



The Madras Chamber

MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Activities - April 2024



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MCCI AUSTRADE ROUND TABLE

10th April 2024

A round table interaction was organized on April 10, 2024 between the delegates of Australia and India by the Australian Trade Commission and the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry to discuss the skill requirements in the verticals of energy, education and infrastructure and discuss how mutually beneficial relationships can be cultivated for the same. The discussion was chaired by Mr Leo Bremanis, Australian Investment and Trade Commissioner for South Asia, Mr T R Kesavan, President, MCCI, and Mr Abdul Ekram, Australian Investment and Trade Commissioner.

We had 11 delegates representing the Chamber from varied sectors who shared their valuable inputs in the roundtable to the questions put forward by the Austrade representatives.

Following the event, a networking dinner took place, during which the Australian Consul-General, Ms. Silai Zaki, emphasized the importance of collaboration between India and Australia, with a specific focus on Tamil Nadu.



Seminar on ESG, Circular Economy and Decarbonisation – Path to Net Zero

24th April 2024, Sri City

Resource:

Ms Sivaranjani Subramanian, COO, Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd.

Mr Jay Mehta, AVP, Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd.

Ms Asha Panwar, AVP, Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd

This was an outreach program and the Seminar was to raise awareness about environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices, circular economy principles, and decarbonization strategies amongst the industrial fraternity.

Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder and Managing Director of Sri City, delivered the inaugural address.

Ms. Sivaranjani Subramanian, Chief Operating Officer of Environmental Management Centre, spoke on the strategic integration of ESG principles into investment and business frameworks.

Ms. Asha Panwar, VP, EMC made a presentation on the importance of circular economy and the crucial aspects of reporting for ESG Compliance.

Mr. Jay Mehta, VP, EMC discussed the pathway for decarbonisation that would help realize the goal of net zero emissions.



Session on “Harnessing Geographical Indications for Sustainable Development: A Pathway to Economic and Cultural Prosperity”

26th April 2024, MCCI Conference Room

Speaker:
Mr. Nagraj Prakasam, Co-founder of Nativelead NLF



On World Intellectual Property Day, the Chamber hosted a program to Commemorate the Day. The event explored the role of intellectual property (IP) in driving sustainable growth, with a focus on Geographical Indications (GI). Ms. Savithri Suresh Babu from A. K. Mysamy & Associates LLP provided an overview of IP, SDGs, and GI, stressing innovation's importance.

Mr. Nagraj Prakasam, Co-founder of Nativelead NLF, discussed IP's role in economic development with Ms. Subathra Mysamy, highlighting its impact on artisans in Tamil Nadu. The session underscored the link between IP protection, sustainability, and economic progress. Further the national award winner Mr. Krishnamurthy, weaver was honored for his contributions. The event was attended by 30 + participants and it has been agreed to do this program sectorwise in different places for the benefit of the artisans, weavers and other entrepreneurs

Other Meetings

Thrive Nation 2024 – Event by Aspire India – Supporting partner - MCCI– 2nd April 2024

MMA Auditorium



2024.04.02 14:37



2024.04.02 11:01

SPEAKERS

Professor Satya Ranjan Acharya Professor & Director,
Dr Ananthavalli Ramesh, Associate Faculty,
Dr Chacochan Mathai from Naturals

This is part of the Entrepreneurship School Showcase wherein roadshows are held in different cities to explore, navigate and understand about entrepreneurship courses.

The Chamber was a supporting partner for this event. The Chamber has been collaborating with Aspire India in the last few years and working in the entrepreneurship and SME space. A round table was held wherein experts shared their valuable suggestions.

Other Meetings

iforest and TN Guidance – Release of report and meeting – Just Transition for Tamil Nadu's Automotive Sector – 4th April 2024

This round table discussion was organized by iforest in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Guidance and CII to release the report ICE to EV: Just Transition Roadmap for India's automobile sector and to have a discussion on the above topic. Mr. T.R.Kesavan was a panelist in the round table and among his other inputs, the vital input was to skill not only the employees, but also the owners during the transition from ICE to EV



Naan Mudalvan Industries Engagement Connect by TNSDC

24th April 2024 , TNSDC

Ms. K.Saraswathi, Mr.J Krishnan and Mr. G.Loganathan attended the meeting presided by Ms. Innocent Divya, IAS, MD, TNSDC. The discussion focused on methods to enhance the engagement of industries in skilling, providing jobs and internship/apprenticeship opportunities in various sectors to the youth of Tamil Nadu under the Naan Mudhalvan Program



Governing Council Meeting – 13th April 2024



Expert Committee Meetings

Education – 17th April 2024



The activities for the next quarter was discussed. One of the concerns raised was about the prevalence of drugs among the youth and therefore a session on drug abuse is scheduled in May 2024

GST - 18th April 2023



The GST Committee met on 18th April to discuss actions for further events.

Expert Committee Meetings

Company Law – 23rd April 2024



The presentation on Digital Competition Law was made by Ms. Shwetha and Ms. Lavanya of Lakshmi Kumaran and Sridharan

IT/ITEs – 30th April 2024



The discussion was about Phygital 2024 to be held in July 2024 and the basic structure was decided upon by the members.

Skilling takes centrestage at MCCI-Austrade event



Still from MCCI-Austrade event



CHENNAI: "India stands as a pivotal partner for global sustainability, and Australia is dedicated to crafting skill enhancement programs for India's workforce. We are interested in forging alliances in TN, inspired by its vision of attaining a \$1 trillion economy, and its leadership in automotive, electronics, and renewable energy sectors," Leo Bremanis, Trade and Investment

Chamber in the news

TN plans 4th auto cluster in Thoothukudi, to set up 2 more centres for EV industry



BOOST TO INVESTMENTS. (From left) Sriram Viji, Chairman (Southern Region), ACMA & MD, Brakes India; Thiru Srinivasan, Senior Advisor, EV, FaMe TN, Government of Tamil Nadu; K Senthil Raj, MD, SIPCOT, Tamil Nadu; Srivats Ram, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu & MD, Wheels India; TR Kesavan, President, MCCI & Group President, TAFE at the CII round table discussion

G Balachandrar
Chennai

The Tamil Nadu Government plans to develop a new auto cluster from scratch at Thoothukudi in southern Tamil Nadu due to the EV manufacturing project of VinFast and to support future auto investments. "Chennai is a very big cluster in the automotive sector. We are also focusing on Coimbatore and Hosur. There will be a 4th cluster that the government is forming. With VinFast coming in and many other industries making investments, we are developing Thoothukudi to be another auto cluster and we're starting from the ground up there, Thiru Srinivasan, Senior Advisor - Electric Vehicle Sector, FaMeTN said at a conference here.

VINFAST UNIT
Vietnam-based electric vehicle maker VinFast is establishing a new integrated EV manufacturing unit at Thoothukudi where the company has planned to invest ₹4,000 crore, spread over 5

years. The upcoming EV unit is expected to have an annual capacity of up to 1,50,000 units.

Srinivasan said the State is also planning to set up two more common facilities and infrastructure for EV battery and vehicle testing. "In the last 2 years, we took a lot of help from World Resources Institute - India (WRI) in working with the Coimbatore group, and that's how the first common facility centre for motors and power electronics in Coimbatore was developed. We are now looking at a similar cluster in Chennai for battery and cell areas. We are also looking to develop a cluster potentially at Hosur for vehicle testing," he added.

Srinivasan said the EV Taskforce of the State government is starting discussions with all stakeholders of the EV industry and there would be a bigger focus on building an ecosystem for motors, batteries, and power electronics. "We are also in discussions with several people who are going to be establishing recycling centers in the State and they see

more opportunity than we even realised. We will start to see a significant amount of activity in the next 3-4 months. We expect it to double the amount of local sourcing," he added. Discussing the State's focus on the EV sector, V Arun Roy, Secretary Industries, Tamil Nadu Government said the State was actively developing a strategy to cater to the increasing electricity demand not only from the mobility sector but also related to the greater development of Tamil Nadu.

'ICE TO EV'
Earlier, a report titled "ICE to EV: Just Transition Roadmap for India's Automobile Sector" prepared by The International Forum for Environment, Sustainability and Technology (iFOREST), a non-profit environmental think tank, was released.

The report pointed out that about 20 per cent of the 759 auto component manufacturers in the Hosur cluster that were analysed for the report would be highly or moderately impacted by the ICE to EV transition.

Riding on a near-doubling of electronics exports, Tamil Nadu is the only state among the top five to show year-on-year growth. And, govt is offering a mix of policy, fiscal support and sectoral diversification to boost other sectors



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Call it a shipment success story. Among India's top five exporting states - Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh in that order - TN is the only one whose exports have gone up from April-Jan 2023-23 to April-Jan 2024-24 (see table). While the rest of the top five saw exports slide between 7% and 9%, TN's exports have gone up 5.5% to \$35.17 billion this year compared to \$33.35 billion last April-Jan. That's entirely due to electronics exports, which have nearly doubled from \$3.73 billion last year to \$7.36 billion this year. That's the good news. The not so great news - all the other exporting segments in the TN top five - engineering, ready-made garments, cotton yarn and leather - are down year on year (see table).

The govt is, however, celebrating the success in electronics. "This remarkable growth is a reflection of our targeted efforts to attract companies in the sector ensuring excellent quality of labour," says industries minister T R B Rajaa. The state's approach, he adds, has been twofold: "Nurturing a high-quality talent pool from our network of engineering colleges and technical institutes, and implementing investor-friendly policies for the electronics sector expansion." What have also helped are the state's electronics manufacturing clusters, seamless connectivity and reliable infrastructure. The electronics story, with exports slated to touch \$9 billion by fiscal end, is also "bolstering the state's overall manufacturing output," says Rajaa.

But what about the segments showing a year-on-year dip? To be fair, these dips are not TN specific and are more dependent on origin destination issues. That explains why all the other four states have shown export dips. And despite a slight 4.5% drop, TN's biggest exportable segment - engineering/automotive - is headed in the right direction.

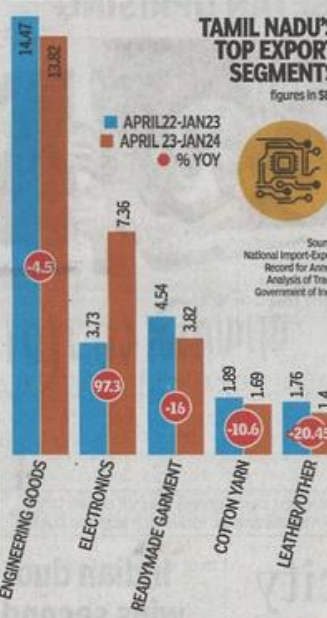
"Automobiles and especially the electric vehicle sector are picking up across the world. And, Tamil Nadu is not only doing a good job with auto investments, but we're transitioning to EV at the right time and the entry of VinFast in Tuticorin is a classic example of investments facilitating balanced regional growth and exports," says Guidance Tamil Nadu CEO Vishnu Venugopalan. The state's advanced electronics and semiconductors policy signals another area of focus, he adds. The state already has big global players such as Caterpillar and Schwing Stetter. And many companies are also planning to expand, which ties into the state's investment targets, say sources.

The sharper drop has been in textiles and leather/leather products and here the story is one of European slowdown and competition from players such as Bangladesh. "The government is keen to boost exports of textiles. In the budget, a special scheme to support tech upgradation with an outlay of ₹500 crore was announced," says industries secretary V Arun Roy. As the future is technical textiles, a dedicated research and business development fund has been announced to promote innovation, he adds.

For industry though, sectoral demand apart, TN's real USP is its business reputation. And this is growing. "Tamil Nadu stands out as a state renowned for its pro-business atmosphere, consistently earning accolades for its favourable economic climate," says T R Kesavan, president, Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry. With the state government offering cutting-edge and sector-specific skilled labour to investors particularly in high-end R&D projects, TN's manufacturing muscle will bring in more exports, say industry sources. The state's bet on green hydrogen and renewable energy should also help it close some of the gap with Gujarat. Currently TN's exports are less than half that of Gujarat, which rides on hydrocarbon shipments.

TOP 5 EXPORTING STATES IN INDIA

STATE	APRIL 22-JAN 23	APRIL 23-JAN 24	% YOY
GUJARAT	121.17	110.76	-8.60%
MAHARASHTRA	59.44	54.86	-7.70%
TAMIL NADU	33.35	35.17	5.45%
KARNATAKA	23	20.98	-8.70%
UTTAR PRADESH	18.15	16.85	-7%



Ethiraj College for Women holds Graduation Day

Ethiraj College for Women (Autonomous) held its graduation ceremony on March 16 in the college premises. T. R. Kesavan, group president of Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited and president of Madras Chamber of Commerce, Chennai; V. M. Muralidharan, chairman; and S. Uma Gowrie, principal, graced the occasion, according to a press release. A total of 17 M. Phil, 243 postgraduate and 580 undergraduate students were presented with their degrees, the release said.

Chamber in the news

THE HANS INDIA

Seminar held to promote awareness on ESG practices

- Highlights Sri City's dedication to environmental responsibility, circular practices and achieving net zero emissions

VANI MALLELA
SRI CITY

SRI City, a burgeoning industrial hub, in collaboration with the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industries (MCCI), hosted a seminar titled 'ESG, Circular Economy & Decarbonisation – Path to Net Zero,' on Tuesday.

The seminar is aimed to raise awareness about environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices, circular economy principles and decarbonisation strategies amongst the industrial fraternity. Satish Kamat, President (Operations), Sri City, briefly explained about the theme of the seminar and introduced the guest speakers. Dr Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder and Managing Director of Sri City, initiated the seminar with his inaugural address, underscoring the profound importance of the seminar's thematic essence.

He remarked, "We are all at the crossroads of sustain-



achieving net-zero emissions. By sharing knowledge and forging partnerships, we can transform challenges into opportunities for a thriving, sustainable Sri City." He encouraged active participation for a deeper understanding of the critical issues.

Distinguished speakers, including Sivaranjani Subramanian, chief operating officer of Environmental Management Centre, shed light on the strategic integration of ESG principles into investment and business frameworks.

Asha Panwar, assistant vice-president of Environmental Management Centre, expounded upon the indispensable role of Circular

The subsequent session, led by Jay Mehta, assistant vice-president of Environmental Management Centre, elucidated the imperative pathway of decarbonisation in realising the ambitious goal of net zero emissions.

The seminar concluded with an engaging question and answer session, providing participants with the opportunity to seek clarifications and further insights.

Saraswathi, secretary general of MCCI, extended a vote of thanks to all participants and speakers, highlighting the collaborative efforts in promoting sustain-

attending lectures by industry experts and engaging in discussions.

This seminar highlights Sri



Dr Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder and Managing Director of Sri City, addressing a seminar on Tuesday

City's dedication to environmental responsibility, circular practices and achieving net zero emissions.

THE HANS INDIA Classifieds



CHANGE OF NAME

I, K.VENKATASUBBAIAH (Old name), D.No.7/24, Siddavandlapalli, Ananthsamudram Post, Pullampet Mandal, Annamayya District, A.P., hereby changed my name as **KASIREDDY VENKATA SUBBAREDDY S/O. KASIREDDY YANADI REDDY** (New Name).
(TH_42450)

I, ASHRAFIUNNISA DASTHAGIRI (Old Name) Before



CHANGE OF NAME

I, ALI KHAN MOHAMMED (Old Name), R/o. D.No. 1-39, Khandriga, Gurramkonda, Chittoor District, A.P-516297, have changed my name as **MEER MAHAMUD ALI KHAN S/o. MEER NAZEERUDDIN ALI KHAN** (New Name).
(TH_42450)

I, CHITNAKOTI ADAVELLI MUNIAPPAN SURESH KUMAR (OLD

THANK YOU

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