

CHAMBER IN-TOUCH DECEMBER 2023



Dr. V. Thiruppugazh Ph.D., IAS (Retd.), Former Additional Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Gol delivering Keynote Address at the Urban Thinker's Campus – Building a Resilient, Low Carbon & Vibrant Chennai – 15th Dec'23



Dr. A. Nambi Appadurai, Director, Climate Resilience Practice, World Resources Institute (WRI) India delivered a brief update on COP 28 at the Urban Thinker's Campus – Building a Resilient, Low Carbon & Vibrant Chennai – 15th Dec'23



Ms. Mallika Srinivasan, Chairman & Managing Director, TAFE Ltd. addressing at the 1st N.Srinivasan Memorial Lecture – 21st Dec'23

Schedule of Programs - December 2023

1

1st - 22nd December 2023

Diversity Mahotsav

2

15th & 16th December 2023

**UTC on Building a Resilient
Low Carbon and Vibrant Chennai**

3

21st December 2023

1st N Srinivasan Memorial Lecture

Committee Meetings

1

1st - 22nd December 2023

Diversity Mahotsav



The Chamber was the outreach partner for the Diversity Mahotsav held in the month of December 2023.

Diversity Mahotsav organized by Avtar was a series of activities, conversations and events, hosted in www.myavtar.com in the month of December 2023. (<https://www.myavtar.com/events/details/15>)

It was an effort by Avtar to invite inspiring partners to devote an entire month, in celebrating inclusivity and belongingness.

There were 17 virtual events from 1st - 22nd December, 2023 and around 200 persons from the Chamber had taken part in the events.



2

15th & 16th December 2023

UTC on Building a Resilient Low Carbon and Vibrant Chennai

The underlying theme of this year for the World Urban Campaign was “The city we need now”. Hence the topic chosen for this year by the Chamber was “Building a Resilient Low Carbon and Vibrant Chennai”. The Conference spread across for 2 days on 15th and 16th December 2023 and it coincided with our 12th Anniversary of Sustainable Chennai Forum.

Day 1 (15th December 2023)

Inaugural Session



Mr. T. R. Kesavan, President of the Chamber welcomed the Guests and the participants. The Guest of Honour was Dr. V. Thiruppugazh Ph.D., IAS (Retd.), Former Additional Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Govt. of India, who has advised governments on handling water conservation, flood mitigation and city disaster management. He made a presentation on Disaster Management and covered the socio cultural aspects of disasters and shared details about understanding risk. He shared the “Blueprint for inaction” and set the tone for the event.

The Special Guest was Dr. A. Nambi Appadurai, Director, Climate Resilience Practice World Resources Institute (WRI) India. He shared his experiences of attending the COP 28 which gave an insight on how much work we have to do to ensure resilience of our cities against the changing climate.

Mr. S. Venkatachalam, Advisor, Sustainable Chennai Forum proposed the formal vote of thanks.

Technical Session 1

In the First technical session on Building a Resilient Chennai, Mr N K Ranganath, Former MD, Grundfos Pumps was the Moderator.



Dr. S. Janakarajan, Former Professor, MIDS, President, South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies made a presentation on Chennai Recent Floods – Issues and the Way forward.

Mr. Benjamin John, City Advisor, Chennai & Bengaluru, South and West Asia, C40 made a presentation on “Understanding Vulnerabilities”.

Dr. R. J. Ranjit Daniels, Trustee, Care Earth Trust made a presentation on Chennai Ecology - Green & Blue

Technical Session 2

In the Second Technical Session on Moving towards Low Carbon, Mr. T. Shivaraman, MD & CEO, Orient Green Power Co. Ltd moderated the session.

Dr Sanjiv Gopal, Chief Strategic Officer, Asar Social Impact Advisors P Ltd., made a presentation on e-mobility: EVs & EV Infrastructure followed by a presentation on Mandating Green buildings by Mr. Juzer S Kothari, Managing Director, Conserve Consultants Pvt. Ltd.



Mr Pradeep Srikanthan, Vice President & SBU Head – Solar Equipment Group, Redington Ltd. made a presentation on Catalyzing Adoption of Rooftop Solar and Mr.V.Pajanivelou, General Manager Plant Engineering & Maintenance, Hanon Automotive Systems India Pvt. Ltd. addressed and presented on Role of Industries in reducing carbon footprints.

Day 2 (16th December 2023)

Technical Session 3

On the Second day, in the technical session on Towards Sustainable Infrastructure and Governance, Mr. Rajivan Krishnaswamy, IAS (R), Former Senior Urban Finance Specialist, World Bank chaired the session.



Dr. Parama Roy, Executive Director, Okapi Research & Advisory made a presentation on Water Management followed by a presentation on Circular Economy for Climate Resilience by Dr. Kurian Joseph, Professor of Environmental Engineering, Centre for Environmental Studies, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Anna University.

Ms. Marie Banu Rodriguez, Director, Centre for Social Initiative & Management (CSIM) addressed and made a presentation on Making Chennai an inclusive city followed by a presentation on Cyber Security in Cities by Mr. Vittal Raj, Partner, Kumar and Raj.

Technical Session 4

The final session on Building a Vibrant Chennai was chaired by Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar Ltd.



Mr Swathanth Rajasekhar, Partner, International tax, EY LLP made a presentation on the changing business landscape of Chennai towards sustainability. Mr. Ramkumar Ramamoorthy, Former Chairman and MD, Cognizant India & Partner, Catalincs made a presentation on Education & Academia – The Dynamic landscape followed by Dr. Iyappan Ponnuswamy, Medical Director, Sri Kauvery Medical Care (India) Ltd, making a presentation on Chennai as a Healthcare Capital. Mr. V. Sriram, Writer & Historian addressed and made a presentation on Art, Culture and Entertainment in Chennai.



Representatives from OGPL, Sri City, Sundaram Finance, Water Today & ZF Commercial Vehicle Control Systems receiving the Sponsor Mementos.

The 2-day conference concluded with positive feedback from 100+ participants.



3

21st December 2023

1st N Srinivasan Memorial Lecture



Mr N Srinivasan (1931 – 2022) was a “legendary personality in the CA profession”, of over 65 years’ standing, and an authority on company law and SEBI. He was the President of the Madras Chamber in the year 1993-94.

Mr. T. T. Srinivasaghavan, Former President, MCCI welcomed the guest and the participants and read out a poem about Mr. Srinivasan written by Mr. T .R . Kesavan, President of the Chamber.

This was followed by a short film about Mr .N. Srinivasan showcasing his contributions.

Ms. Mallika Srinivasan was the Guest speaker at the First Mr. N. Srinivasan’s memorial Lecture. She shared her past experiences with Mr. Srinivasan with anecdotes and it was a nostalgic experience for most of the participants. Mr. A Krishnamurthy, Mr. P. T. Govindarajan, Mr. Ramesh, Mr. V. Ranganathan who had known Mr. Srinivasan for decades shared their experiences.

Ms. Bhavani Balasubramanian, daughter of Mr. N. Srinivasan thanked the speakers and participants.

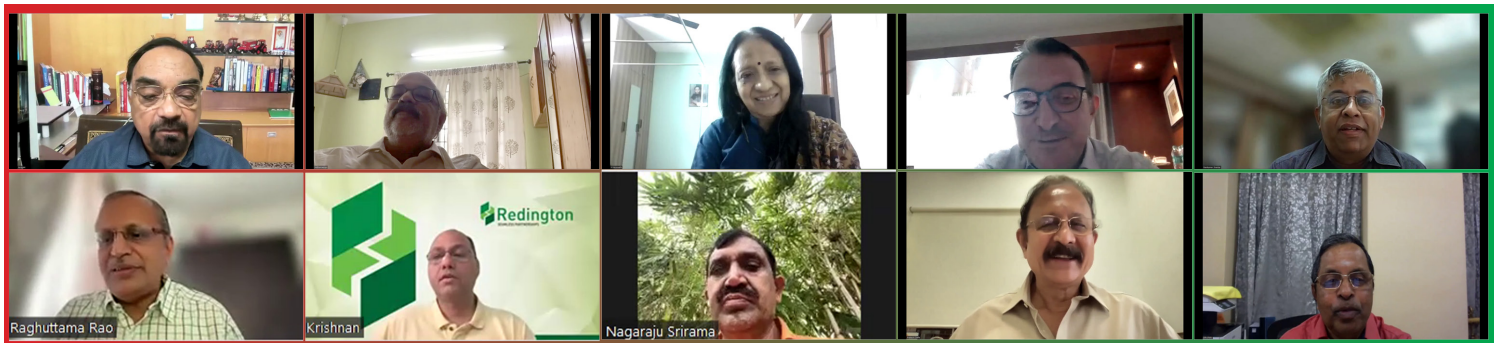
The family of Mr. N. Srinivasan created an Endowment Fund in his name with the Chamber for an amount of Rs.25 lakhs. A memorial lecture will be held every year in the month of December.

The lecture was attended by 70+ persons and the program concluded with hi tea hosted by Mr. N. Srinivasan’s family.

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Governing Council Meeting

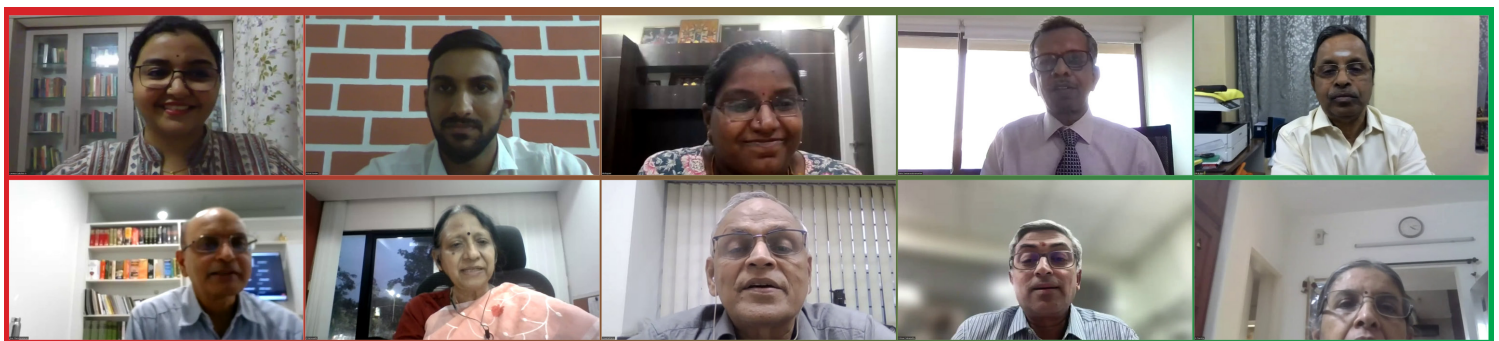
The Governing Council Meeting was held on 9th December 2023. (Virtual)



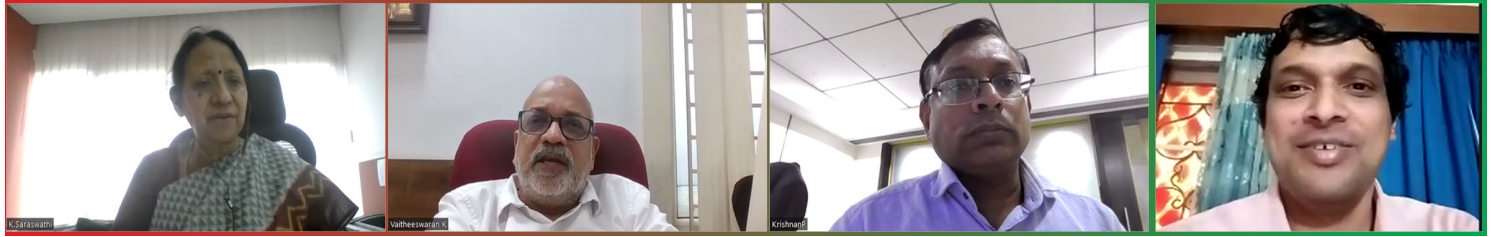
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Expert Committee Meetings

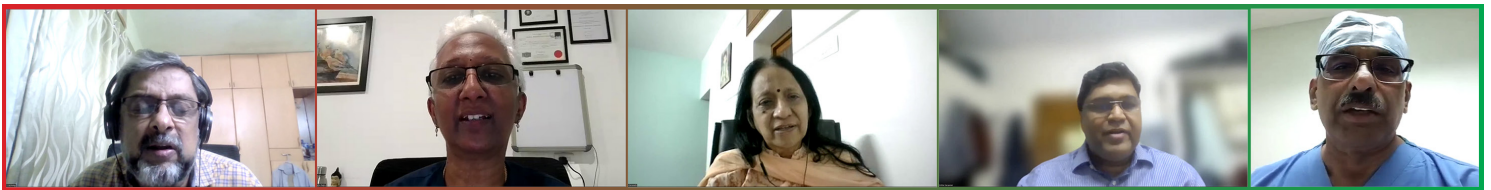
Expert Committee on Company Law / Corporate Matters - 12th December 2023 (Virtual)



Expert Committee on Direct Taxes - 14th December 2023 (Virtual)



Healthcare Committee Meeting - 28th December 2023 (Virtual)



Other Meetings

Ms. K.Saraswathi and Ms. Vasumathi D attended a meeting with Mr. Vishnu IAS, MD & CEO, Guidance TN and his team to discuss the logistics and other arrangements for the Conference on Capital Goods – Engineering the future curated by the Chamber on 19th December 2023.

