટેકન રીપોર્ટ પણ સભ્યોને આપવામાં આવ્યો હતો. આ ઉપરાંત GCCI દ્વારા થયેલ નામદાર ગુજરાત હાઇકોર્ટની પીટીશનની નકલ તેમજ રાજ્ય સરકારને અપાયેલ બીજા મેમોરેન્ડમની નકલ પણ આપવામાં આવી હતી.
- IGST રીફંડ અંગે જે વિગતો કેન્દ્ર સરકારને ધ્યાન ઉપર મુકેલ છે તેની વિગતો પણ રજુ કરવામાં આવી હતી અને ચેરમેનશ્રીએ વધુમાં જણાવ્યું હતું કે આ રીફંડ વિલંબને કારણે નામદાર ગુજરાત હાઇકોર્ટને પીટીશન કરવામાં આવી છે અને તેમાં યુનિયન ગવર્મેન્ટ, ચીફ કમિશ્રર ઓફ કસ્ટમ્સ વિગેરેને પક્ષકાર બનાવવામાં આવેલ છે.
- જુદા જુદા પ્રશ્નોના જવાબમાં ચેરમેનશ્રી શૈલેષ પટવારી દ્વારા થયેલ કાર્યવાહીની જાણ કરવામાં આવી હતી. આ મિટિંગ દરમ્યાન GCCI-GST હેલ્પડેસ્કના નિષ્ણાત શ્રી નીતિનભાઇ આચાર્ય, એમએસએમઇ હેલ્પડેસ્કના નિષ્ણાત શ્રી ડી. એચ. અમીન અને એક્સોપર્ટ-ઇમ્પોર્ટના નિષ્ણાત શ્રી જગદીશભાઇ ભાટીયા ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા.
- ચેરમેનશ્રીએ વડોદરાના બંને પ્રશ્નો એટલે કે ડયુઅલ ટેક્ષ ઝોન કે જેમાં જી.આઇ.ડી.સી. દ્વારા અને વડોદરા મ્યુનિસિપલ કોર્પોરેશન દ્વારા ટેક્ષ પ્રોપર્ટી લેવામાં આવે છે તે તેમજ નરોડા ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ એસોસીયેશનમાં કરાયેલ પીટીશન અને તેના પરિણામની માહિતી આપી હતી.

- હાલની પરિસ્થિતિમાં અમદાવાદ મ્યુનિસિપલ કોર્પોરેશન, નરોડા ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ એસોસીયેશન ને ટેક્ષની રકમના ૭૫% પરત આપે છે જે તેઓ તેમના વિકાસ કાર્યોમાં વાપરી શકે છે.
- થયેલ રીટમાં પણ રાજ્ય સરકારની ૪ કંપની તેમજ ટોરન્ટ પાવર દ્વારા વીજળીની પ્રાઇઝ ફીક્સીંગ પોલીસીમાં ભાવ વધારો માંગવામાં આવે છે અને GERC દ્વારા ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીની રજૂઆતો ધ્યાને લીધા સિવાય આ વધારો મંજુર કરવામાં આવે છે. આમ ખોટી ખર્ચની પદ્ધતિ અને તેઓની પોતાની જ કંપનીઓ પાસેથી ઉંચા ભાવે પાવર ખરીદી અને પાવરની આગળની પ્રાઇઝ ફિક્સીંમાં ભાવ વધારો મંગાવી મોડસ ઓપરેન્ડી ઉપર ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી. વધુમાં તેઓએ ગાંધીધામ ચેમ્બર દ્વારા એક અગત્યના પ્રશ્નની રજૂઆત વારંવાર કરવામાં આવેલી છે જેમાં ગાંધીધામની જગ્યાઓ લીઝહોલ્ડ માંથી ફ્રી હોલ્ડ કરવામાં ન આવતી હોવાના કારણે કેટલી તકલીફો વેઠવી પડે છે તેમ તેમણે જણાવ્યું હતું. વધુમાં તેમણે જણાવ્યું હતું કે તા. ૮–૩–૨૦૧૮ના રોજ તેઓની અને ગાંધીધામ અને GCCIના હોદ્દારોની મિટિંગ રેવન્યુ મીનીસ્ટર શ્રી કૌશિકભાઇ પટેલ સાથે છે. આમ તેઓના પ્રશ્નના ઉકેલની દિશામાં પ્રગતિ સધાઇ છે.
- ચેરમેનશ્રીએ GCCI ખાતે AEPCની ઓફ્રીસ ખોલવામાં આવી છે અને તેનો સર્વે સભ્યોને લાભ લેવા જણાવ્યું હતું અને તેમાં કેવા વધારાના લાભો મેળવી શકાય તે અંગેની માહિતી પણ આપી હતી.
- ચેરમેનશ્રીએ જશાવ્યું હતું કે હાલમાં ASSOCHAM અને FICCI બુલેટીનો બહાર પાડે છે તેવું રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલનું ઇ-બુલેટીન જો તમામ ચેમ્બરો તેમના તરફથી ઉપયોગી માહિતી મોકલી આપે તો, દર ત્રણ મહિને બહાર પાડી શકાય.
- વધુમાં ચેરમેનશ્રીએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે આવનારા સમયમાં ટેક્ષટાઇલ યુનિટો માટે ZLD એટલે કે ઝીરો લીક્વીડ ડીસ્ચાર્જ ફરજીયાત બનાવવામાં આવશે અને જયારે આવનારા સમયમાં ભૂગર્ભ જળ વાપરવા ઉપર પ્રતિબંધ આવનાર છે તે સમયે ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રી દ્વારા સુએઝ રી-સાયકલીંગ વોટર વિગેરે વિકલ્પો સ્વીકારવા પડશે નહીં તો આવનારા સમયમાં પાણીના વધારે વપરાશકર્તા ઉદ્યોગો માટે ભયસ્થાન ઉભાં થવાની શક્યતાઓ રહેલી છે. વધુમાં તેઓએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે પર્યાવરણ બચાવવાની સરકાર સાથે આપણાં સૌની ફરજ છે, કારણ કે નવી પેઢીને આપણે સ્વચ્છ એન્વાયર્મેન્ટ અને પીવાલાયક પાણીના સ્ત્રોતો જીવીત રાખવા પડશે.
- સધર્ન ગુજરાત ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીના પ્રમુખ શ્રી પી.એમ. શાહ દ્વારા ટેક્ષટાઇલમાં ઇનપુટ ટેક્ષ ક્રેડીટ મજરે આપવામાં આવનાર છે જેથી આ ઉદ્યોગને ૫૦૦ થી ૧૦૦૦ કરોડનો ફાયદો થશે.

GCCI AT WORK

- ઉપસ્થિત સભ્યોએ રાજ્ય સરકારની પોલીસી અંગે મહારાષ્ટ્ર પાસે તાજેતરમાં જાહેર કરેલ પોલીસી ખુબજ આવકારદાયક હોવાને કારણે સુરતના ટેક્ષટાઇલ યુનિટોનું સ્થળાંતરણ થઇ જશે તેવો ભય ઉદ્દભવ્યો હતો. મહારાષ્ટ્ર દ્વારા આ પોલીસી અંતર્ગત હવે ઇલેક્ટ્રીસીટીમાં યુનિટ દીઠ રૂા. ૩ જેટલી સબસીડી ઓફર કરવામાં આવી રહી છે જેનાથી સુરતના ઉદ્યોગકારોને ભયસંભવી રહ્યો છે.
- વર્ટિકલ જી.આઇ.ડી.સી.ની માહિતી પ્રમુખશ્રીએ આપી હતી અને તેમાં કેવી રીતે લાભ લઇ શકાય તેમજ નાના ઉદ્યોગો કેવી રીતે લાભ લઇ શકે તેની સમજ આપી હતી. તેમણે એવું પણ ચર્ચવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે જી.આઇ.ડી.સી. મીનીમમ ૫૦૦ મીટરના પ્લોટ આપે છે અને તેમાં આશરે ૧ થી ૨ કરોડ જેટલું રોકાણ થઇ જાય છે જે મધ્યમ સમયમાં રોકાણ કરવું મુશ્કેલ બને છે. આ સંજોગોમાં સબ પ્લોટીંગ થયેલું છે તેને કાયદેસર કરવું જોઇએ તેવી રજૂઆત GCCI રીજનલ કાઉન્સીલ દ્વારા કરવામાં આવે તો વેપારીને લોન મળી શકે.
- જીએસટી રીફંડ ઉપરના પ્રશ્નોની માહિતી આપી હતી અને કેટલાંક ઉદ્યોગકારો પોતાના IGST રીફંડ અંગે એવો અભિપ્રાય વ્યક્ત કર્યો હતો કે સરકારશ્રી એક્સપોર્ટ ઉપર અગાઉની જેમ ઝીરો ડયુટી ઉપર એક્સપોર્ટ કરવાની છુટ આપવી જોઇએ જેથી રીફંડના પ્રશ્નો ઉદ્ભવે નહીં. વધુમાં જે રીતે મંજુરી આપવામાં આવતી હતી તેવી જ રીતે એક્સપોર્ટરને ઝીરો ડયુટી ઉપર એક્સપોર્ટ કરવાની છુટ આપવી જોઇએ.

ટુરીસ્ટ ગાઇડના કોર્સીસ માટે GCCIના પ્રમુખશ્રીએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે આ કોર્સ માટે વડોદરા, જામનગર, અમદાવાદ સહિત કુલ-૪ શહેરોમાં આ કોર્સીસ કરવામાં આવશે અને જેમાં રાજ્યના ટુરીઝમ સાથે ડીપાર્ટમેન્ટની સાથે રહીને તેના કોર્સ વિગેરે નક્કી કરવામાં આવશે જેથી ટુરીઝમ ગાઇડ તરીકે પણ રાજ્ય રોજગારી મળી શકે.





"Talk on Create Your Brand or Stagnate" by Prahlad Kakkar | March 10, 2018

Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry in association with India SME Forum (Gujarat Chapter) organized a talk by the renowned Brand Guru Shri Prahlad Kakar on March 10, 2018 at GCCI which was attended by a large audience. The aim of this talk was to discuss important aspects about Branding & Entrepreneurship.

Shri Shailesh Patwari, President, GCCI welcomed dignitaries of the program. He briefed about the importance of "Brand Building". He said that as an individual or a company, creating one's brand is 'Fundamental Necessity'. Shri Nilesh Shukla, President, INDIA SME FORUM- Gujarat Chapter gave an introduction about activities of INDIA SME FORUM- Gujarat Chapter in his introduction speech.

Shri P.K. Gopalkrishanan, AGM, BOB explained about the various services provided by BOB to SME.

Ms. Sushma Morthania, Director General, India SME Forum briefed about the objective of ISF and highlighted their focus on empowering entrepreneurs.

In his talk the Renowned Brand Guru – Prahlad Kakar highlighted the importance of create values which building a brand. He talked about taking risks and being fearless to take major decisions in business. He said that all Startups should to focus on the idea & about its execution with passion. He mentioned that in today's highly competitive world entrepreneurs have to "Build Individual Brand or a Product Brand or Stagnate". He also enlightened the audience about Bench-marking Quality, inspiring Innovation, encouraging Creativity. He remarked that the success of future business depends on artificial Intelligence with analytics. He further stressed the importance of change in business and advised the experienced entrepreneurs to show the lights to young generation and let them find their path.

In the interactive session, Shri Prahlad Kakar addressed various questions & replies to their queries.

The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Jaimin Vasa, Sr. Vice President.

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GCCI AT WORK

CIBIL Score & Report with FICCI | March 20, 2018



With a view to support MSMEs and help build their capacity on how they can access finance in a timely manner, GCCI and FICCI partnered together to organise a workshop on the theme "Driving access to finance – Role of CIBIL Score and Report" on 20th March, 2018. TransUnion CIBIL was the knowledge partner for this initiative.

The aim of the workshop was to educate customers on the importance of maintaining a good credit history for availing easier, faster and cheaper access to credit both for self and business development. Mr. Amit Panwar, Key Accounts Manager, CIBIL shared a presentation where he explained what goes into the making of their personal and commercial credit report and score, how to read and understand it, how to improve it and what to do in case one finds discrepancies.

He remarked that understanding the importance of CIBIL Score and Report in their financial life would help an individual in developing credit history into a "reputational collateral" for themselves and their businesses which in turn will lead to the economic growth and overall development of the nation.

The programme was attended by large number of members of GCCI and FICCI.

PHD ચેમ્બર અને GCCI ના સંયુક્ત ઉપક્રમે 7th India Heritage Tourism Conclaveનું હોટલ મની મેન્શન ખાતે આયોજન | March 23, 2018



ગુજરાતના હેરીટેજ - ટુરીઝમના વિકાસ માટેની ઉપલબ્ધ તક તથા તેને અમલમાં મુકવા માટે અવરોધરૂપ બાબતો પર ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી.

ટુરીઝમ કમિટિની ગુજરાત સરકારના ટુરીઝમ વિભાગ સાથે ચાલી રહેલા પ્રોજેક્ટની માહિતી.

- અમદાવાદ-સોમનાથ હાઇ-વે પર હાઇજેનીક ટોઇલેટના પાઇલોટ પ્રોજેક્ટની શરુઆત
- ટુરીઝમની ડીરેક્ટરી
- ગાઇડ ટ્રેનિંગ કોર્સની માહિતી

શ્રી જયેન્દ્ર તન્ના, વાઇસ પ્રેસીડન્ટે ટેકનીકલ સેશનમાં ટુરીઝમના વિષયનો વિદ્યાર્થીઓના અભ્યાસક્રમમાં સમાવેશ કરવાનો, હેરીટેજ ના કોઇ સ્થાપત્યને CSR એક્ટીવીટી અંતર્ગત GCCI દ્વારા મેઇન્ટેન કરવાના, ટુર ઓપરેટરોને હેરીટેજ સાઇટની વિઝીટ પર ઇન્સેન્ટીવ આપવા જેવા વિષયો પર ચર્ચા કરી હતી.

ચેમ્બર અને ઇન્ડિયન મેડીકલ એસોસીયેશનના દ્વારા તૈયાર કરવામાં આવેલ મેડીકલટુરીઝમનું પ્રેઝન્ટેશન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.

Workshop on Entrepreneurship: A Professional Perspective - Way to Run Your Business Professionally | March 24, 2018

- GCCI દ્વારા ઉપરોક્ત વિષય પર ટ્રેનિંગ કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.
- આ ટ્રેનિંગ કાર્યક્રમમાં શ્રી અભય ઠાકરને આમંત્રિત કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા.
- શ્રી અભય ઠાકરે પોતાના વિષય મુજબ ખુબજ સરળ ભાષામાં માહિતી આપી હતી અને આંત્રપ્રિન્યોર્સને પ્રોફેશનલ પરિપ્રેક્ષ્યમાં બિઝેનેસ આગળ વધારવા માટેના સૂચનો આપેલ હતાં.



Workshop on How to Grow Your Business with Effective Vision | March 31, 2018



- GCCI ના ઉપક્રમે "How to grow your Business with Effective Vision" વિષે એક ટ્રેનિંગ પ્રોગ્રામનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.
- આ કાર્યક્રમમાં ટ્રેઇનર તરીકે શ્રી ગુરૂપ્રકાશ ઐયારને આમંત્રિત કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા.
- શ્રી ગુરૂપ્રકાશ ઐયરે બિઝનેસને કેવી રીતે પોતાના વિઝન દ્વારા આગળ વધારી શકાય અને ધંધામાં વિઝનનું મહત્ત્વ તેવા ઘણાં મુદ્દાઓ દ્વારા આંત્રપ્રિન્યોર્સને માહિતગાર કર્યા હતા.

Israel Delegation Meeting with OBs | March 14, 2018

Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry received a request from Embassy of India in Israel where it was stated that Nimrana Consulting Ltd. (NCL), a company based in Israel, is looking to introduce their product Bar Bar (a healthy tamarind bar) in India's Market and for the purpose, they are looking to explore possible collaboration with reliable local partner in Gujarat.

In this regard, GCCI organized a meeting with Mr. Ofizer Mizrahi and Dr. Yohanan Aravot on 14th March, 2018 at 4.00 PM with GCCI's office bearers and some leading food processing industries in Gujarat to discuss details about the project and



possible avenue for collaboration with local food processing firms. During the meeting, a presentation providing details about the company and its products were shared with the participants.

Talk on Diffrent Types of Oils by Ms. Priyanshi Patel | March 3, 2018 (BWW)



- ગુજરાત ચેમ્બરની BWW દ્વારા શ્રીમતી શિબાની દેસાઈના પ્રમુખપદે 06-03-2018 ના રોજ "Diffrent Type of Oils & Its Uses" વિષય પર કાર્યક્રમ નું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતુ.
- આ કાર્યક્રમમાં મુખ્ય મેહમાન અને પ્રવક્તા તરીકે શ્રીમતી પ્રિયાંશી પટેલ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. આ ઉપરાંત BWW ના પૂર્વપ્રમુખ શ્રીમતી સરોજ શર્મા પણ હાજર રહ્યા હતા.
- શ્રીમતી ઉલ્હાસબેન ઝવેરીએ ઉપસ્થિત સૌ કોઈને વિવિધ પ્રકારના ઓઇલ્સનો ખાવામાં ઉપયોગ અને તેની રીતો, તેમજ સ્વસ્થ આરોગ્યની દ્રષ્ટિ એ તેમના વપરાશની રોતો વિશે માહિતી પુરી પડી હતી.

EXTERNAL EVENTS



PHD - Opportunities in Food Processing Sector | March 27, 2018



Farm to Fashion Road Show at Mumbai | Jan 31, 2018



Farm to Fashion Road Show at Surat



46th Meeting of Steering Committee of MSE-CDP Scheduled at MSME-DI Extension Centre, New Delhi | February 9, 2018



Lecture Invitation Sharing your Knowledge with the Grade 5 Students at Ahmedabad International School, Ahmedabad | February 5, 2018

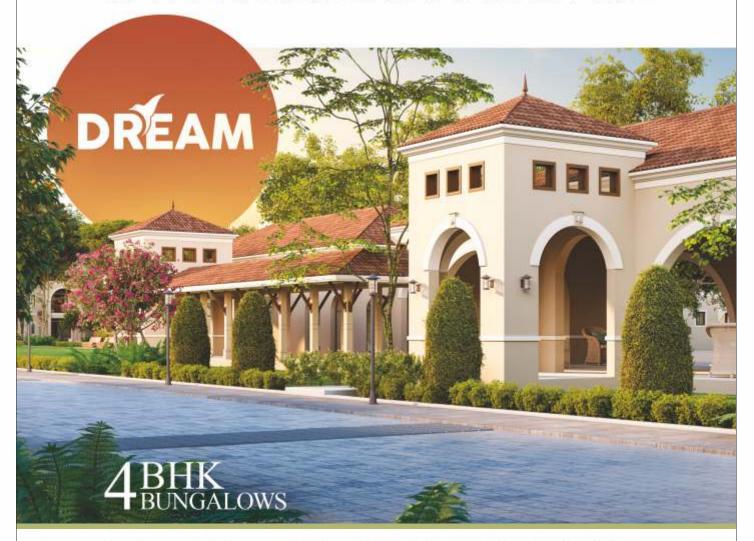


Austrian Business Circle Networking Dinner Reception February 7, 2018

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EXTERNAL EVENTS



Golden Jubilee Celebration of E-news Letter Pharma Pulse by Accuprec Research Labs, Matoda | Feb 10, 2018





13th Annual International Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights - Smart Solutions to Global Challenges | Feb 17, 2018



Opportunities in Import Export | February 8, 2018

GCCI Seminar was organised on 8th February, 2018 on 'Opportunities in Import and Export' jointly in association with iiiEM International Institute of Export Management, Ahmedabad. The speaker was Mr. Dipak Manohar Director of iiiEM, Guest of honour Mr. Padmin Buch co-chairman of Foreign Trade Committee -GCCI & Mr. Jagdish Bhatia in charge SBI-GCCI Exim Helpdesk.

Mr. Padmin Buch informed about GCCI activities and function of three help desk i.e. EXIM, MSME & GST.

This seminar was free and invitation was sent to all including all members and associations. 130+ participants attended the same.

Guidance given by Mr. Dipak Manohar Director of iiiEM explained with examples about Opportunities in EXIM Business, Myths and Realities about Export Import and How to start Export Import Business.

માનનીય મુખ્યમંત્રીશ્રી સાથે બિઝનેસ વિમેન વિંગના સભ્યોની શુભેચ્છા મુલાકાત | February 8, 2018

GCCI AT WORK - BUSINESS WOMEN WING

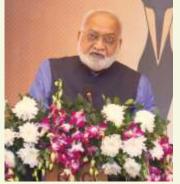


GCCI બિઝનેસ વિમેન વિંગ દ્વારા એક્સેલન્સ એવોર્ડ એનાયત કાર્યક્રમ | February 25, 2018











GCCI બિઝનેસ વિમેન વિંગ દ્વારા દર વર્ષે મહિલા ઉદ્યોગ સાહસિક બહેનોને સન્માનવા અને પ્રોત્સાહિત કરવા માટે એવોર્ડ આપવામાં આવે છે. આ વર્ષે પણ તા. ૨૫-૨-૨૦૧૮ના રોજ સાંજે ૫-૩૦ કલાકે, ક્રાઉન પ્લાઝા હોટલ ખાતે BWW-Excellence Awards ૨૦૧૭-૧૮ એનાયત કરવાનો કાર્યક્રમ રાખવામાં આવ્યો.

આ કાર્યક્રમમાં ગુજરાતના માનનીય ઉર્જામંત્રીશ્રી સૌરભભાઇ પટેલ મુખ્ય મહેમાન પદે ઉપસ્થિત રહી એવોર્ડ એનાયત કર્યો હતો અને સંબોધન કર્યું હતું. જયારે મીસ આશા મંડપા, Director, Instute of Design Expression, Art & Learning, Ahmedabad અતિથિ વિશેષ પદે ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. આ એવોર્ડ નીચે મુજબની કેટેગરીમાં આપવામાં આવ્યા હતા.

મેન્યુફેક્ચરીગ એન્ડ ટ્રેડિંગ
મેન્યુફેક્ચરીંગ એન્ડ ટ્રેડિંગ
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સર્વિસ
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આ કાર્યક્રમ પ્રસંગે GCCIના પ્રમુખ શ્રી શૈલેષ પટવારીએ સ્વાગત પ્રવચન કર્યું હતું. આ કાર્યક્રમમાં મોટી સંખ્યામાં બહેનો, પૂર્વ ચેરપર્સન અને પ્રેસ મીડીયાના પ્રતિનિધિઓ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા.

GCCI AT WORK - BUSINESS WOMEN WING

BWW Delegation Visit to Bali - Indonesia, Singapore & Malaysiya | March 11 to 22, 2018





- Under the leadership of Chairperson Smt. Shibani Desai, GCCI Business Women Wing visited the Bali Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kadin Bali, #Indonesia and had a fruitful meeting with the following institutions -
 - 1. Ladies Wing, Bali Chamber of Commerce & Industries
 - 2. Association of Exporters and Producers of Handicrafts of Indonesia
 - 3. Young Indonesia Entrepreneurs' Association, Bali
 - 4. Indonesian Women Entrepreneurs Association
- The Chairperson Ms. Shibani Desai signed an MOU with the Bali Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Further delegates Visited a factory cum display of a variety of Silver products manufacturing by UC Silver. Delegates had good experience and discussed ways to do business with Bali.
- The GCCI Business Women Wing & Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KLSICCI)
 ¥€\$ KLSICCI Malaysia officials met each other and discussed

about the structure, functioning of both the Chambers and they shared about Indian ties of their women entrepreneurs in Indian states like Andhra Pradesh and showed keen interest in Coming to Gujarat.

 Members also made an institutional visit to TAS Institute of Oil & Gas located in Sabah Territory close to Malaysia. A Chocolate Factory and Batik Print manufacturing unit were visited by the delegates.





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GCCI AT WORK - BUSINESS WOMEN WING



BWW Delegation Visit to Bali - Indonesia, Singapore & Malaysiya | March 11 to 22, 2018

- SICCI (Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce& Industry) visited GCCI -Business Women Wing in the month of July 2017 and a delegation of GCCI Business Women Wing visited them in March 2018 in the same tenure of one year led by the current dynamic Chairperson Smt. Shibani Desai. This reciprocation really strengthened the ties between the two apex Chambers of #Gujarat & #Singapore.
- Panel Discussion, B2B meetings for delegates with SICCI members, matching the delegate profiles based on nature of businesses, all took place in the daylong conference hosted by Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
- The event was organized with the whole hearted support and cooperation of GCCI BWW member & SICCI member, Smt. Vanita Vyas at SICCI
- GCCI Business Women Wing met the Ladies Wing of #LISHA Little India Shopkeepers & Heritage Association and The Secretary General (& Chairman of #SICCI) Mr. R. Theyvendran of MDIS (Management Development Institute of Singapore)



during a 12 day Business Delegation visit to Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore.

• Trading Indian Products at Little India Shopping Street in Singapore was discussed at length. Other important institutional tie-ups discussed during the meetings included SingaporeBusinessFederation (SBF) InternationalEnterprise (IE), IWA (Indian Women's Association)

Talk on Mindful Eating by Ms. Ulhas Jhaveri | March 3, 2018

- ગુજરાત ચેમ્બરની BWW દ્વારા શ્રીમતી શિબાની દેસાઈના પ્રમુખપદે 06-03-2018 ના રોજ "Talk on Mindful Eating" કાર્યક્રમ નું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતુ.
- આ કાર્યક્રમમાં મુખ્ય મેહમાન અને પ્રવક્તા તરીકે શ્રીમતી ઉલ્હાસબેન ઝવેરી ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. આ ઉપરાંત BWW ના પૂર્વપ્રમુખ શ્રીમતી સરોજ શર્મા પણ હાજર રહ્યા હતા.
- શ્રીમતી ઉલ્હાસબેન ઝવેરીએ ઉપસ્થિત સૌ કોઈને ખાવા-પીવાની શુદ્ધ વસ્તુઓ, ખાવા-પીવાની રીતો, આદતો વિગેરે વિશે માહિતી આપી હતી. તેમણે સ્વસ્થ આરોગ્ય માટેદરેક ઘરના રસોડામાં ઉપલબ્ધ વિવિધ ઔષધિઓ વિશે પણ માહિતી પુરી પડી હતી.



GCCI AT WORK - YOUTH WING

Spousal Integration-Become a Smart Chef-

- GCCI Youth Wing organized a spousal integration event on 1st Feb 2018, wherein the participants got handy tips on non-fire cooking from cooking expert Forum Parikh.
- They were given some innovative ideas on salad and dessert dressing in a 40 min Session.
- The event was hosted by Arpita Agarwal, Foram Parikh, Monika Mittal, Monika Agarwal and Rani Mittal, the session was followed by high tea.





માનનીય મુખ્યમંત્રીશ્રી સાથે યુથ વિંગના સભ્યોની શુભેચ્છા મુલાકાત | February 8, 2018

Youth Wing Cricket Match | February 4, 2018





- GCCI Youth Wing organized a mega event GYPL Cricket Tournament on Sunday 4th Feb 2018 at Adani Shantigram.
- There were 4 teams of men and 2 teams of ladies. Chairperson Ratna Jani and other team members superlatively carried off this huge and extravagant event.
- Dr. Jaimin Vasa, Sr. Vice President and Shri Saurin Parikh, Hon.
 Secretary Regional GCCI graced the event with their presence.
- There were more than 100+ participants and the bonding between them was palpable. Their enthusiasm added the required cheer to the ambiance.
- The teams put in their best efforts and gave a thrilling performance on the field.
- The family members were also there to cheer their teams including the kids. Their passion and spirit were infectious.
- There were some interesting kid activities also to keep the kids engaged and entertained. All in all, a super successful event.

GCCI AT WORK - YOUTH WING



Business Networking | February 21, 2018

- GCCI Youth wing initiated an opportunity on Business networking.
- The main agenda behind this event was to introduce with different types of product and services.
- It was a mix of sharing experiences to sharing businesses.
- Ratna Jani, shared her insight on the Do's and Don'ts of business.
- This event was followed by hi-tea which gave the members to interact among themselves.







Focus on Health & Nutrition | March 8, 2018

- On the event of International women's day, GCCI Youth wing initiated a cause to spread awareness about health and nutrition.
- Ratna Jani the chairperson of GCCI Youth wing influenced the listeners with her heart to heart talk on the importance of exercises and timely sleep.
- This entire event was hosted by the spouses of members, who made sure that it was a fun-filled event.
- It was an enlightening experience for all who attended.



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INDORE

DABH Airport, Indore. Ph.: 0731-2629200 / 2629300 / 2629400

RAIPUI

Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur. Ph.: 0771-2748577

GCCI AT WORK - YOUTH WING



Sanitary Napkin Distribution | March 12, 2018

- GCCI Youth Wing undertook a noble initiative of creating awareness and educating about menstrual hygiene at a municipality school.
- Chairperson Ratna Jani gave a motivating speech and the youth wing team enthusiastically participated to make the event a success.
- As a part of the awareness program, sanitary napkins were distributed among adolescent girls.



Geeting Renzevous with Shri Achal Bakeri | March 24, 2018

- GCCI Youth wing organized the next series of Rendezvous with enterprising and accomplished Achal Bakeri.
- Mr. Bakeri shared his philosophy and inspiring anecdotes about his life with the attendees.
- Presided over by Chairperson Ratna Jani, The rendezvous session turned out to be quite informative and enlightening.



Brighton (UK) visited GCCI NRG Centre | March 21, 2018

GCCI AT WORK - NRG CENTRE



From left: Dr. Milind Jani, Vice President, Gujarati Culture Society, Brighton and Shri K H Patel , Hon. Chairman, GCCI NRG Committee / Centre Dr. Milind Jani, Vice President, Gujarati Cultural Society, Brighton (UK), visited GCCI NRG Centre on 21st March 2018. While practicing as a trained Urologist, he is also an active practitioner of Ayurveda in UK since last 20 years. His Pavilion Health Company imports a of Ayurvedic medicines from India. His company is associated with the National Yoga and Ayurveda Training Associations, British Chamber of Commerce and the Department of International Trade. Dr. Jani facilitated the set-up of British Association of Accredited Ayurvedic Practitioners of UK and British Ayurvedic Council. A full documentary called "Hindu health check" on Dr. Jani's company was broadcast on BBC. He is presently busy to establish a manufacturing unit of Ayurvedic medicines in Gujarat.

On Dr. Jani's request, Shri KH Patel guided him how to go about for establishing a manufacturing unit of Ayurvedic medicines in Gujarat. Dr. Jani expressed his happiness about the assistance provided by GCCI NRG Centre to visiting NRGs.

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CONGRATULATIONS



Lions Club દ્વારા શ્રી ભરત મોદીને "Lions International Presidential Leadership Award" એનાયત થયો તે બદલ તેમને અભિનંદન



વાઘબકરી ગ્રુપને ભારતના માનનીય રાષ્ટ્રપતિ અને માનનીય વડાપ્રધાનના હસ્તે "Family Legacy Business Award" એનાયત થયો તે માટે શ્રી પીયુષ દેસાઇને અભિનંદન



GCCIની કારોબારી સમિતિના સભ્ય શ્રીમતી મીના કાવીયાને બ્રીટીશ ડે. હાઇ કમિશ્નર દ્વારા "વુમન એચીવર્સ"નો એવોર્ડ એનાયત થયો તે બદલ તેમને અભિનંદન



Chemexcil દ્વારા આસાહી સોંગ્વોન્સ કલર્સ લીમીટેડને "Outstanding Export Performance Award" એનાયત કરવામાં આવ્યો તે માટે શ્રીમતી પારુબેન જયકૃષ્ણને અભિનંદન



ભારત સરકાર દ્વારા Troikaa Pharmaceutical Ltd. ને "India Pharma Innovation of the Year Award" એનાયત થયો તે બદલ તેમને અભિનંદન



ચેમ્બરની કારોબારી સમિતિના સભ્ય શ્રી ચિરંજીવ પટેલને ધ યુ.કે. એશિયા બીઝનેસ એવોર્ડ કાર્યક્રમમાં ''મોસ્ટ ઇન્સ્પિરેશનલ લીડર-૨૦૧૮'' નો એવોર્ડ એનાયત થયો તે માટે અભિનંદન



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VCCI REGIONAL CHAMBER



Energy Conservation Workshop - February 22, 2018

VCCI in association with GEDA had organised Energy Conservation Workshop for Industries to create awareness amongst MSME units in particular regarding Energy Conservation and to motivate them to carry out walk through Energy Audit of their unit under the GEDA WTEA scheme.

NRG Marriage Seminar - February, 2018

Vadodara NRG Centre under the aegis of NRG Foundation, Gandhinagar had organised NRG Marriage Seminar at Dabhoi College for creating awareness amongst youths aspiring for Marriage with NRGs/NRIs.



GCCI Regional Council Meet - March 8, 2018

VCCI hosted GCCI Regional Council Meet at Grand Mercure Hotel Surya Palace to discuss matters affecting trade & industry for representing to the State & Central Governments. (Note: Copy of Pics of this programme are with GCCI also, incase additional photos are required.)

Meet with Labour Department Officials - March 22, 2018

Shri M.A. Gandhi, IAS, Director - Labour Department, Govt. of Gujarat accompanied by other high ranking officials visited VCCI to discuss ways of effectively implementing Apprenticeship schemes of the Government.





Meet with DGFT Officials - March 26, 2018

Dr. Ashis Kumar Dash, Dy. DG, DGFT visited VCCI for an interaction & presentation on "NIRYAT BANDHU SCHEME" offering opportunities under various schemes for exports.

GANDHIDHAM REGIONAL CHAMBER







Mrs. Maltiben Maheshwari newly elected MLA from Gandhidham Constituency paid a goodwill visit to Gandhidham Chamber Bahvan on 05th January, 2018.

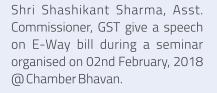
Felicitation Programme of Hon'ble MOS, Gujarat Shri Vasanbhai Ahir & MLAs of Kachchh District on 16.01.2018 at Chamber Bhayan.

A meeting of Timber and Plywood Industries was held at Chamber Bhavan on 30th January, 2018 at 5.00 pm. to get overview of the progress of the industry and to interact with industry to resolve the burning problems.



The Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce & Industry celebrated 69th Republic Day with National Spirit. Vice President Shri Nanadlal Goyal unfurled national flag on 26th January at the compound of GCCI. The celebration ceremony was well attended by Office Bearers, Chamber's past President, the members of the Managing Committee, representatives of various associations and business fraternity of Gandhidham – Adipur complex. All saluted the national flag followed by singing of national anthem in national spirit.







Organise a Press Conference on 6.3.18 to highlight Gandhidham's Landissues.



GCCI's delegation met Kachchh Collector @ Bhuj on 15.3.2018 to discuss various issues of Gandhidham Township.

GCCI's delegation along with Hon'ble MLA-Gandhidham Smt. Maltiben Maheshawari, President-Gujarat Chamber Shri Shailesh Patwari & Treasurer Shri Pratap Chandan met Hon'ble Revenue Minister Shri Kaushikbhai Patel @ Gandhinagar on 8.3.2018 to discuss Gandhidham's Land Issue.



GANDHIDHAM REGIONAL CHAMBER



A Meeting with President, Chief Officer & other officials of Gandhidham Nagarpalika was organised on 22.3.18 @ Chamber Bhavan to discuss various issues of Gandhidham Township.



GCCI & Associations of Salt Industry have jointly given a farewell to Shri Krushagra Mittal, Area Railway Manager, WR, Gandhidham on 06.04.2018 @ Chamber Bhavan.



GCCI delegation felicitate Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Vijaybhai Rupani during his visit to Gandhidham on 06thMay, 2018 and handed over a Cheque of Rs.1,11,111/- in "Chief Minister Kanya Kelavani Nidhi".



GCCI's delegation met Shri J P Gupta, Chief Secretary of Water Supply & Secretary In-charge of Kachchh District on 23rd March, 2018 during his visit to Gandhidham. The delegation discussed various issues of Kachchh District.

GCCI organized a Football Coaching Camp on 15.04.2018 at DPT International Football Ground, Gopalpuri from 6.00 pm to 11.00 pm for children between age group of 10 to 17 years, which received a massive response and more than 250 children of this township took part in this coaching camp enthusiastically.





GCCI Delegation headed by Vice President Shri Nandlal Goyal & Hon. Secretary Shri Murlidhar Jagani were present in Industrial Exhibition Udyog-2018organised by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry at Surat.

E-way Bill Seminar - Junagadh Chamber of Commerce & Industry | January 25, 2018





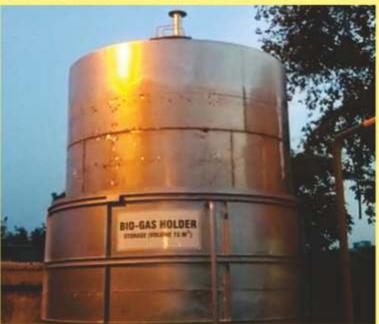
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NEW BIOGAS PLANT INSTALLED AT NEPL-NARODA Storage Capacity 15m3



High COD value effluent is segregated at source and transported through a tanker to Anaerobic Digester -0.50 MLD capacity. The anaerobic treatment will generate Methane Gas which can be converted into energy and can be utilised as a fuel to run boiler installed for Multistage Evaporator.

This will also reduce the colour value of the effluent and also reduce COD parameters considerably. The inlet COD of such effluent is ranging between 8000 to 10000 mgl COD which is being reduced to 700 to 800 mgl COD only. This is reducing COD load on other portion of treatment.

The commercial benefit is nearly of Rs.45,000 to Rs.50,000 per day. This is a renewable energy and NEPL is the First CETP to demonstrate a Cleaner Technology and also wish that such examples should be replicated else.

Naroda Enviro Projects Ltd. has not availed any subsidy for this project and have created Infrastructure from its own fund. NEPL is ready to share the knowledge and technology to all those who want to conver Pollution into Renewable Energy.

Nepl A Step Towards Green



Wind Mill - Capacity 1.25 MW



Renewable Energy **Biogas Plant**



Waste Museum



Multistage forced



Solar Power Zero at Paryavaran Mandir Evaporator (6 Stage) Discharge technology

TRADE FAIRS

TRADE FAIRS IN INDIA

Iphex	8 to 10 May, 2018	New Delhi, India	Pharmaceutical and Healthcare
Non Woven Tech Asia	6 to 8 June, 2018	Mumbai, India	Non-Woven Technology
Aeromart Summit India	12 to 14 June,2018	Bangalore, India	Aerospace and Defence Industries
Gujarat Jewellery & Gem Fair - Hyderabad	22 to 24 June, 2018	Hyderabad, India	Gems and Jewellery
Travel & Tourism Fair (TTF) - Kolkata	6 to 8 July, 2018	Kolkata, India	Travel and Tourism
Carton Tech	25 to 28 July, 2018	New Delhi, India	Printing and Packaging
Giftex India	2 to 5 August, 2018	Mumbai, India	Personal and Corporate Gifts
India International Optical & Ophthalmology Exhibition (IIOO)	18 to 20 August, 2018	Chennai, India	Optical and Opthalmic
EverythingAboutWater Expo	23 to 25 August, 2018	New Delhi, India	Water & Wastewater Management
CWE - Cutting & Welding Equipment Expo	29 to 31 August, 2018	Mumbai, India	Cutting and Welding Equipment. Equipment, Consumables and Accessories
MMMM - Minerals, Metals, Metallurgy & Materials	29 to 31 August, 2018	New Delhi, India	Minerals, Metals & Metallurgy
Agritech India	31 Aug to 2 Sept, 2018	Bangalore, India	Agriculture, Farm Machinery, Dairy, Poultry, Livestock Equipment & Agri Processing Technologies

TRADE FAIRS ABROAD

			Electricity Generation and
For Energo Smarto 2018	15 to 18 May, 2018	Prague, Czech Republic	Electric Power Distribution
Propak Africa 2019	12 to 19 March, 2019	Johannesburg, South Africa	Packaging and Plastics
IGEEC - International Green Energy Expo & Conference 2018	04 to 6 April, 2018	Daegu, South Korea	PV & Renewable Energy
IFAT 2018	14 to 18 May, 2018	Munich, Germany	Water, Sewage, Waste - and Raw Materials Management
Automatica	19 to 22 June, 2018	Munich, Germany	Smart Automation and Robotics
Philconstruct	8 to 11 Nov, 2018	Pasay, Philippines	Building and Construction
Texworld Paris	17 to 20 Sept, 2018	Paris, France	Apparel and Clothing
SAITEX Africa	24 to 26 June, 2018	Johannesburg, South Africa	Food and Beverages
SEMICON West	10 to 12 July, 2018	San Francisco, US	Smart Manufacturing
PowerGen Africa - Distributech Africa	17 to 19 July, 2018	Johannesburg, South Africa	Power Generation and Distribution
MIMS Automechanica	27 to 30 August, 2018	Moscow, Russia	Automotive service industry



Seminar on Promoting Entrepreneurship and Investments in Food Processing Industry

Agriculture is an important segment for the Food Processing Industries to double the farmers' income in the country, Shri Sunil Chawla, CGM, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) stated in a Seminar organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the support of Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Govt. of India on 27 March 2018 at GCCI, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. In his Chief Guest Address, he emphasized that there is need to connect the food processing sector to the rural sector which would boost the food processing sector and create a wonder. He stressed that for promoting entrepreneurship and investments in food processing sector, there is need to create awareness, education and initiatives to be taken to encourage entrepreneurship. He pointed out that right skill is must for the young generation to get better results

Prior to this a Special Address was presented by Dr. Jaiminbhai R. Vasa, Sr. Vice President, GCCI. He highlighted the huge contribution of State's entrepreneurs who have initiated in giving big boost to the Food Processing Industry of country. He stated that as per the year 2014 figures total investment in the food processing Industry of India was INR 829.40 billion and out of that lions share i.e. 20% investment made by Gujarat's entrepreneurs. On the same line in year 2014 Gujarat's 353 Large & Medium Scale units invested staggering amount of INR 48040 million towards food processing industry.

Shri Jayendra V. Tanna, Vice President, GCCI delivered the vote of thanks and appreciated the efforts of industry and the eminent speakers who have assembled here to interact for the benefits of the food processing industries.



During Technical Session, a number of galaxies of speakers shared their views such as Shri Kamlesh Champaneri, Director, Dip Nataturals Project Consultancy Pvt. Ltd presented industry perspective and made valuable points; Shri Tushar K. Bandyopadhyay, Assistant Director, Indian Institute of Packaging Ahmedabad made presentation on Growth of Processed Food Industry:Through Packaging and Role of Packaging for the Growth of Processed Food Industry; Shri Udai K Saxena, NABCB Assessor, Quality Council of India, New Delhi made presentation on Voluntary certification schemes in Food Sector; Shri Baiju S Mehta, Managing Director, Das Pendawala food Pvt. Ltd. on Gujarat in Food Processing Sector.

Around 70 delegates attended the Seminar.





First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2018-19 Resolution of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Reserve Bank of India

On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation1 at its meeting today, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to:

• keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.0 per cent.

Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF remains at 5.75 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.25 per cent.

The decision of the MPC is consistent with the neutral stance of monetary policy in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of +/- 2 per cent, while supporting growth. The main considerations underlying the decision are set out in the statement below.

ASSESSMENT

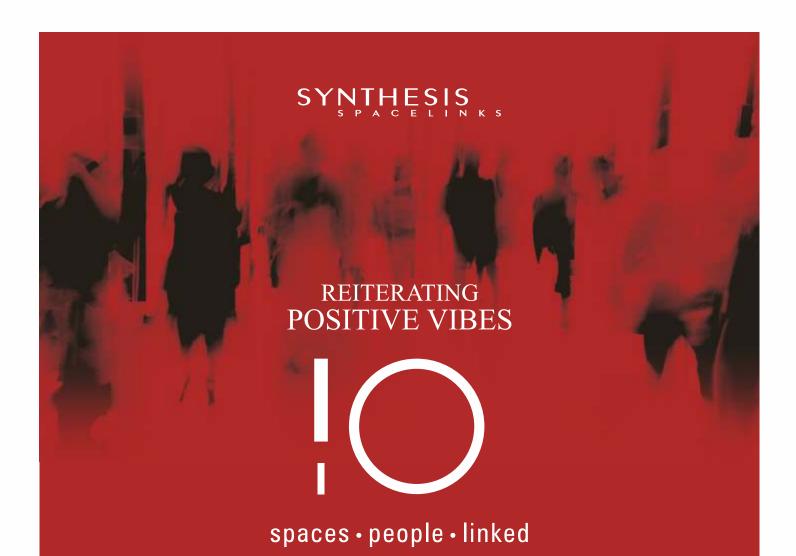
- 2. Since the MPC's last meeting in February 2018, global economic activity has gathered further momentum, both in advanced and emerging market economies, though financial market volatility and potential trade wars pose a threat to the outlook. Among advanced economies (Aes), the US economy, which ended 2017 on a slightly weak note, appeared to have bounced back in Q1:2018; the unemployment rate remains low with hiring around multi-month highs. In the Euro Area, economic activity remained buoyant, although consumer spending and factory activity slowed down due to the strengthening of the euro, but a consistently falling unemployment rate and elevated consumer confidence continued to underpin the strength of the economy. The Japanese economy registered eight straight quarters of growth till Q4:2017; available data for 2018 point to a slower start to the year with weak machinery orders and an easing manufacturing Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) in February-March.
- 3. Economic activity remained robust in emerging market economies (EMEs) in Q1:2018. The Chinese economy started the year on a strong note; retail sales picked up pace indicating robust consumption, while industrial production also registered a strong increase in Q1:2018 on improved mining and manufacturing activity. In Brazil, economic activity is gaining momentum, driven by higher commodity prices. The Russian economy continued to recover in Q1; industrial production expanded in January-February, after two months of contraction, while exports grew at a robust pace. In South Africa, leading

indicators, viz., the manufacturing PMI and business confidence, improved in Q1.

4. World trade volume growth is expected to have been robust in Q1, as gauged from the data on container trade throughput, air freight and export orders. Crude oil prices have become volatile in the recent period. After softening in February from multi-year highs on increased production in the US, crude prices hardened in the second half of March, driven by rebalancing of supply by OPEC and Russia, and drawdown of US inventories. Metal prices have come under selling pressure, with copper touching a three-month low in March on uncertainty stemming from global trade protectionism and US monetary policy. Gold prices, which touched a two-month low in March, have recently witnessed some uptick on fears of intensification of a trade war. Inflation remains below target in many key AEs and EMEs.



5. Financial markets turned volatile in February-March, triggered by uncertainty regarding the pace of normalisation of US monetary policy, and concerns surrounding global trade. Equity markets globally have shed most of the gains of the previous quarter in a heavy sell off in February-March, caused by optimistic US job reports and the US imposition of new tariffs on Chinese goods. Yields in the US traded sideways on weaker than expected inflation pressures and the anticipated rate hike by the Fed. Yields in other major AEs have fallen, while among EMEs, they have remained divergent on country-specific factors. In currency markets, the US dollar, which recovered somewhat in early March on an optimistic outlook of the economy, shed most of its gains in the latter part of the month on a less hawkish stance of the Fed and on anxieties surrounding a possible trade war. Among other major currencies, the euro continued to appreciate on an improving growth outlook for the region. Most EME currencies have retreated in the wake of the recent market volatility and the improving US economic outlook, though investors continued to discriminate on country-specific factors.



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6. Turning to the domestic economy, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) released its second advance estimates for 2017-18 on February 28, revising India's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth marginally upward to 6.6 per cent from 6.5 per cent in the first advance estimates released on January 5. GDP growth in 2017-18 at 6.6 per cent was lower than 7.1 per cent in 2016-17 and the deceleration was broad-based, but each component revealed intra-year turning points. Private consumption growth - whose contribution to GDP growth in 2017-18 was 68 per cent - moderated in the second half. Goods and services tax (GST) implementation had an adverse, even if transient, effect on urban consumption through loss of output and employment in the labour-intensive unorganised sector. Government expenditure provided sustained support to aggregate demand, with a pick-up in pace in the second half. Gross fixed capital formation turned around in Q2 and accelerated in the second half - markedly so in Q3 - reflecting the first signs of a sustained expansion in capital goods production and a modest revival of construction activity. Net exports dragged down aggregate demand in 2017-18 due to a surge in imports and deceleration in exports in Q3, the latter being driven in part by GST-related working capital disruptions.

7. For Q4, high frequency indicators point to a further strengthening of demand conditions. Private consumption seems to be improving on the back of strong growth in domestic air passenger traffic and foreign tourist arrivals, rising sales growth of passenger vehicles and a strong upturn in the production of consumer durables. The growth in sales of two-wheelers and tractors reflects buoyant rural consumption. Capital goods production registered a 19-month high growth in January 2018, indicative of the likely traction in investment demand. Housing loans extended by banks have increased significantly, which is a positive for residential investment. External demand remains a weak link. Merchandise import growth has slowed because of gold imports; simultaneously export growth has also weakened.

8. Turning to the supply side at a disaggregated sectoral level, the kharif foodgrains production for 2017–18 has been revised upward by 2.8 per cent in the second advance estimates released in February 2018 as compared with the first advance estimates released in September 2017. Total foodgrains production for 2017–18 is estimated at 277.5 million tonnes, up by 0.9 per cent from the level of 2016–17, with the production of rice, pulses and coarse cereals estimated to reach a record high. Wheat production is estimated to be lower than last year due to a decline in acreage and low soil moisture, but imports of 1.6 million tonnes and comfortable buffer stocks should cushion potential adverse effects. Horticulture production touched a new peak of 305.4 million tonnes in 2017–18, up by 1.6 per cent from last year.

9. For the year 2017-18 as a whole, the CSO estimates that value added in industry decelerated in relation to the previous

year; in terms of quarterly performance, however, expansion set in by Q2 and was built upon in Q3 and Q4. This was mainly driven by the rebound in manufacturing. The manufacturing PMI remained in an expansionary mode for the eighth consecutive month in March, although there was some moderation in Q4. Assessment of overall business sentiment for manufacturing also improved in Q4 as reflected in the Reserve Bank's Industrial Outlook Survey, driven by increasing output and new orders. Growth of value added in the services sector accelerated through the year, driven by trade, hotels, transport and communication and a significant pick-up in construction activity. Other high frequency indicators of services sector activity such as domestic air passenger traffic, international freight traffic, port traffic and commercial vehicles sales also expanded at a fair pace. The services PMI moved out of contraction and stabilised in March on a renewed increase in new business and strengthening expectations.



10. Retail inflation, measured by the year-on-year change in the CPI, fell from a high of 5.1 per cent in January to 4.4 per cent in February due to a decline in inflation in food and fuel. Excluding the estimated impact of an increase in the house rent allowances (HRA) for central government employees under the 7th central pay commission (CPC), the headline inflation for February was at 4.1 per cent. Food inflation declined by 120 bps in February, pulled down by a sharp decline in vegetable prices, especially of onions and tomatoes, along with continuing deflation in pulses. The fall in prices was also observed in other food components such as eggs, sugar, meat and fish, oils, spices, cereals and milk.

11. In the fuel and light group, inflation in respect of liquefied petroleum gas declined in line with international price movements. Furthermore, the rate of increase in prices of firewood and chips, and dung cake moderated.

12. CPI inflation excluding food and fuel remained unchanged at 5.2 per cent for the third consecutive month in February, after rising from its trough in June 2017. Among its constituents, housing group inflation rose significantly, reflecting the HRA

increase for central government employees. Excluding the HRA impact, inflation in this group was estimated markedly lower at 4.4 per cent. Inflation in the transport and communication group increased in February on account of the rise in petroleum product prices and transportation fares. Inflation either eased or remained at a low level in February in other major sub-groups such as household goods and services, recreation and amusement, education, and personal care and effects.

13. Households' inflation expectations, measured by the March 2018 round of the Reserve Bank's survey of households, edged up for both three-month and one-year ahead horizons. Manufacturing firms covered in the Reserve Bank's Industrial Outlook Survey reported input price pressures and an increase in selling prices in Q4:2017-18, which are expected to continue in Q1:2018-19. Manufacturing and services firms polled by PMI also showed a rise in input and output prices in Q4.



14. Liquidity in the system moved between surplus and deficit during February-March 2018. From a daily net average surplus of `272 billion during February 1-11, 2018, liquidity moved into deficit during February 12-March 1, reflecting a slowdown in government spending and large tax collections. After turning into surplus during March 2-15, the system moved into deficit again during March 16-22 mainly on account of quarterly advance tax outflows. Anticipating the seasonal tightening of liquidity at the end of March, the Reserve Bank conducted four additional longer tenor (24-31 days) variable rate repo operations aggregating `1 trillion, apart from the regular repo operations. In mid-March, additional liquidity of `1 trillion got released into the system through redemption of Treasury Bills issued under the Market Stabilisation Scheme (MSS) in April and May 2017. On the whole, the Reserve Bank injected `60 billion and `213 billion on a net daily average basis in February and March, respectively. The weighted average call rate (WACR) inched closer to the policy reporate from 12 basis points below the policy rate in January to 7 bps in February, and 5 bps in March.

15. Merchandise export growth decelerated in January and February 2018, pulled down by a slowdown in exports of gems and jewellery, readymade garments and engineering goods. Import growth also moderated in February due to a decline in gold imports, lower growth in non-oil non-gold imports, and contraction in imports of transport equipment, vegetable oils and pulses. As import growth continued to exceed export growth in January-February, the trade deficit widened. The current account deficit increased in Q3:2017–18, primarily on account of the higher trade deficit. Net foreign direct investment moderated in April-January 2017–18 vis-à-vis the level a year ago. Foreign portfolio investors made net purchases in 2017–18, despite net sales in the wake of a global sell-off in February. India's foreign exchange reserves were at US\$ 424.4 billion on March 30, 2018.

OUTLOOK

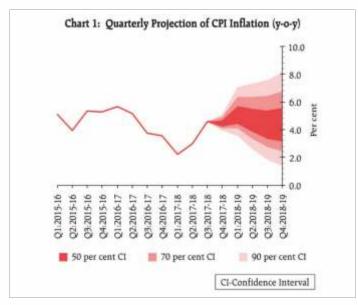
16. The 6th bi-monthly resolution of 2017-18 in February projected CPI inflation at 5.1 per cent in Q4:2017-18; and in the range of 5.1-5.6 per cent in H1:2018-19 and 4.5-4.6 per cent in H2, including the HRA impact, with risks tilted to the upside. Actual inflation outcomes in January-February averaged 4.8 per cent, largely reflecting the sharp decline in vegetable prices and significant moderation in fuel group inflation. The available information suggests that vegetable prices continued to moderate in March as well. Accordingly, inflation in Q4:2017-18 is now projected at 4.5 per cent.

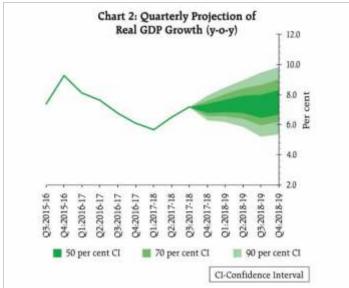
17. Several factors are likely to influence the inflation outlook. First, with the sharp moderation in food prices in February-March, the inflation trajectory in H1:2018-19 is expected to be lower than the projection in the February statement, despite a likely reversal in food prices in H1. Overall food inflation should remain under check on the assumption of a normal monsoon and effective supply management by the Government. Second, international crude oil prices have become volatile in the recent period, with a distinct hardening bias in the second half of March, even as the increase in shale production was more than expected. This has adversely impacted the outlook for crude oil prices. Third, on current assessment, Indian domestic demand is expected to strengthen during the course of the year. Fourth, the statistical impact of an increase in HRA for central government employees under the 7th CPC will continue till mid-2018, and gradually dissipate thereafter.

18. Taking these factors into consideration, projected CPI inflation for 2018–19 is revised to 4.7–5.1 per cent in H1:2018–19 and 4.4 per cent in H2, including the HRA impact for central government employees, with risks tilted to the upside (Chart 1). Excluding the impact of HRA revisions, CPI inflation is projected at 4.4–4.7 per cent in H1:2018–19 and 4.4 per cent in H2.

19. Turning to the growth outlook, several factors are expected to accelerate the pace of economic activity in 2018–19. First, there are now clearer signs of revival in investment activity as

reflected in the sustained expansion in capital goods production and still rising imports, albeit at a slower pace than in January. Second, global demand has been improving, which should encourage exports and boost fresh investment. On the whole, GDP growth is projected to strengthen from 6.6 per cent in 2017-18 to 7.4 per cent in 2018-19 – in the range of 7.3-7.4 per cent in H1 and 7.3-7.6 per cent in H2 – with risks evenly balanced (Chart 2).2





20. The MPC notes that there are several uncertainties surrounding the baseline inflation path. First, the revised formula for MSP as announced in the Union Budget 2018–19 for kharif crops may have an impact on inflation, although the exact magnitude will be known only in the coming months. Second, the staggered impact of HRA revisions by various state governments may push headline inflation up. While the statistical impact of the HRA revisions will be looked through, there is a need to watch out for any second round effects. Third,

in case there is any further fiscal slippage from the Union Budget estimates for 2018–19 or the medium-term path, it could adversely impact the outlook on inflation. There are also risks to inflation from fiscal slippages at the level of states on account of higher committed revenue expenditure. Fourth, should the monsoon turn deficient temporally and/or spatially, it may have a significant bearing on food inflation. Fifth, firms polled in the Reserve Bank's Industrial Outlook Survey expect input and output prices to rise, going forward. Sixth, recent volatility in crude prices has imparted considerable uncertainty to the near-term outlook.

- 21. Against the above backdrop, the MPC decided to keep the policy repo rate on hold and continue with the neutral stance. The MPC reiterates its commitment to achieving the medium-term target for headline inflation of 4 per cent on a durable basis.
- 22. The MPC notes that growth has been recovering and the output gap is closing. This is also reflected in a pick-up in credit offtake in recent months. The large mobilisation of resources from the primary capital market should support investment activity further. While the domestic cyclical recovery is underway, the long-term growth potential is also expected to be reinforced by various structural reforms introduced in the recent past. On the downside, the deterioration in public finances risks crowding out private financing and investment. Furthermore, even as global growth and trade have been strengthening, rising trade protectionism and financial market volatility could derail the ongoing global recovery. In this unsettling global environment, it is especially important that domestic macroeconomic fundamentals are strengthened, deleveraging of distressed corporates and rebuilding of bank balance sheets persisted with, and the risk-sharing markets deepened.
- 23. Dr. Chetan Ghate, Dr. Pami Dua, Dr. Ravindra H. Dholakia, Dr. Viral V. Acharya and Dr. Urjit R. Patel voted in favour of the monetary policy decision. Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra voted for an increase in the policy rate of 25 basis points. The minutes of the MPC's meeting will be published by April 19, 2018.

The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled on June 5 and 6, 2018.

Jose J. Kattoor
Press Release: 2017-2018/2641 Chief General Manager

The implicit GDP growth projection in the 6th bi-monthly monetary policy statement was 7.4 per cent for 2018-19 – in the range of 7.4-7.5 per cent in H1 and 7.3-7.4 per cent in H2.





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INFORMATION: ASSOCHAM Government Issued Clarification on Gold Imports Scheme

The past few days have seen some misapprehensions being generated on the scheme of gold imports known as the 80:20 scheme. The factual position is being clarified.

The increase in gold imports had put pressure on the current account deficit in 2012-13. A series of steps were taken in response to this situation, including increasing the import duties on gold and gold products, and placing restrictions on gold imports. Subsequently first on 22.7.2013 and then on 14.8.2013, the restrictions were modified to introduce the 20:80 scheme, under which, it was mandated that at least 20% of gold imported is to be used for export. Under this scheme, only banks and PSUs like MMTC, STC, etc. were allowed to import gold for domestic use following 20:80 formula. The scheme was designed to restrict the import of gold, conserve foreign exchange by imposing export obligations, and ensure that the premium from purchase and sale of gold resided in the hands of public agencies.

However, from 21.5.2014, the Premier Trading Houses and Star Trading Houses were also allowed to import gold under 20:80 scheme. The then Finance Minister approved the modified scheme on 13.5.2014, even though the model code of conduct was in place since 5.3.2014 with the announcement of the Lok Sabha Polls, and the counting was due on 16.5.2014. At the time when the scheme was announced, it was known that there was a shortage of gold for domestic use and a premium between USD 100 to USD 150 per ounce (Approximately Rs 2 lakh per Kg) was being charged from the domestic customers. Allowing private companies like PTHs and STHs to import gold provided these agencies an opportunity of windfall gain, as the benefit of the high premium on gold could now be availed of by these agencies. It has been observed by CAG that gold imported by 13 trading houses during June 2014 to November 2014 was 282.77 MTs which means a windfall gain of about Rs 4500 cr to these agencies during this period, assuming a premium of Rs 2 lakh per kg and 80% of imported gold supplied to domestic market earning the premium. Even the export obligations were being met through export of plain jewellery, viz., bangles and chains, which were re-melted in offshore locations through front/shell companies for the purpose of re-import.

The new Government reviewed the scheme. It was noted that since the liberalization in May 2014, recorded gold imports had increased substantially averaging about 140–150 tons a month. The increase in gold imports had benefitted disproportionately the STH/PTHs whose imports had shot up by 320 percent and who then accounted for 60% of all imports compared to 20% before May. This benefit stemmed from a de facto

discrimination in their favour because the expanded 20:80 scheme privileged these STHs/PTHs, who being traders and exporters (of anything and not just gold), and best positioned to take advantage of the scheme. Therefore, it was found that the advantage to the STHs/PTHs extended in May 2014 was unfair and this discrimination in their favour needed to be eliminated. Therefore, the new Government took a bold decision of ending the discrimination and liberalizing the import and scrapped the 20:80 scheme altogether on 28.11.2014.

Government will definitely examine the circumstances as to why private parties PTHs/STHs were benefitted by allowing to import gold under 20:80 scheme by the previous Government when the Government was in transition and will take necessary action against the persons involved.

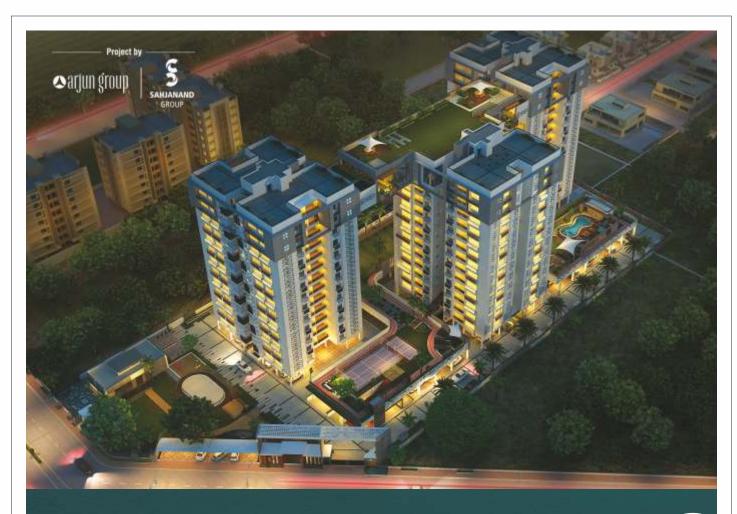
As regards the Unstarred Question No 3700 answered on 13.08.2014, the question was on "Institutionalisation of bullion trade" and the reply was factual in nature stating various measures taken by the Government to institutionalize the bullion trade. The 20:80 scheme was one such measure. As can be seen from the reply, no view on the merit of the scheme or otherwise has been indicated. The allegation of justification for the scheme or allowing PTHs/STHs are completely erroneous. The review of the scheme by the Government was underway and a decision to abolish the scheme was taken in November 2014.

The impact of abolition of 20:80 scheme on any particular company or all such PTHs/STHs is not a policy issue to be decided by the Government. As has been pointed out by CAG, average monthly import of gold declined to 71.50 MT after abolition of 20:80 scheme (from December 2014 to March 2015) from a high of 92.16 MTs during June 2014 to November 2014 when PTHs/STHs were allowed under 20:80 scheme. It was merely 33.60 MT per month under 20:80 during August 2013 to May 2014 before PTH/STHs were allowed in May 2014.

Thus, it is clear that abolition of 20:80 scheme eliminated undue advantage to PTHs/STHs and import of gold was reduced.



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CABINET TAKEN VARIOUS DECISIONS

Cabinet approved the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Division of High Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2018: The Union Cabinet Modi has approved the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2018 for introduction in the Parliament.

The Bill seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- The Bill brings down the specified value of a commercial dispute to 3 Lakhs from the present one Crore: Therefore, commercial disputes of a reasonable value can be decided by commercial courts. This would bring down the time taken (presently 1445 days) in resolution of commercial disputes of lesser value and thus further improve India's ranking in the Ease of Doing Business.
- The amendment provides for establishment of Commercial Courts at district Judge level for the territories over which respective High Courts have ordinary original civil jurisdiction i.e in the cities of Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and State of Himachal Pradesh. The State Governments, in such territories may by notification specify such pecuniary value of commercial disputes to be adjudicated at the district level, which shall 'not be less than three lakhs rupees and not more than the pecuniary jurisdiction of the district court. In the jurisdiction of High Courts other than those exercising ordinary original jurisdiction a forum of Appeal in commercial dispute decided by commercial courts below the level of District judge is being provided, in the form of Commercial Appellate Courts to be at district judge level.
- The introduction of the Pre-Institution Mediation process in cases where no urgent, interim relief is contemplated will provide an opportunity to the parties to resolve the commercial disputes outside the ambit of the courts through the authorities constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.will also help in reinforcing investor's confidence in the resolution of commercial disputes.
- Insertion of new section of 21A which enables the Central Government to make rules and procedures for PIM.
- To give prospective effect to the amendment so as not to disturb the authority of the judicial forum presently adjudicating the commercial disputes as per the extant provisions of the Act.

Cabinet approved the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Division of High Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2018: The Union Cabinet has approved the Commercial

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- Insertion of new section of 21A which enables the Central Government to make rules and procedures for PIM.
- To give prospective effect to the amendment so as not to disturb the authority of the judicial forum presently adjudicating the commercial disputes as per the extant provisions of the Act.

Cabinet approved Recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Group on Stressed Assets in Telecom Sector: The Union Cabinet has approved two key measures in telecom sector to facilitate investments, consolidation in the sector and enhancing ease of

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doing business. These include restructuring the deferred payment liabilities of spectrum auction of telecom service providers and revising the limit of the cap for spectrum holding for telecom service providers.

Details:

1. Restructuring of Deferred Payment Liabilities of telecom Service providers for spectrum

By giving one-time opportunity to opt for higher number of instalment (max. 16 instalment) apart from currently permitted 10 instalments. The increased instalment is based upon the principle that the Net Present Value (NPV) of the Payment Due is protected as per respective notice inviting application for auction of spectrum from 2012. The total amount received will be higher by Rs. 74446.01 crore till 2034-35.

2. Revision of limits of cap for spectrum holding

Based upon the recommendations of TRAI and Telecom Commission, the Cabinet also approved the revision of limits of cap for spectrum holding as follows:-

- The overall spectrum cap is revised from the current limit of 25% to 35%.
- The current intra-band cap is removed. Instead, there is a cap of 50% on the combined spectrum holding in the sub-1 GHz bands (700 MHz, 800 MHz and 900 MHz bands).
- There will be no cap for individual or combined spectrum holding in above 1 GHz band.
- The revised spectrum caps limits may be revisited after Final Acts of World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2019.

TRAI had recommended revision in the existing limits of cap for spectrum holding taking into consideration the technological advancement, efficient use of spectrum, measures to facilitate consolidation etc.

Impact:

With the restructuring of the deferred payment liability, the cash flow for the telecom service providers will increase in the immediate timeframe providing them some relief. Revising the limit for the spectrum cap holding will facilitate consolidation of telecom licensees and may encourage the participation in the future auction.

Cabinet approved the proposals for promulgation of

- I. The Daman and Diu Municipalities (Amendment) Regulation, 2018;
- ii. The Dadra and Nagar Haveli Municipal Council (Amendment) Regulation, 2018; and

iii. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal) Amendment Regulation 2018

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for promulgation of:

- (i) The Daman and Diu Municipalities (Amendment) Regulation, 2018;
- (ii) The Dadra and Nagar Haveli Municipal Council (Amendment) Regulation, 2018; and
- (iii) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal) Amendment Regulation 2018

Impact:

It will help ensure better provisions for the constitution, administration and powers of the Municipalities in the Union Territories of Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.



Details:

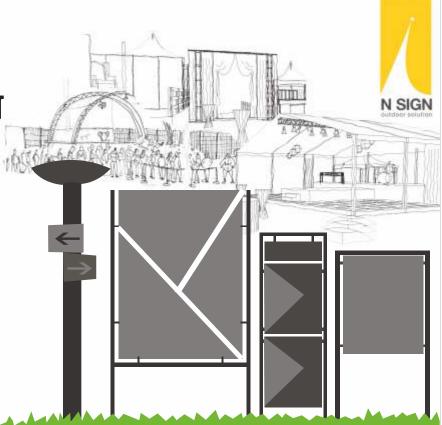
Provisions relating to anti-defection, constructive no confidence motion, establishment of ombudsman etc. will be inserted in "the Daman and Diu Municipalities Regulation, 1968", "the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Municipal Council Regulation, 2004" and "the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal) Regulation, 1994, respectively.

The regulations also include other amendments like (i)replacement of term 'servant' by 'employee' to remove colonial connotation, (ii) provisions for voting through Electronic Voting Machines, (iii) making CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965 applicable to penalty proceedings and (iv) revision in the amount of fines which were fixed many years back.



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CABINET APPROVED MOU BETWEEN INDIA AND VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Cabinet approved signing of Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India and France: The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India and France. The Agreement is expected to be signed during the forthcoming State visit of the French President to India.

The Agreement represents a major milestone in enhancing people-to -people contacts, fostering mobility of students, academics, researchers and skilled professionals and strengthening cooperation on issues related to irregular migration and human trafficking between the two sides. The Agreement is a testimony to India's rapidly expanding multifaceted relationship with France and symbolizes the increasing trust and confidence between the two sides.

The Agreement is initially valid for a period of seven years, incorporates provision for automatic renewal and a monitoring mechanism through a Joint Working Group.

Cabinet approved signing of an Agreement between India and France to facilitate "Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications": The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing of an Agreement between India and France to facilitate Mutual Recognition of educational qualifications and periods of study undertaken by students in duly approved, recognized and/or accredited educational Institutions within the two countries. The Agreement is expected to be signed during the forthcoming State visit of the French President to India.

The signing of the agreement will help in deepening the educational ties between India and France and will go a long way in boosting the educational relationship between the two countries. The agreement will be instrumental in encouraging mobility of students from both the countries by facilitating possibilities for them to continue their studies in the other country and would also promote excellence in higher education through innovative partnerships/collaborations and research activities which will be leading to the improvement of the quality of education in India.

Cabinet approved an agreement between India and France to prevent illicit consumption and reduction of illicit traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors and related offences: The Union Cabinet has approved an Agreement between India and France on the Prevention of the Illicit Consumption and Reduction of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors, and related offences.

The Agreement is aimed at enhancing mutual cooperation between the two countries in the prevention of the illicit

consumption of, and reduction of illicit traffic, in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors and related offences through exchange of information, expertise and capacity building. Establishment of effective institutional interaction and curbing transnational narcotics trafficking including disruption of terrorist financing structures is also envisaged through this Agreement.



Cabinet approved a Memorandum of Cooperation between India and France in the field of environment: The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between India and France in the field of environment

The Memorandum of Cooperation will enable establishment and promotion of closer and long-term cooperation between the countries in the field of environment protection and management of natural resources on the basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions in each country.

The Memorandum of Cooperation is expected to bring in the latest technologies and best practices suited to bringing about better environment protection, better conservation, better management of climate change and wildlife protection/conservation.

Cabinet approved an MoU between India and Hellenic on Renewable Energy Cooperation: The Union Cabinet has been apprised of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy between India and Hellenic. The MoU was signed by the External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Government of India and H.E. Nikos Kotzias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic during the latter's visit to New Delhi in November, 2017.

Both sides aim to establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on new and renewable issues on the basis of mutual benefit equality and reciprocity.

The MoU envisages establishing a Joint Working Group to review, monitor and discuss matters relation to areas of cooperation. The MoU aims for exchange of expertise and networking of information.

Cabinet approved MoU between UPSC and Public Service Commission of Mauritius: The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Public Service Commission of Mauritius.

The MoU will strengthen the existing relationship between UPSC and Public Service Commission of Mauritius. It will facilitate sharing of experience and expertise of both the parties in the area of recruitment.

The MoU will develop institutionalized linkage between the Public Service Commissions of two countries. It defines the scope of cooperation between the PSC, Mauritius and the UPSC and sets out the areas of cooperation and obligations of the Parties. The areas of co-operation include the following-

- I. Exchange of experience on modern approach to public service recruitment and selection, particularly the functions of the UPSC and the PSC;
- ii. Exchange of information and expertise including books, manuals and other documents which are not of a confidential nature;

- iii. Sharing of expertise in the use of Information Technology (IT) in the preparation of written examinations and holding of Computer Based Recruitment Tests and Online Examinations:
- iv. Sharing of experience in Single Window System for expeditious scrutiny and speedy disposal of applications;
- v. Sharing of experience and expertise on the various processes involved in the examination system which are routine in nature;
- vi. Organizing training sessions for officials, including through short attachments to the Parties secretariat / headquarters on air matters concerned by the respective mandate of the Parties.
- vii. sharing of experience on the modalities adopted on audit of processes and procedures followed by various Government Agencies in recruitment of posts under the delegated powers.





PHD Research Bureau - CBDT extends the date for linking of Aadhaar with PAN till 30th June, 2018

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had allowed time till 31st March, 2018 to link PAN with Aadhaar while filing the Income Tax Returns. Upon consideration of the matter, the CBDT has further extended the time for linking PAN with Aadhaar till 30th June, 2018.

Please contact for any query related to this mail to Ms. Neha Gupta, Research Associate at neha.gupta@phdcci.in with a cc to Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist at spsharma@phdcci.in and Ms. Surbhi Sharma, Senior Research Officer at surbhi@phdcci.in , PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry.



Government's Borrowing Plan for First Half of Financial Year 2018-19

The Government of India, in consultation with Reserve Bank of India, deliberated over its borrowing programme for 2018-19 and finalized its borrowing calendar for the first half of 2018-19. Government had budgeted for 2018-19 Gross G-Sec borrowing of Rs. 6,05,539 crore. The Government intends to use larger inflows from Small Savings Schemes to fund its Fiscal Deficit during the year. The Government will borrow Rs. 1,00,000 crore from National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) as against budgeted amount of Rs. 75,000 crore.

After making careful assessment of its financial needs for the first half, the Government's gross G-Sec borrowing will be only Rs. 2,88,000 crore in H1 of 2018-19. This makes up only 47.5 per centas against 60-65 percent share in this period in previous years. The Government also plans to issue more Floating Rate Bonds (FRBs) and introduce CPI linked bonds, both put together,

to the extent of 10% of issuances during the year. It may be noted that the Government and RBI are in the final stage of discussions for increasing FPI limits from April 1, 2018.

The Government will introduce two benchmarks during this half year - 2-year and 5-year - to meet the market demand. More issuance will be planned in short and long-term maturity bucket, reducing the issuance in medium term segments of 10-14 years to around 29%, as against more than 50% issuances in previous years. Share of issuances under different maturities bucket will be 1-4 years: 8.3 %; 5-9 years: 25.0 %; 10-14 years: 29.2%; 15-19 years: 14.6 %; and more than 20 years: 22.9%.

Government's T Bill programme for the first quarter is to raise Rs. 1,95,000 crore. During this period, T Bills of Rs. 1,53,000 crore will expire. The gross borrowing per week under T-Bills will be Rs. 15,000 crores. The Government will also be coming out with a separate switching calendar to allow investors to sell back their illiquid securities to the Government, and also a calendar for Sovereign Gold Bonds issuance.

The Indian economy has been witnessing rebound in growth as the GDP growth at 7.2% in Q3 of 2017–18 is inspiring and strong signs of economic revival are visible. The construction sector registered a high growth 6.8% in Q3 2017–18 as compared with 2.8% in Q2 2017–18. The revival of construction sector is inspiring and an indicative of broad based recovery in the economy. The agriculture sector registered a growth of 4.1% in Q3 2017–18 from 2.7% in Q2 2017–18 which is encouraging. The manufacturing sector on the other hand, also registered a significant growth of 8.1% in Q3 2017–18 from 6.9% in Q2 2017–18 which is highly inspiring. However, the mining and quarrying registered a growth of (-)0.1% in Q3 2017–18 from 7.1% in Q2 2017–18. This could be due to the high base effect.

On the macroeconomic front, most of the lead indicators are in positive trajectory. The core infrastructure grew at 6.7% in January 2018 from 4.2% in December 2017. The IIP also registered a growth of 7.5% in January 2018 from 7.1% in December 2017 which is highly encouraging. The CPI inflation declined to 4.4% in February 2018 from 5.07% in January 2018. The WPI inflation on the other hand, declined marginally to 2.5% in February 2018 from 2.8% in January 2018. However, the exports registered a growth of 4.48% in February 2018 from 9.07% in January 2018. The current account deficit widened to 2% of GDP in Q3 FY2018 from 1.1% in Q2 FY2018. Further, the FDI equity inflows registered a marginal growth of 0.27% during the period April–December 2017.

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Nonetheless, the government has made significant policy pronouncements recently. The Cabinet has approved various agreements signed with different countries, methodology for auction of coal mines, creation of national urban housing fund, national health protection mission, among others. As announced in the Union Budget 2018–19, the government has extended the facility of hiring workers on fixed term employment to all sectors. This move will facilitate ease of doing business in the economy as this will lead to lower restrictions in hiring workforce in factories and establishments. At this juncture, it may be noted that according to the estimates from present Quarterly Employment Survey, Labor Bureau, there was an overall positive change of 1.36 lakh workers (in July-September) over the previous quarter (April-June), across eight sectors at all India level which is highly inspiring.

However, the RBI has discontinued Letters of Undertaking (LoUs) and Letters of Comfort (LoCs) for Trade Credits for imports into India which will impact trade facilitation in the economy. This move by RBI would result into increasing working capital requirement of the industries as per their trade cycle and will disrupt Trade, Services and Industry. Industry particularly MSMEs whose working capital is based as per their trade cycle, will require higher working capital or else suffer irreparable losses. It is suggested that all Banks should have Central Monitoring Cell to monitor parallely issuance of the LOU/LUTs which should be restored forthwith. Systems have to be

strengthened in the Banking Community and not the Path of Least Resistance by stopping issuance of LoUs / LoCs because of certain fraudulent companies. The RBI must therefore look into this matter which is of serious concern to the entire business community of the country.

Fixed-term employment extended to all sectors to boost ease of business

As announced in the Union Budget 2018–19, the government has extended the facility of hiring workers on fixed term employment to all sectors. The facility for hiring on fixed term contract was initially available only for the apparel manufacturing sector as per the Industrial Establishment (Standing Order) 1946.

It also states that no permanent employee be moved to fixed term employment. The fixed-term worker would be entitled to all benefits such as wages, hours of work, allowances and others statutory benefits, not less than permanent workmen. To protect existing permanent workers, the rules provide that no employer will convert the posts of permanent workmen into fixed-term employment.

This move will facilitate ease of doing business in the economy as this will lead to lower restrictions in hiring workforce in factories and establishments. Further, this would also lead to free labour movement giving companies more flexibility in hiring employees and is expected to boost job creation in the coming times.

Background -

Fixed-term employment is defined as a workman who is employed on a contractual basis for a fixed period. Thus the services of the workman will be automatically terminated as a result of non-renewal of the contract between the employer and the workman concerned.

This facility will facilitate the industry to employ workers in sectors which are of seasonal nature and witness fluctuation of demand and hence requires flexibility in employing workers.

Sector	Weight	Jan 18	Dec 17
Crude Oil	8.98	-3.2	-2.1
Natural Gas	6.88	-1.0	1.2
Petroleum Refinery Products	28.04	11	6.6
Coal	10.33	3	-0.1
Fertilizer	2.63	-1.6	3
Electricity	19.85	8.2	4.4
Cement	5.37	20.7	18.8
Steel	17.92	3.7	2.5
Overall	100	6.7	4.2

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from the office of the economic advisor to the Govt. of India

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In cumulative terms, core infrastructure industries registered a growth of 4.3% during April- January 2017-18 as against 5.1% during the corresponding period of the previous year.

Table 2: Sector wise trend in production (% growth)

Sector	Weight	April - January 2017-18	April – January 2016-17
Crude Oil	8.98	-0.7	-2.8
Natural Gas	6.88	3.5	-1.9
Petroleum Refinery Products	28.04	4.7	6.0
Coal	10.33	1.5	1.8
Fertilizer	2.63	-0.7	0.9
Electricity	19.85	5.4	6.2
Cement	5.37	4.4	1.0
Steel	17.92	10.9	10.9
Overall	100	4.3	5.1

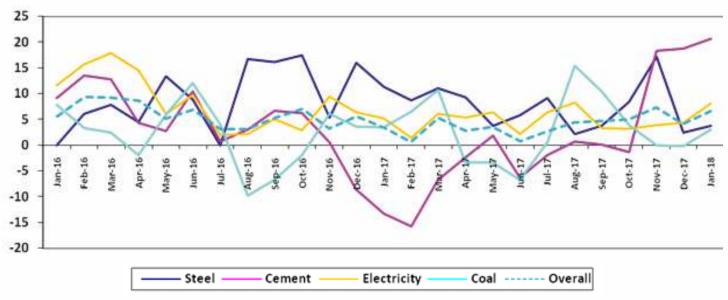
Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from the office of the economic advisor to the Govt. of India

Trend in growth of steel, cement, electricity, coal and overall (%)

Employment extended to all sectors to boost ease of business

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Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from the office of the economic advisor to the Govt. of India

Please contact for any query related to this mail to Mr. Rohit Singh, Research Associate at rohit.singh@phdcci.in with a cc to Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist at spsharma@phdcci.in and Ms. Megha Kaul, Associate Economist at megha@phdcci.in, PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry.





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This move will facilitate ease of doing business in the economy as this will lead to lower restrictions in hiring workforce in factories and establishments. Further, this would also lead to free labour movement giving companies more flexibility in hiring employees and is expected to boost job creation in the coming times.

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This facility will facilitate the industry to employ workers in sectors which are of seasonal nature and witness fluctuation of demand and hence requires flexibility in employing workers.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC MONITOR (February, 2018)

Global growth is expected to be sustained over the next couple of years and accelerate in emerging market and developing economies due to a rebound in commodity exporters. The global outlook is still subject to substantial downside risks, including the possibility of financial stress, increased protectionism and rising geopolitical tensions.

The growth in advanced economies gained significant momentum in 2017 wherein the recovery was markedly stronger than expected in the Euro Area and to a lesser degree in the United States and Japan. According to World Bank, growth is expected to gradually moderate towards low potential growth rates in 2018–20 as economic slack diminishes and monetary policy becomes less accommodative.

In the Euro region, growth gained substantial momentum in 2017, reaching an estimated 2.4 %, 0.7 percentage point higher than previously expected—with broad-based improvements spurred by policy stimulus and strengthening global demand. Growth picked up in 2017 in Japan to an estimated 1.7 %. Domestic demand firmed, supported by a gradual recovery in consumer spending and investment, as well as the implementation of a fiscal stimulus package

Growth in China is estimated to have reached 6.8 % in 2017, reflecting continued fiscal support and the effects of reforms, as well as a stronger-than expected recovery of exports and a slight positive contribution from net trade.

In the Emerging market and developing economies, growth accelerated in 2017 to 4.3%, reflecting a recovery in commodity exporters amid continued robust activity in commodity importers. A cyclical upturn continued in commodity exporters, raising their contribution to overall EMDE growth. The recovery in commodity exporters reflected an upturn in private

consumption and investment amid improved confidence and diminishing drag from earlier policy tightening.

Going ahead, the year 2018 will be turning point for the global economy because, for the first time since 2008, the negative global output gap is expected to be closed. Among EMDEs, helped by the recent recovery in commodity markets, and advanced economies, output gaps should approach zero. The closing gaps in major advanced economies would allow a normalization of monetary policy after a decade of exceptional easing. With the anticipated further withdrawal of stimulus by advanced economies, EMDE policymakers need to remain alert to the potential for adverse spillovers even while pursing policies to support strong, sustained growth.

SPECIAL FEATURE Analysis of Global Corruption Index 2017 across Countries

According to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, the majority of countries are making little or no progress in ending corruption, while further analysis shows journalists and activists in corrupt countries risking their lives every day in an effort to speak out.

The index, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and businesspeople, uses a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean. This year, the index found that more than two-thirds of countries score below 50, with an average score of 43. Unfortunately, compared to recent years, this poor performance is nothing new.

This year, New Zealand and Denmark rank highest with scores of 89 and 88 respectively. Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest with scores of 14, 12 and 9 respectively. The best performing region is Western Europe with an average score of 66. The worst performing regions are Sub-Saharan Africa (average score 32) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (average score 34).

To read the complete special feature, download the GEM newsletter edition February 2018.



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FAST DEVELOPING ECO-SYSTEM HELPING GUJARAT MAINTAINING LEADING POSITION IN INDIAN MEDICAL DEVICE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

Mr. D L Pandya, CEO Medical Plastics Data Service www.medisourceasia.com

Gujarat has been the pioneer state for the Indian Medical Device Industry. I have already explained the origin and initial growth of Gujarat Medical Device Industry in one of my articles in this publication earlier. For the benefit of the readers once again, the turning point for the Gujarat Industry was covering of I.V. sets, Needles and some other products under Food and Drug Control regulations when the Gujarat Medical Device Companies entered the transition phase and started facing challenges both for the quality requirements as well as manufacturing systems.

Around this time, UNIDO initiated a cluster development program for the pharmaceutical units in Gujarat which was extended to the medical device industry also. This program was carried forward by Foundation of MSME Clusters (FMC).

The programme addressed these challenges in a step-by-step approach by building awareness among firms, sustaining a group approach to purchase of business development service (BDS), creating institutional linkages and finally building the capacity of existing and newly created associations to ensure the sustainability of the process.

As a result of these initiatives large number of units in Gujarat embarked on quality up-gradation, many of them made an investments varying from Rs 5 to 50 lakhs or even more. New Business Development Services (BDS) providers were introduced in the areas of quality, factory level training, contract business, export market and other support services. The program created or strengthened linkages with technical/developmental institutions like:

- B.V. Patel Pharmaceutical Education and Research Centre (PERD)
- National Institute Of Pharmaceutical Education And Research (NIPER)
- Central Institute Of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET)
- Indo-German Tool Room (IGTR)
- Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC)
- Electronics & Quality Development Centre (EQDC)
- National Institute of Design (NID)

- Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII)
- Facilitation Centre for Industrial Plasma Technologies, Gandhinagar.
- Large No of Internationally Recognized Reputed Institutes Offering Academic & Professional Courses.

However, the growth did not stop at that level. The Industry Support Eco-System which included the above mentioned institutions and some more available in Gujarat and particularly those of specific relevant to the Medical Device Manufacturing Sector kept of growing resulting in not only continuing of the fast growth of the Industry but also upward movement of the Industry in the value chain. As a result

The large scale presence of Pharmaceuticals, Polymers / Plastics as well as Engineering / Machinery sector Industry is also a major contributory factor.

It will be very useful to know the strengths and developmental activities being carried out by some of the contributing Institutions to understand how the Eco-System in Gujarat is helping the Industry to maintain leading position in the Indian Medical Device Manufacturing Sector.

Gujarat FDCA and Its Catalytic Role

From the beginning to the current stage of development, the role of Gujarat FDCA has been exemplary. It has remained more a guiding and motivation force all throughout the growth of medical device companies in Gujarat. Under the leadership of Dr. H G Koshia, with many innovative initiatives like E-Governance the Gujarat FDCA has won even many awards not only in India but from international agencies like WHO, Bill and Melinda Foundation etc. Many of these initiatives by Gujarat FDCA have been replicated by various leading states in the country.



The current on hand project of setting up of a dedicated medical device testing lab in the country would will be a great help to the Industry both with respect of compliance as well as quality.

One more project under implementation is the by Gujarat FDCA is the detection detection of serious adverse events (SAE) caused by the use of medical devices to ensure patient safety. This is being developed in collaboration with NIPER.

Growth of NABL accredited Medical Device Testing Facilities in Private Sector

The private sector also plays an important role in the state ecosystem. Recently one of the laboratories locates near Ahmedabad, "Accuprec Research Labs Pvt Ltd", has received the Accreditation from National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). Established in 2012 with an objective to provide research and development solution for Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology, Food and Medical device, the fully equipped laboratory with high-tech advanced instruments and a big team of highly qualified technical personnel to carry our Research and Development activities had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government of Gujarat in the year 2015. This will reduce time and money for the Sate based Medical Device Companies due to reduction or elimination of the need for re-testing of products in other regulated countries, wherever they would like to register their products for exports.

Industry Associations Creating Platform for Technology and Market Developments

Polymers and Plastics are the major raw materials for Medical Disposables and Implants. "Plastindia" is the most significant exhibition in the world organized by "Plastindia Foundation" and one of the largest Plastics Exhibition in the Asia Pacific Region. The coming event is expected to be located in 125,000 sq.m. area and will have 2000 Exhibitors including 600 oversea exhibitors. About 200,000 visitors are expected to visit. A focused "MEDICAL PLASTICS PAVALLION "at the forthcoming "PLASTINDIA 2018" event to be held in Feb. 2018, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat

The Medical Plastics Pavilion will be a knowledge platform complete with posters, Audio-Visuals, Models, over 200 samples of medical plastic products and components and the presence of experts. It aims to help existing and potential manufacturers and investors to diversify and / or branch out into medical plastic and Disposables products. It will also have presence of manufacturers / suppliers of materials, components, machineries, technology essential for manufacturing medical plastics products and devices.

Such platforms both by the Pharma and Medical Device Sectors contribute significantly towards the growth of the Medical Device Sector in the state.



Facilitation Centre for Industrial Plasma Technologies (FCIPT)

Facilitation Centre for Industrial Plasma Technologies (FCIPT) links industries with Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhinagar, India. The knowledge – base in plasma sciences and associated technologies is exploited to generate advanced and non-conventional plasma based technologies for material processing and environmental remediation.

IPR is an autonomous institute under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Govt. of India. It is exclusively devoted to basic research in plasma sciences and development of technological applications. The major thrust is in magnetic confinement fusion and plasma assisted material processing.

FCIPT takes up development of plasma processing technologies from concept to commercialization and promotes awareness of technology through Technology transfer, Newsletters and Direct marketing.

FCIPT has developed many technologies for the benefit of Medical Device Industry also including technology for Biomedical Waste Disposal.

Biotechnopreneur Programme by EDII - A Unique Programme for Promoting Entrepreneurs in the Field Of Life Science.

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad, has recently launched a unique programme for promoting innovative enterprises in various areas of Life Sciences. The programme is sponsored by Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM) of the Government of Gujarat. The training programme aims to provide comprehensive academic, practical and ground support to interested entrepreneurs in the areas such as pharmaceuticals, biomedical engineering (including medical devices), biotechnology, etc. This ten month, weekend programme is particularly suitable for candidates, who are presently pursuing post graduate level studies in the above disciplines, working in pharmaceuticals industry or biotechnology or biomedical engineering companies in the relevant field as well as those in the research and development organizations and commercial functions such as marketing, technology access, etc. Reputed business, finance and academic organizations such as GVFL, CIIE, IIM Ahmedabad and SkyQuest are the knowledge partners.



This programme has been an innovation and totally a new experiment in itself in the state of Gujarat, as well as perhaps, in the country, so far as such training programmes tailor made for biotechnology sector is concerned. The previous two programmes, showing impressive results of 60% start-up rate.

Internationally Recognized Reputed Institutes Offering Academic & Professional Courses.

Gujarat boasts of one of one of the very few states with presence of Science and Engineering Institutes providing graduate and post-graduate courses in Pure-Sciences, Pharmacy, Biomedical Engineering, Polymer & Plastics Engineering and many more. The presence of highly internationally recognized reputed Institutes like Indian

Institute Of Management, IIT, Ahmedabad Management Institute, National Institute of Design are a great

Strong Growth of Supply – Chain, Ancillary Units and Service Providers

Parallel to the growth of the Medical Device Industry, number of supply chain and ancillary units also started growing. At present there are more than 150 small and big companies manufacturing important inputs starting from basic raw materials to components, sub-assemblies, manufacturing / testing / sterilization and other machineries. There has been a significant growth in the availability of service providers particularly for the quality certifications as well as Business Development Activities.









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प्रस्तापना

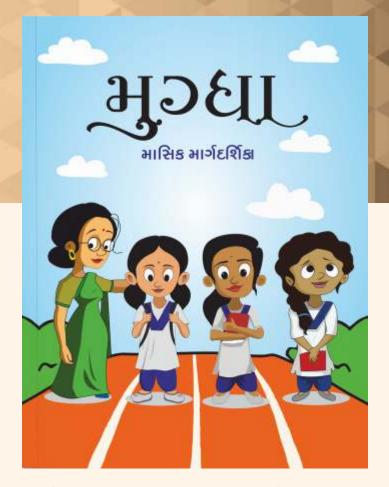
• અંતરિયાળ ગ્રામીણ સમાજની ઉપેક્ષિત વર્ગની બહેનો અને બાળકીઓને આહાર, આરોગ્ય શિક્ષણ અને આજીવિકાની શ્રેષ્ઠતમ તકો આપી આગળ વધવાનો મોકો મળે તે માટે ઉત્કર્ષ દ્ભારા અનેકવિધ પ્રવૃત્તિઓ હાથ ધરવામાં આવે છે.

આ પ્રવૃત્તિઓમાં સામેલ છે

- જીવન ક્રોશલ્ચવર્ધક શિક્ષણ પર પૂરતું માર્ગદર્શન
- ઉદ્યોગ સાહસિક્તાનાં કાર્ચક્રમો
- ગૃહઉદ્યોગની વિવિદ્ય બનાવટની તાલીમ
- ડીજીટલ ટેક્નોક્રેટ્સ વગેરે...
- આ પ્રવૃત્તિઓ તેઓનાં માટે આત્મ-નિર્ભરતાનાં વિવિધ વિકલ્પો ઉભા કરે છે.



 સમાજમાં પરિવર્તનના પડ્કાર સ્વરૂપ 'માસિક ઘર્મ' સાથે સંકળાયેલી ગેરમાન્યતાઓ અને ખોટી પ્રથાઓને દૂર કરી સાચી સમજ ફેલાવવા સતત કાર્ચરત છે. આ વિષય સંદર્ભે પૂરતી સમજરાશક્તિના અભાવે તથા સેનીટેશનનાં અભાવે અંતરિયાળ વિસ્તારની શાળાઓમાં મુગ્ધાવસ્થાએ



પહોંચતા ૧૦૦ એ ૬૫% દિકરીઓ શાળા એ જતી બંધ થઇ જાય છે. આ ચિંતા અપાવે તેવા આંક્ડાને ધ્યાનમાં લેતાં છેલાં કેટલાંક સમયથી આ વિષય અંતર્ગત ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટ ૩૨ થી પણ વધુ અંતરિયાળ ગામોમાં જઈ ૯ થી ૧૬ વર્ષની દિકરીઓને આ વિશે સમજણ આપવાનું કાર્ય કરે છે. આ માટે ટ્રસ્ટ દ્વારા ખાસ મુગ્ધા માસિક માર્ગદર્શિકા બહાર પાડવામાં આવી છે જેમાં પ્રજનન સ્વાસ્થ્ય અંગેની પૂરતી સમજણ આપી જાગૃતિ લાવવાનો પ્રયાસ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. આ પુસ્તક તબીબી સલાહ સાથે તૈયાર કરવામાં આવેલ છે.

ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટ દ્વારા આ ક્શિોરીઓને મુગ્ધા સેનેટ્ટી નેપકીન્સનું વિતરણ પણ કરવામાં આવે છે. એટલું જ નિક, પર્ચાવરણ સંરક્ષણને ધ્યાનમાં લેતાં આ સેનેટ્ટી નેપકીન્સના નિકાલ માટે દરેક શાળામાં ઈન્સિનરેટ્ટ પણ મૂક્વામાં આવે છે.

આ ઉપરાંત

- ક્શિોરીઓને મુગ્ધા અવસ્થામાં મનમાં ઉદ્દભવતાં દરેક પ્રશ્નોનું નિરાકરણ વિષય તજ્જ્ઞોને સાથે રાખી કરવામાં આવે છે.
- સ્વ-સ્વચ્છતા, સ્વ- સુરક્ષા અને સંતુલિત પોષણચુક્ત આહારની સમજરા પણ આપવામાં આવે છે.
- ગમા અણગમા સ્પર્શની સમજણ આપવામાં આવે છે.
- લગ્નેત્તર સંબંધ સાથે ગર્ભાધારણની સાચી ઉંમરનો ખ્યાલ આપવામાં આવે છે.
- સાથે દરેક શાળામાં ક્શિોરીઓ માટે ખાસ હેલ્પ કેસ્ક મૂકવામાં આવે છે જેથી આ નાજુક વિષય સંબંધિત ક્શિોર કે ક્શિોરી સાથે પૂરતું કાઉન્સીલીંગ, ક્રમ્યુનીકેશન અને ફેસીલીટી આપી શકાય.

આ તમામ પ્રવૃત્તિઓના પરિણામ સ્વરૂપ

- માસિક ધર્મને લઇ ખોટી માન્યતા અને ધારણાઓના શિકારનું પ્રમાણ ઘટ્યું છે
- શાળાએ જતી દિકરીઓનો ડ્રોપ આઉટ રેશિયો ઘટ્યો છે.
- પૂરતી સમજણ અને સ્વચ્છતા રાખવાથી યુરિન ઇન્ફેક્શનનું પ્રમાણ ઘટ્યું છે.
- સુપોષિત આહાર અને પર્ચાવરણની સમજણ વધી છે
- ક્શોરીઓ સારુ તંદુરસ્ત જીવન જીવવા માટે સક્ષમ બની રહી છે જેના કારણે કામ કરવાનો ઉત્સાહ અને આત્મવિશ્વાસ વધી રહ્યો છે.

કુટુંબમાં મહિલાઓનું સશક્તિકરણ થવાથી સમગ્ર કુટુંબમાં આરોગ્ય અને વિકાસને વેગ મળી રહ્યો છે.



પોતાના આ ઉદ્ધેશ્ય અંતર્ગત ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટે મુગ્ધા સેનેટરી પેડનાં બે મેન્યુફેક્યરીંગ યુનિટ ગ્રામીણ વિસ્તારમાં ઉભા કર્યા છે.જેમાં ૧૦ બહેનો પ્રોડક્શન માટે અને ૩૦ બહેનો માર્કેટીંગ માટે જોડાયેલી છે. જેના કારણે તેઓને હાઈજેનિક નેપકીન બજાર કરતાં ઓછી કિંમતે અને સરળતાથી મળી રહે છે.

વ્યાપ વિસ્તાર

સરકારશ્રીની ઝુંબેશ 'સોનો સાથ સોનો વિકાસ' અંતર્ગત આ મુગ્ધા અવસ્થાના નાજુક વિષયને અંતરિયાળ ગામડાઓ અને થોડાંક કહેવાતા સુધરેલા ગામડાઓમાં જઇ ૯ થી ૪૫ વર્ષ સુધીની બહેનોને જેઓ મધ્યમ વર્ગીય પરિવારમાંથી આવે છે તેઓનાં સર્વાંગી વિકાસ અર્થે ખૂબ જ વિશેષ ધ્યાન કેન્દ્રિત કરવાની જરૂર છે. કારણ…..

ભવિષ્યમાં આવનારી પેઢીની ઘરોહર આજની તરૂણીનાં હાથમાં છે.

અને એટલે જ ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટ રજૂ કરે છે - જાગૃતિ અભિયાન

- ૫ મી જૂન ૨૦૧૮ના શુભદિને
- ૫૦ ગામોમાં એકસાથે
- ૨૫૦૦૦ દિક્ટીઓને ફાક્ષય સો સાથે મળીને સિંઘારા પ્રયાસે મુગ્ધા માસિક માર્ગદર્શિકા અને સેનેટ્ટી પેડનું વિતરણ કરી કિશોરીઓને મુગ્ધા સમજઆપી જાગૃત કરીશુ ૫૦૦ બેંદનો ને આત્મનિર્ભર કરવાનો સંકલ્પ લઇશું.





અનુદાનના અનુમાનિત આંક્ડા નીચે મુજબ છે.

- મુગ્ધા માસિકમાર્ગદર્શિકા-ગ્રા. ૬૮.૦૦/- પ્રતિ પુસ્તિકા
- સેનેટરી પેડ-ગ્ન. ૩.૧૦/- પ્રતિ પેડ
- नेपडीन डीस्पोअस धन्सिनरेटर ञ्च. १४१००/-
- सेनेटरी नेपडीन जनावपानां मशीननी डिंभत श्र.३,५५,०००/-(७ऄसरी એडस्ट्रा*)

આપણા સેવા કાર્ચક્ષેત્રમાં આપણી જ દીકરીઓ માટે ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટ સેવા સેતુ બની, સિંદચારા પ્રચાસે મુગ્ધા સમજ આપે સે. જેથી એક સ્વચ્છ અને સુદઢ સમાજનું ઘડતર થાય. થઈ શકે...

ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટ એ એક રજ્સ્ટિર્ડ પબ્લિક ટ્રસ્ટ છે, જેને આપેલ અનુદાન સેક્શન ૮૦૭ દેઠળ કરમુકત છે.

સમાનતા અને અસમાનતાની સીમાને પાર નારી વ્યક્તિત્વને અને સન્માન અને અધિકાર...

એ જ છે ઉત્કર્ષ ટ્રસ્ટની કોશિશ લગાતાર...

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APPLICATION OF RADIOISOTOPE TECHNIQUES IN INDUSTRY

Dr. H. J. Pant Isotope and Radiation Application Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Mumbai-400 085

Hydrodynamics of process fluids in chemical reactors is Key to success of a process industry. Whenever there is degradation of product quality or reduction in process efficiency, engineers often suspect either malfunctioning within the reactor (process vessel) or inadequate design of the reactor. Usually, the design is optimized at the design stage itself before scaling up the process and designing a full-scale reactor. However, it is not always possible to design an optimum commercial-scale reactor based on the data obtained in laboratory/pilot-scale reactors, as the scale-up criterion is a complex phenomenon. Therefore, an inadequate design will lead to deviation in flow dynamics of the process fluid leading to deterioration in product quality or process efficiency or both. Thus the degree of deviation from the desired/design flow pattern needs to be quantified before any remedial measure. Another reason for degradation of product quality and reduction in process efficiency could be due to malfunctioning of the reactor during its operation. Most often it is not possible to identify the reason(s) for malfunctioning of the reactor without shutting down of the plant or the reactor. The only option, the process engineers are left to shutdown the plant/reactor, open it and physically identify the malfunctions/faults. Subsequently, they will have to plan and prepare for remedial measures. All this will leave the plant shutdown for a long time causing significant losses to the concerned industry.

Isotope and Radiation Application Division (IRAD) of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai has developed numerous radioisotope based techniques for online identifications of malfunctions/faults, measurement of hydrodynamic parameters, quantification of degree of mixing and process visualization in reactors/process vessels in process industry. In addition to this, the radioisotope techniques are used for optimizing the design of the process systems at design stage and improvement of design of existing systems. The main advantages of the radioisotope techniques are that they are highly sensitive and used online i.e. without shutting down the plant. The amount of radioactivity used in these techniques is so small that it does not pose any radiation hazards to radiation workers, plant operator and environment. The applications are carried out by trained/qualified scientists with proper permission from the competent regulatory authority. The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai has

fairly advanced infrastructure and facilities for R&D on applications of radioisotopes and radiation technology in healthcare, industry and agriculture. Numerous radiation based techniques have been developed and the same have been applied in large number of industries in India as well as abroad by scientists/engineers of BARC during past five decades. Significant economic benefits have been obtained by the user industries from the application of the radioisotope techniques. These applications are either carried out on commercial basis or R&D basis depending upon the nature of the problem to be investigated.



The radioisotope techniques for industrial applications are classified into two categories i.e. radiotracer and sealed source techniques. In radiotracer techniques, the radioactive material in a suitable physo-chemical form similar to that of the process material is injected into the system at the inlet and its passage is monitored along the system at strategically selected locations using radiation detectors. The presence of tracer or tracer concentration obtained as a function of time at detection location(s) is plotted and information about occurrence of malfunctions, if any and hydrodynamic behavior of the process equipment are drawn. The commonly carried out applications of radiotracer techniques include:

- Leak detection in heat exchangers
- Mixing and blending time measurements
- Material inventory
- Flow rate measurements
- Residence time distribution and flow modelling
- Measurement of mean residence time, holdup, dead volume etc.
- Wear/corrosion rate monitoring
- Effluent dispersion in water bodies
- Sediment transport in ports
- Effective management of oil fields
- Flow visualization using radioactive particle tracking



In second category of applications i.e. sealed source techniques, a radiation source is encapsulated in a metal capsule and never directly come in contact with either process material or equipment. The penetrating radiation from the radiation source capsule are directed at the desired location in the equipment under investigation or material of interest and the intensity of transmitted or scattered radiation intensity is measured and analyze to draw information about content of the system or physical properties of the material. The commonly carried out applications of sealed radiation sources include:

- Radiometry or densitometry or gamma scanning
- Radiography
- Tomography
- Nucleonic gauge

The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai has developed radiometry techniques for scanning of process columns/vessels, holdup and homogeneity measurements in multi-phase flow systems, evaluation of density measurements of cement/concrete/lead block etc. There are

more than 2500 organizations/industrial plants that are using radiography for inspection of welds/joints and mechanical integrity of different metallic components and systems in industry. In India there are about 500 radiography companies that provide radiography services on commercial basis. The Isotope and Radiation Application Division (IRAD), BARC has developed radiation based tomography systems for non-destructive evaluation of different specimen and has been applying the same for some specific applications. The nucleonic gauges for different applications such as measurement of level, density, thickness, moisture etc. are commercially available from various suppliers in India and abroad.

Since early sixties, the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai has made pioneering contribution to the development and promotion of radioisotope technology in India and Asia Pacific region for troubleshooting and process optimization in industry. The centre is recognized as a centre of excellence for "Radioisotope Applications in Industry" by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna, Austria. Despite of indigenous availability of various radioisotope techniques in India, the Indian Industry is not aware of such techniques and hence deprived of such a wonderful technology. Therefore, there is strong need to create awareness among industries in India. With this objective in mind, IRAD, BARC would like to invite industries, particularly, chemical, petroleum, petro-chemical, oil and gas, cement and glass industries to come forward and make use of radioisotope technology for troubleshooting and process investigations in their process plants.

Industries desirous of applying "Radioisotope Technology" can contact Head, IRAD, BARC, Mumbai (Email: ksivas@barc.gov.in; Tel. 022-25593735) or Dr. H. J. Pant (Email: hjpant@barc.gov.in, Tel. 022-25593854) for further details.









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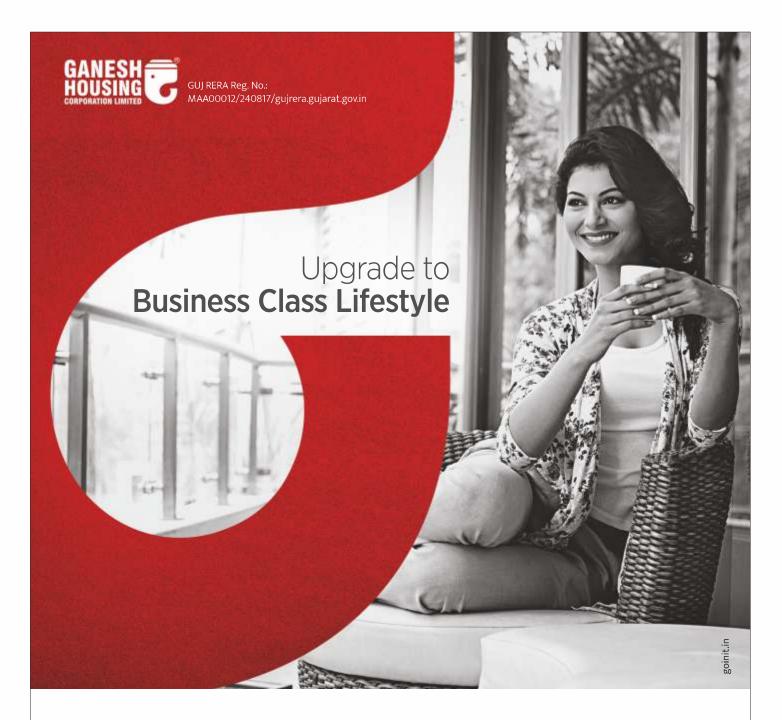
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ઉચ્ચ ક્વોલીટી માટે વિશ્વમાં પ્રખ્યાત મેઘમણી દ્વારા ઉત્પાદિત

જંતુનાશક



મેગાસ્ટાર કરેજ પ્રોટેક્ટ એવાર્ડ મેગાબાન ट्टुओ भेगाथ्रिन મેગાસાચપર લેજન્ડ सोगन સોગનપંચ મેગામોનો વેટ-૫૦ छनोवा વેટ-૪જી ક્ટેક્ટ મેગાએન્ડો प्रोवन ડીવાઈન થીમ સિનર્જા સાચપરટોન **लि**शेन्ड प्लस ટ્રુઝો સુપર ડેશ

એસીફેટ ७૫% એસ.પી. ઇમિડાક્લોપ્રિક ૧૯.૮% એસ. એલ. ઇમિડાક્લોપ્રિડ ७०% ડબલ્યુ. એસ. એસિટામિપ્રિક ૨૦% એસ. પી. ક્લોરપાયરીકોસ ૨૦% ઈ.સી. ટ્રાઈઝોફોસ ૪૦% ઈ.સી. .. સાથપરમેથ્રિન ૧૦% ઈ.સી. સાચપરમેથ્રિન ૨૫% ઈ.સી. આલ્ફાસાયપરમેથ્રિન ૧૦% ઈ.સી. લેમ્ડાસાચહેલોથ્રિન ૨.૫% ઇ.સી. લેમ્ડાસાચહેલોથ્રિન ૫% ઈ.સી. મોનોક્રોટોફોસ ૩૬% એસ. એલ. કારટેપ હા. ક્લોરાઈડ ૫૦% એસ.પી. ઇન્ડોક્સાકાર્બ ૧૪.૫% એસ.સી. કારટેપ હા.ક્લોરાઈડ ૪% જી.આર. પ્રોફેનો ૪૦% સાચપર.+ ૪% ઈ.સી. એન્ડોસલ્ફાન ૩૫% ઈ.સી. પ્રોફેનોફોસ ૫૦% ઈ.સી. ડી.ડી.વી.પી. ७၄% ઇ.સી. થાયામેથોક્સામ ૨૫% ડબલ્યુ. જી. ક્લો૨ ૫૦% + સાચપ૨ ૫% ઈ.સી. ઇથિયોન ૪૦% +સાયપર, ૫% ઈ.સી. ક્લોરો ૧૬%+આલ્ફા ૧% ઈ.સી. ડેલ્ટા ૧% +ટ્રાચજો ૩૫ % ઈ.સી. આલ્ફાસાચપરમેથ્રિન ૫% વે.પા.

डन्ड्रोस હેક્ઝાકોનાઝોલ ૫% એસ.સી. કન્ટ્રોલ ટોટલ હેકઝાકોનાઝોલ ૫% એસ.સી. ટાઇડ પ્રોપિકોનાઝોલ ૨૫% ઈ.સી. મિલસ્ટિન **ธเ**ดี้ธรเชิม ५०% वे.पा. મિલટોપ થાચોફીનેટ મિથાઈલ ७०% વે.પા. મિલઝેબ मेन्डोञेज ७५% वे. पा. પ્રોફિટ ટ્રાઈસાચક્લોઝો ७૫% વે.પા. મિલવેટ સલ્ફર ૮૦% ડબલ્યુ. ડી.જી.

ટીમ કાર્બેન્ડાઝિમ ૧૨%+ મેન્કોઝેબ ૬૩% વે.પા.

ફુગનાશક



નિંદામણનાશક

भिस्रिजन पेन्डिसिन प्रतिस એટ્રાઝિન ૫૦% વે.પા. પેન્કિમેથાલિન ૩૦% ઈ.સી. સલ્ફોસલ્ફ્યુરૉન ७૫% ડબલ્યુ. જી.









'મેઘમણી હાઉસ' શ્રીનિવાસ સોસાયટી, ન્યુ વિકાસ ગૃહ રોડ, પાલડી, અમદાવાદ-७. ફોન. : ૦૭૯-૨૬૬૪૦૬૬૮/૯, ૯૮૭૯૬૦૬૩૨૩/૨૪/૨૫ ફેક્સ : ૦૭૯-૨૬૬૪૦૬૭૦

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