

# CHAMBER IN-TOUCH

## MARCH 2024



**Speakers addressing at the Women's Day Celebrations - Session on "Inspire Inclusion - Count her in" - 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
(Dr.Kala Vijayakumar, Chief Guest, Other Speakers - Mr.R.Anandakrishnan, Dr Kalpana Sankar & Ms Bama Balakrishnan)**



**Shri. R. Rajamanohar, IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Chief Guest addressing at the "Income Tax TDS Awareness Program" - 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Mr. Vikram Vijayaraghavan, Advocate making a presentation on Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Clause - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**



**Meeting with Consul General, Consul Royal Thai Consulate & Director, Board of Investment of Thailand - 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Schedule of Programs - March 2024**

**1**

**6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Inspire Inclusion: Count her in**

**2**

**7<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Interaction meeting with the  
Board of Investment, Thailand**

**3**

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Income Tax TDS Awareness Program**

**4**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**



**Presentation on the  
Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Clause**

**5**

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Sustainability Speaks Series Talk #11-  
Mainstreaming Circular Economy in used  
Water Management in India Cities**

**Committee Meetings**

6<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**1** Inspire Inclusion: Count her in

The Women Business Council of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry, conducted a women's day event centred on the theme of "Inspire Inclusion: Count her in". This was an event in celebration of International Women's Day.



### *Inaugural Session*

The Secretary General, Ms. Saraswathi K, introduced the Madras Chamber and its activities briefly.

The MCCI President, Mr. T. R. Kesavan, spoke about the importance of women recognizing and grabbing opportunities instead of expecting other's to bring change they need to lead the way to ensuring their equity.

Ms Bhavani Balasubramaniam, the Chairperson of the Women Business Council (WBC), spoke about the various activities of the WBC since its inception and also shared data on how women have been progressing in the professional sphere with more women being offered leadership positions and more women joining the workforce at various levels.

The chief guest for the session was Dr Kala Vijayakumar, Pro Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University, Chennai & President, SSN Institutions, who gave a talk centred on the UN Theme for International Women's Day 2024, "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress". Her presentation encapsulated the importance of this theme through referencing the life story of Savitribai Phule, the first female teacher and social reformer. She also spoke about the importance of extending opportunities to all women, so that they can overcome social situations and financial hardships to pursue their education and careers. WBC since its inception and also shared data on how women have been progressing in the professional sphere with more women being offered leadership positions and more women joining the workforce at various levels.



### *Technical Session 1: Corporate Gender inclusive initiatives*



The first technical session was delivered by Mr. R. Anandakrishnan, President – HR & IT, TVS Motor Company Ltd. He spoke about how corporates can create gender inclusive environments, speaking from the example of TVS.

He detailed the various schemes that TVS has devised in order to ensure that their women employees grow in their careers. He demonstrated the various methods that his company has used to ensure that they not only retain women employees but also various initiatives that are sensitive to women at work. This allowed the audience to gain a view of how a corporate can be pro-inclusion with planning and commitment.

### *Technical Session 2: Promoting a caring Society*



This session was delivered by Dr Kalpana Shankar, Chairperson & Managing Trustee, Hand in Hand. She spoke about the various cultural barriers that women face that is a result of upbringing and society that prevent them from reaching their goals in their careers and business. She encouraged the formation of forums that would promote women mentoring as they are an essential part of learning and development. She concluded saying that women need to advocate more for themselves and put themselves first especially when it comes to their career growth.

### *Technical Session 3: Gender Responsive Financing*

This session was delivered by Ms. Bama Balakrishnan, Chief Operating Officer, Northern Arc Capital. She spoke about the importance of understanding financial wellbeing for women. Her talk detailed on areas of gender budgeting and investing in women as a community. She insisted that reach and delivery of financial services is critical for women and the easier we make the reach, it is more likely that women will invest and gain financial freedom. She also spoke about the importance of schemes that are targeted towards women entrepreneurs and micro investments in order to encourage higher participation by women. She concluded with the thought that women need to step forward and take charge of their own finances.



The session concluded with a Q&A session with the speakers and Ms Madhri G, Co-Chairperson, WBC, delivered the vote of thanks appreciating the inputs given by the speakers.



**2****7<sup>th</sup> March 2024****Interaction meeting with the  
Board of Investment, Thailand**

The Officials from the Royal Thai Consulate & Board of Thailand Investment Group visited the Chamber for an interactive meeting.



Mr. Racha Aribarg, Consul General who had taken charge in the month of Feb 2024 along with Mr. Pinpong Chauvachata, Consul, and Ms. Nakrisorn Klaikeow, Director and Consul, Thailand Board of Investment, Mumbai met with the President, Mr T R Kesavan to establish connect and promote the trade. Secretary General, Ms Saraswathi. K. Mr Ashwin Vijayakumar, Co-Chair of the logistics committee was also present.

**3****14<sup>th</sup> March 2024****Income Tax TDS Awareness Program**

The Chamber under the auspices of the Direct Taxes Expert Committee and in association with the Income Tax Department organised the "Income Tax TDS Awareness Program" on 14th March 2024 (Thursday) at MCCI Conference Room

Mr. R Rajamanohar, IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax was the Chief Guest for the session.

Mr. Krishnan P. Chair of the Direct Tax Committee welcomed the guests.

Mr. R Rajamanohar, IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax addressed the participants and a presentation on e-TDS was made by the official of the Income Tax.



The program was attended by 40 persons and the feedback was positive.



22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

4 Presentation on the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Clause



This presentation on the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Clause was organised under the auspices of the Direct Tax committee. Mr. Vikram Vijayaraghavan, Advocate, Subbaraya Aiyar Padmanabhan & Ramamani Advocates was the resource person.

He made a detailed presentation for the benefit of the participants and clarified their queries. The program was attended by 40 persons and the feedback was excellent.



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26<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Sustainability Speaks Series Talk #11-  
Mainstreaming Circular Economy in used  
Water Management in India Cities







SUSTAINABILITY  
PEAKS  
TALK #11



MAINSTREAMING CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN  
USED WATER MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN CITIES

TUESDAY | MARCH 26, 2024 | 4:30-5:45 PM

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MS. SAIBA GUPTA

PROGRAMME ASSOCIATE  
COUNCIL ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

JOIN US ON ZOOM  
SCAN TO REGISTER



Saiba Gupta is currently working in the areas of circular economy in Waste water Management and Wetland Rejuvenation. She is an Urban Planner and Architect with over five years of professional experience.

She worked on drafting the Master Plan for Delhi 2041 in association with the DDA. Saiba has also been associated with the Sustainable Cities Integrated Approach Pilot in India, implemented by UNIDO and UN-Habitat.

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This was the 11<sup>th</sup> talk under the auspices of the Sustainable Chennai Forum in its monthly talk series on sustainability to commemorate the World Water Day (22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024).

Ms. K. Saraswathi briefed about the Sustainable Chennai Forum and the series and introduced the resource person.

Ms.Saiba Gupta, Programme Associate, CEEW addressed on the topic “Mainstreaming circular economy in used water management in India Cities”. Ms. Saiba made recommendations on better water resource management by involving communities and leveraging technologies.

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

The program was attended by 45 persons.





Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024.



Expert Committee Meetings

12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - The Company Law committee had a meeting to discuss the representation to be given to SEBI.



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15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - The Legal Affairs committee had a Presentation on IP & Counterfeiting and raids by Mr. R. Thazhalan, GM – Legal, Cavinkare. His presentation was elaborate and gave an indepth understanding into different types of IP security with focus on Trademarks and copyright. The meeting was attended by 15 persons and the feedback on the presentation was positive. It was agreed to have presentations every alternate meeting to share the knowledge of experts for the benefit of the members.



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**27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - The Logistics Committee had a meeting during which the action plan for the next quarter was discussed and finalized for necessary implementation.**



### Other Meetings

**Ms. K. Saraswathi, Ms. Madhumathi and Mr. Sriram had a virtual meeting with Mr. Rajkumar and Mr. Vinod of Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation(TNSDC) on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to discuss the proposal for the pilot study for evaluation of TNSDC training programs.**

**Ms K. Saraswathi, Secretary General, MCCI was the Chief Guest at the International Women's day celebrations at Renault Nissan Automotive Pvt. Ltd. at Oragadam on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Ms. K. Saraswathi attended the International Women's Day celebrations of Invest and Trade, Western Australia on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Ms. K. Saraswathi attended the MMA Women Managers Convention 2024 on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Ms. K. Saraswathi, Mr. Udayabhaskar Reddy, Chair of the Logistics Committee, Mr. Loganathan, Consultant Training and Programs had a meeting with Mr. Sandeep Nanduri IAS, MD, TIDCO.**

**Ms.K. Saraswathi and Mr.Sakthivel, Manager – Accounts visited the school of Hope Foundation on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to sponsor for their computer requirements from the education society of the Chamber.**

