

CHAMBER IN-TOUCH

SEPTEMBER 2023



Felicitation to Mr. S. Sankaranarayanan, Deputy Secretary, MCCI at the 187th Chamber Day – 29th September 2023



Mr. Shenu Agarwal, MD & CEO, Ashok Leyland & Dr Ashok Dalwai, IAS delivering Chief Guest & Guest of Honor address respectively at MCCI 187th Chamber Day - 29th September 2023



Mr. Gagandeep Singh Bedi, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government Health and Family Welfare Department, GoTN delivered the Chief Guest address & Dr. T S Surendran, Chairman, Sankara Nethralaya & Dr. P.V. Jayasankar, Trustee & Medical Director Sundaram Medical Foundation delivered the special addresses at the Expert Discussion on Health in the Workplace on 16th September 2023



Inaugural Session of GMIS Roadshow in Chennai. MCCI was the supporting partner. Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, GoI was the Chief Guest and Shri. E. V. Velu, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works (Buildings, Highways and Minor Ports), GoTN was the Guest of Honor – 4th September 2023



Mr. Gautam Nayak, Partner, CNK & Associates LLP, Chartered Accountants, Mumbai addressing at the Session on Impact on Charitable Trust, NGO & Educational Institutions – 15th September 2023



Mr. K. Vaitheeswaran, Advocate & Tax Consultant making a presentation at the "Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023" – 25th September 2023

Schedule of Programs - September 2023

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GIMS 2023 @ Roadshow at Chennai

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Committee Meetings

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4th September 2023

GIMS 2023 @ Roadshow at Chennai

The Chamber extended support to the Chennai Port Authority to conduct curtain raiser to the 3rd Edition of Global Maritime India Summit 2023 (GIMS 2023) to be held in Delhi in the month of October. This roadshow held in Chennai on 4th September 2023 at ITC Grand Chola, Guindy was to gain a better understanding of the forthcoming flagship event in the maritime space and to register for the main event.



Mr.S.Viswanathan, IAS, Deputy Chairman, Chennai Port Authority welcomed the speakers and the participants. Ms. J.P.Irene Cynthia IAS, MD. Kamarajar Port gave the opening remarks. Mr.Sunil Paliwal, IAS, Chairman, Chennai Port Authority briefed about the summit and roadshow. This was followed by special addresses by Mr.S.Krishnan IAS, Addl.Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Industries Department, Mr. T. K. Ramachandran IAS, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Mr.E.V.Velu,Hon'ble Minister for Public Works (Buildings, Highways and Minor Ports), GoTN, Guest of Honor addressed the participants following by the Chief Guest address by Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Government of India. Mr. Bimal Kumar Jha, Chairman- incharge V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority proposed the formal vote of thanks.

This inaugural session was followed by the Technical sessions wherein presentations were by Chennai Port Authority, Tamil Nadu Maritime Board, Kamarajar Port Limited, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority. Mr. Ennarasu Karunesan, Sr. Maritime Transport, Ports and Logistics Expert, Regional Director, International Association of Ports and harbour made a presentation on Future of Indian Ports. Mr. Jeyanth Jason Thomas, Sr.GM, Chakiat, Tuticorin made a presentation on the Investment opportunities. Mr. Pawan Agarwal, VP- Logistics, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. addressed on the Industry perspective.

The event was attended by 400+ participants and it was a grand success.



2 **15th September 2023**
Impact on Charitable Trusts, NGOs & Educational Institutions – Recent Amendments & Supreme Court Rulings



The Chamber under the auspices of the Direct Taxes Committee has scheduled the Session - Impact on Charitable Trusts, NGOs & Educational Institutions - Recent Amendments & Supreme Court Rulings on 15th September 2023 at Hotel Regenta Central Deccan (Formerly Deccan Plaza), Royapettah High Road, Chennai – 600 014. The objective of this session was to understand the impact of the amendments and Supreme Court decisions, in both financial and practical terms.

Mr.Gautam Nayak, Partner, CNK & Associates LLP, Chartered Accountants from Mumbai, one of the leading experts today, with over 40 years of experience as a leading CA, former President of the BCAS and Member Editorial Board of BCA Journal, Former Chairman of BCAS Taxation Committee was the resource person

Mr. Mr. Krishnan Parameswaran, Chairman, MCCI Direct Taxes Committee welcomed the resource person and the participants. Ms.Sudha Ashok, Co-Chair, MCCI Direct Taxes Committee briefed about the objectives of the program. Mr.Gautam Nayak made a detailed presentation and answered the queries of the participants.

Around 90+ representatives from NGOs and companies took part in the session and gave a positive feedback. Mr. Mr.U.Udhayabhaskar Reddy, Chairman, MCCI Logistics Committee proposed the vote of thanks.

**3****15th September 2023****Interactive meeting with the Ambassador for the Republic of Latvia**

The Chamber is the first port of call for overseas delegations to promote trade between the countries. At the request of Mr. N.Ramachandran, Honorary Consul, The Republic of Latvia, Chennai, the Chamber hosted the delegation from Latvia led by H. E. Mr. Juris Bone, Ambassador for the Republic of Latvia to India on 15th September 2023 at the MCCI Conference room. He was accompanied by Mr.Marks Deitons, Embassy's Deputy Head of Mission, Mr.Roberts Ribeniaks, Consular Officer. this interaction meeting was organized exclusively to understand the potential of Riga Port in Latvia

Mr. J.Krishnan, Chairman, MCCI International Cooperation Committee welcomed the delegation. Mr. N.Ramachandran introduced the delegates.



H.E.Mr.Juris Bone, Ambassador of the Republic of Latvia addressed the participants followed by an interaction with the following members who attended the meeting.

- Mr.A.V.Vijayakumar, Director, Paramount Shipping Services Pvt.Ltd.
- Mr.S.Padmanabhan, Director, Sattva Hitech and Conware Pvt.Ltd
- Mr. Divakaran Nair, Asst.V.P. NTC Logistics
- Mr. B G Praveen, GM, Fumigation Services
- Mr. Ravee S Thitai, Director, Theekshika Logistic Pvt Ltd

Mr. Mr.U.Udhayabhaskar Reddy, Chairman, MCCI Logistics Committee proposed the formal vote of thanks.



4 **16th September 2023**
Health in the Workplace

The Chamber under the auspices of the Healthcare Committee organised an Experts Discussions on “Health in the Workplace” on Saturday, 16th September 2023 at Hotel Radisson Blu, Egmore, Chennai.

Inaugural Session



In the Inaugural session, Mr.T.R. Kesavan, President, MCCI welcomed the guests and the participants. Mr. P.V.Jaishankar, Chairman, MCCI Healthcare Committee, set the context and gave a brief about the focus discussions on The Mental Health, Diet & Nutrition, Safe Work environment and Women’s health. That were scheduled after the inaugural session.



Mr. Gagandeep Singh Bedi IAS, Hon'ble Principal Secretary Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu was the Chief Guest. He expressed his delight on the industry engaging in this essential conversation about health in the workplace. He expressed his thoughts on how the industry can partner with the government to elevate healthcare in Tamil Nadu. He said, “It is important that industry partners with the Government to ensure better healthcare at all levels. It can be through PPP model partnerships, contributions through CSR activities and donations, and creating awareness about the Tamil Nadu government’s health initiatives, such as CM Health Insurance Scheme, and the flagship Innuyir Kaapom Thittam – Nammai Kaakum - 48, to their employees.” Mr. Gangandeeep Singh Bedi made a special request to the Chamber to ensure industries are made aware of these various schemes and extend their support.

“Homes have become workplaces today with a shift brought in during the pandemic and one of the biggest things sacrificed due to this is sleep,” pointed our Mr T S Surendran, Chairman, Sankara Nethralaya in his special address and encouraged people to take essential steps towards preventive healthcare.

Dr P V Jayasankar, Trustee & Medical Director Sundaram Medical Foundation spoke about the important of ensuring safe and enabling work environment, he said, “We need to appreciate our most important resource – the human resource, by ensuring the quality of the physical and mental environment in the workplace.”

Dr. Iyappan Ponnuswamy, Co-Chair, MCCI Healthcare Committee proposed the formal vote of thanks.

Focus Session - I

The first focus session on “The Mindful workplace” was moderated by Dr Shiva Prakash SRINIVASAN, HOD, Clinical services and Training, Department of Youth Mental Health Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF) and had the following speakers Dr. Saras Bhaskar PhD, Counselling Psychologist & Corporate Consultant, Ms. Sheetal Rajani, Regional HR Head, Chennai and Global Head, Tata Consultancy Services, Dr. Rema Raghu, Chief Clinical Officer, Buddhi Clinic.



Focus Session - II



The Second focus session on “Ensuring Optimal practices in the workplace relating to Diet / Nutrition/ Preventive Health” was moderated by Dr. Iyappan Ponnuswamy Medical Director, Kauvery Hospital and the speakers were Dr. Kumaran Thanigaimani, Chief Medical Officer Hyundai Corporate, Ms. Shiny Surendran Accredited Dietician and Ms.K.J.Anitha, Manager – Health Underwriting National Insurance Co. Ltd

Focus Session - III

The Third session on “Creating & Sustaining an Enabling and safe Work Environment” was moderated by Mr. E.Balaji CHRO, TVS Group and the speakers were Dr. T.B.Sailesh, Factory Medical Officer, ZF Commercial Vehicle Control Systems India Ltd. , Dr. Dharini Mouli, Chief Medical officer & Medical Superintendent, NLC – Neyveli and Ms Rajeshwari Natarajan Head HR, Nippon Paint India



Focus Session - IV



The Fourth Session on “Women’s Health through caring and gender – sensitive practices” was moderated by Ms. Mangai, General Manager – HR , Ford and the speakers were Dr Bala Venkatramani, Factory Medical Officer Brakes India Pvt. Ltd., Dr. Aarthi Govindarajan, MD, Aarthi Scans, Ms. U Valli, GM – HR, Ambattur Fashions

The four panel discussions with experts from across various industries highlighted the importance of engaging in conversations of mindful workspaces, preventive healthcare practices, importance of sleep and nutrition, safe work environments and creating gender sensitive work practices. Experts spanning across various industries including manufacturing, healthcare, IT and services shared their thoughts on how we can we work towards creating workplaces that encourage health on a physical and mental level or their employees at every grade.

Dr Iyappan Ponnusamy, Co-Chair of the Healthcare committee of the MCCI concluded the session by encapsulating the importance of this session in the current industry scenario and promised to take forth the recommendations of the discussions to the industry.

Around 85+ participants took part in this program and gave an excellent feedback.

The sponsors for this program include Platinum sponsors, Sree Kauvery Hospital and Ruhrpumpen India Pvt. Ltd., and DBS Bank and the Gold Sponsor include Magnolia community Health and 6D Healthcare.



5 25th September 2023 Session on Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023

The Chamber under the auspices of the Legal Affairs Committee scheduled a Session on “Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023” on 25th September 2023 at E Hotel, Express Avenue Mall, Gate No1 Pattulos Road, Chennai 600 002.



The Key Speaker was Mr.K.Vaitheeswaran, Advocate and Tax Consultant, Chairperson of the MCCI GST Committee and a Governing Council member. He made a detailed analysis of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023; impact assessment; immediate challenges; Importance of redefining and re-shaping existing contracts and future contracts in the light of the new law; role of privacy; risk associated in data breach; impact on industry in terms of exposure to the new law and readiness for compliance to avoid violations that attract severe penalties followed by an interaction to clarify the queries. 90+ participants took part in the program and gave an excellent feedback.



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29th September 2023

187th Chamber Day



The Chamber's 187th Chamber Day has been celebrated on 29th September 2023 at Hotel ITC Grand Chola.

Mr. T.R.Kesavan, President of the Chamber briefed about the activities held in the past year and spoke about the current economy and welcomed the guests and participants.



The Guest of Honour Dr Ashok Dalwai, IAS, who is currently serving as the Chairman, Empowered Body on Doubling Farmers Income, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India shared his thoughts on the current economy and stated that the way forward to prosper is to focus on employment, environment, and economic development. He further added that for the future to be bright we need to now focus on developing our bio and circular economy for a sustainable future.



The Chief guest of the evening Mr Shenu Agarwal, MD and CEO of Ashok Leyland, congratulated the Madras Chamber on its 187 years of heritage and said, "It is testament to the Madras Chamber's impact on the business, community and civil society that it is celebrating this momentous anniversary. Longevity of the Madras Chamber is proof of its good work and essential contributions to the business community of Tamil Nadu." He briefed on the CSR activities of the Ashok Leyland.

Mr. A.Viswanathan, Member, MCCI Governing Council & President, Delphi TVS Technologies Ltd. proposed the formal vote of thanks.

Around 250 members, Consulates, Bi-National Chambers, Govt. officials, Media participated in the celebrations.



Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 9th September 2023.



Expert Committee Meetings

Expert Committee on Company Law / Corporate Matters - 12th September 2023.



Expert Committee on Direct Taxes - 21st September 2023.



Women Business Council Meeting - 22nd September 2023.



Expert Committee on Education - 27th September 2023.

