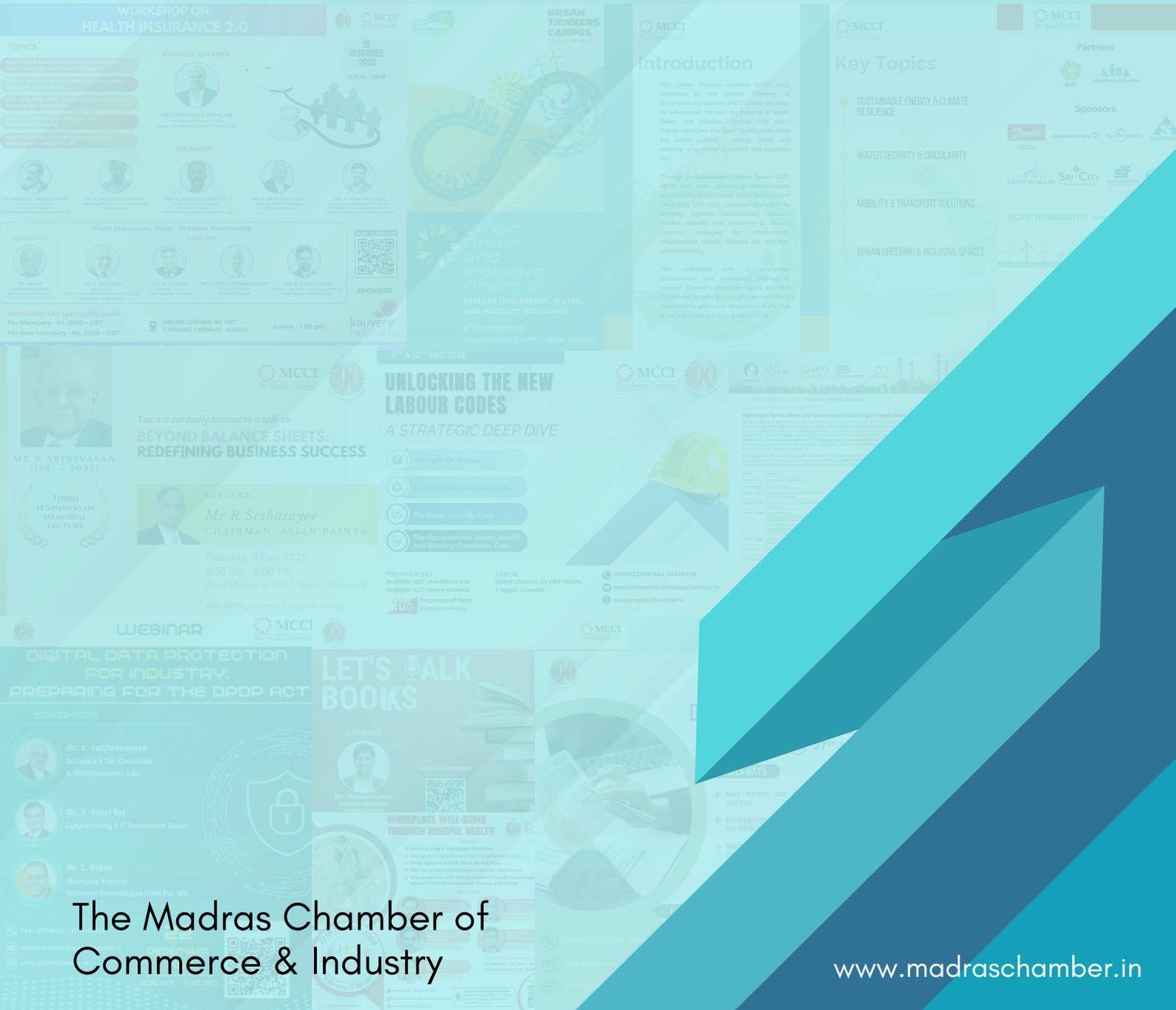


CHAMBER IN - TOUCH

DECEMBER 2025 & JANUARY 2026



WORKSHOP ON HEALTH INSURANCE 2.0
TOPICS: New IRDA Regulations on Health Insurance, How to Avail a good Health Insurance plan, Claim Settlement, etc.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Mr. Srinivasan, Chairman, Health Insurance Association of India
SPEAKERS: Mr. S. Prakash, Mr. S. Arjun, Mr. S. Saravanan, Mr. S. Suresh, Mr. S. Srinivasan
MODERATORS: Mr. S. Prakash, Mr. S. Arjun, Mr. S. Saravanan
PROGRAM FEE (per participant): For Members - Rs. 1500 + GST, For Non-Members - Rs. 2200 + GST
VENUE: GRAND CHEMNAI BY GRT, T. NAGAR, CHEMNAI - 600017
Lunch - 1.30 pm

Smart, Green, and Inclusive Chennai
INTEGRATING ENERGY, WATER, AND MOBILITY SOLUTIONS
8th December 2025
Grand Chennai by GRT, T Nagar, Chennai

UNLOCKING THE NEW LABOUR CODES
A STRATEGIC DEEP DIVE
9th & 10th DEC 2025
THE CODE ON WAGES
THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE CODE
THE SOCIAL SECURITY CODE
THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND WORKING CONDITIONS CODE
PROGRAM FEE: Rs. 2500 + GST (members) and Rs. 3500 + GST (non-members) for groups of three persons or more.
VENUE: Grand Chennai, by GRT Hotels, T Nagar, Chennai.
9940422958/044 24348458
madrachamber@madrachamber.in
www.madrachamber.in

DIGITAL DATA PROTECTION FOR INDUSTRY: PREPARING FOR THE DPDP ACT
SPEAKERS: Mr. K. Venkateswaran, Mr. R. Vittal Raj, Mr. L. Babak
VENUE: Grand Chennai, by GRT Hotels, T Nagar, Chennai.

LET'S TALK BOOKS
SPEAKER: Mr. Mahesh Kumar
VENUE: Grand Chennai, by GRT Hotels, T Nagar, Chennai.

WORKPLACE WELL-BEING THROUGH MINDFUL HEALTH
SPEAKER: Mr. Mahesh Kumar
VENUE: Grand Chennai, by GRT Hotels, T Nagar, Chennai.

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

1

Interaction meeting with the High Commissioner of Canada to India

4th December 2025

2

Conference under Urban thinkers' Campus – Smart, Green, and Inclusive Chennai: Integrating Energy, Water, and Mobility Solutions (Sustainable Chennai Forum -SCF) & Visit to Mahindra World City

5th & 6th December 2025

3

Session on Unlocking the Labour Code: A Strategic Deep Dive

9th & 10th December 2025

4

3rd N. Srinivasan Memorial Lecture

11th December 2025

5

Signing of MoU with Swami Dayananda College of Arts and Science

15th December 2025

6

Climate Proofing MSMEs in Tamil Nadu: Pathways for Resilient and Green Manufacturing In Tamil Nadu

17th December 2025

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

7

Workshop on Health Insurance 2.0

19th December 2025

8

Webinar on “Digital Data Protection for Industry - Preparing for the DPDP Act”

22nd December 2025

9

Webinar on “Let’s Talk Books”

5th January 2026

10

Interaction meeting with DBS India Country Head & Managing Director

7th January 2026

11

Webinar on “Direct Tax Landscape for BFSI: Key Issues and Updates”

27th January 2026

12

Workplace Well-Being Through Mindful Health

29th January 2026

13

Workshop on Digital and Financial Literacy for MSME Workers

30th January 2026

PROGRAMS - DECEMBER 2025

1

Interaction meeting with the High Commissioner of Canada to India

4th December 2025

Members Present

Mr. Christopher Cooter, High Commissioner for Canada to India

Mr. Martin Barratt, Senior Trade Commissioner for Southern India and a few other members of his team

MCCI Team

Mr. A.Viswanathan, Vice President

Mr. J.Krishnan, Chair, International Cooperation

Mr. Karthik Shankar, Member, Economic Affairs Committee

Ms. K.Saraswathi, Secretary General



During the interaction meeting, both sides exchanged views on strengthening bilateral economic engagement between Canada and Tamil Nadu, with a focus on trade, investment, skill development, technology partnerships, and collaboration in sectors such as clean energy, education, healthcare, digital innovation, and advanced manufacturing.

The High Commissioner highlighted Canada's interest in expanding commercial ties with Southern India and acknowledged Tamil Nadu's growing role as a strategic economic hub.

Members shared insights on current business trends, regulatory opportunities, and areas where Canadian collaboration could support industry development.

The Chamber reiterated its commitment to facilitating meaningful engagement between Canadian companies and the local business community through future meetings, delegations, and thematic programmes.



2

Conference under Urban thinkers' Campus – Smart, Green, and Inclusive Chennai: Integrating Energy, Water, and Mobility Solutions (Sustainable Chennai Forum -SCF) & Visit to Mahindra World City

5th & 6th December 2025

The Chamber organized its Ninth Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) on Friday, 5th December 2025, commemorating the 14th year of the Sustainable Chennai Forum.

Held under the banner of UN-Habitat, the conference was themed “Smart, Green, and Inclusive Chennai: Integrating Energy, Water, and Mobility Solutions.”

The day brought together distinguished leaders, policymakers, industry experts, sustainability champions, and enthusiastic participants, creating a vibrant platform for knowledge-sharing and collaboration.



The event was inaugurated by Ms. Sudha Ramen, IFS, Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, who delivered an insightful and energizing address to set the tone for the day.

There were sessions with expert speakers sharing their knowledge and inputs.

Session 1: Sustainable Energy & Climate Resilience

Session 2: Water Security & Circularity

Session 3: Mobility & Transport Solutions

Session 4: Urban Greening & Inclusive Spaces

A Fun & Engaging Sustainability Quiz: A special highlight of the day was the Sustainability Quiz conducted by Mr. Shravana Deepan. The quiz was lively, interactive, and thoroughly enjoyed by participants.

At the close of the event, an interactive game on “What Makes Chennai Liveable” was conducted by Ms. Sivaranjani, COO, EMC which was appreciated by the participants.



As part of the UTC, a field visit was organised to Mahindra WorldCity and the feedback from 14 participants was positive.



3

**Session on Unlocking the Labour Code:
A Strategic Deep Dive**

9th & 10th December 2025

The two-day comprehensive workshop on the New Labour Codes on 9th & 10th December 2025 was conducted bringing together industry experts, legal practitioners, and HR leaders for an intensive and insightful learning experience.

Both days were fully packed with participants who were eager to understand the changing labour landscape. The sessions were delivered seamlessly by our distinguished speakers – joining both virtually and in person – who provided rich, practical insights into the Code on Wages, Social Security, Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions, and Industrial Relation.



Highlights of the Workshop:

- Expert-led deep dives into all four major Labour Codes
- Engaging discussions that connected law, policy, and industry practice
- Highly interactive Q&A sessions that addressed participant queries with clarity
- Real-time case examples and interpretations from seasoned legal and HR professionals

There were 12 experts (3 for each code) who made detailed presentations and answered the queries of the participations.

94 participants took part and gave a positive feedback.



4

3rd N. Srinivasan Memorial Lecture

11th December 2025

The Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI), together with the family of the late Mr. N. Srinivasan, had the honor of hosting the 3rd N. Srinivasan Memorial Lecture on 11th December 2025 in Chennai.



Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, President, MCCI, delivered the welcome address, reflecting on Mr. Srinivasan’s towering contributions to industry, governance, and ethical leadership.

Mr. R. Seshayee, Chairman, Asian Paints, delivered the memorial lecture titled “Beyond the Balance Sheet – Redefining Business Success.” He paid tribute to Mr. Srinivasan’s intellect, integrity, and multifaceted personality, including his deep love for literature and unwavering commitment to ethics in public life.

In his lecture, Mr. Seshayee articulated how contemporary measures of business success extend well beyond financial performance. He spoke about the increasing importance of adaptability over traditional assets, the shifting value dynamics where aggregators often surpass producers, the rising geopolitical impact of technology-led industries, and the pivotal role of private enterprise in strengthening national autonomy. He emphasized that true excellence stems from higher standards, purpose-driven leadership, and ethical choices that enable leaders to “sleep well at night.”

The event once again honoured the enduring legacy of Mr. N. Srinivasan, inspiring thoughtful reflection on the evolving role of business in society.

Dr. Balaji Kirushnan, grandson of Mr. N. Srinivasan, delivered the acceptance remarks.

The lecture was attended by 100+ participants and the feedback was positive.



Signing of MoU with Swami Dayananda College of Arts and Science

15th December 2025



The Chamber has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tiruvaarur, to promote structured industry–academia collaboration. The MoU provides a framework for cooperation in areas such as internships for students, joint research initiatives, skill development programmes, and the organisation of seminars, workshops, and conferences of mutual interest.

The MoU is valid for an initial period of two years and does not entail any financial commitment for either party.

Activities under the MoU will be taken up based on mutual consent and aligned with the objectives of enhancing employability, industry exposure, and knowledge sharing.



6

Climate Proofing MSMEs in Tamil Nadu: Pathways for Resilient and Green Manufacturing In Tamil Nadu

17th December 2025

The Chamber in collaboration with FaMeTN, the UK Government, Auroville Consulting and Cosidichosted a seminar on “Climate Proofing MSMEs: Pathways for Resilient and Green Manufacturing in Tamil Nadu”.



The program brought together policymakers, industry leaders, and technical experts committed to advancing Tamil Nadu's green growth and decarbonization agenda.

Mr. Balakrishnan R, President, Rane Madras Ltd Brake Components Division delivered the welcome remarks, setting the tone for the program by highlighting the importance of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and industry-government partnerships in accelerating climate-resilient and sustainable manufacturing practices in Tamil Nadu.

Ms. Shalini Medepalli, Deputy Head of Mission, British Deputy High Commission, highlighted the growing UK-Tamil Nadu partnership on climate action. She spoke about collaborative initiatives including the Green Rating Framework for Industries, offshore wind efforts, digital-twin-based mobility solutions, and the Centre for Heat Resilience. She also released the UK-supported report on Enhancing Industrial Energy Efficiency in Tamil Nadu MSMEs.

Mr. G. Raveendran, Deputy Director, MSME Department, detailed the State's commitment to clean technology adoption through the PEACE Scheme, emphasizing subsidies for green technologies, energy audits, training and implementation support—benefiting over 1,000 MSMEs so far.

Mr. Hans Raj Varma, IAS (Retd.), Director General, Cosidici, delivered the note stressing the growing global regulatory shift, including CBAM, and urged MSMEs to measure carbon footprints, adopt circular-economy solutions, rooftop solar, and embed sustainability into operations. He emphasized that green manufacturing is now a business imperative for Tamil Nadu's competitiveness.

The seminar also showcased expert discussions on carbon disclosure, clean energy technologies, climate finance, and MSME resilience, along with the release of key reports on rooftop solar readiness, climate risk, and industrial energy efficiency.

The program was attended by 80 participants and the feedback was positive.



Workshop on Health Insurance 2.0

19th December 2025

The Chamber conducted the Workshop on Health Insurance 2.0, on 19th December 2025.

The sessions were rich, engaging, and highly relevant to the rapidly evolving health insurance landscape.

Dr. Iyappan Ponnuswamy MD, FRCP, MBA, Medical Director, Kauvery Hospitals, & Chairperson of the Madras Chamber MCCI Healthcare Committee, set the tone with an insightful welcome address, highlighting the importance of collaboration between insurers, healthcare providers, and policymakers to enhance accessibility and quality of care.

The keynote address was by Mr. Srinivasan Gopalan, MD & CEO of Galaxy Health Insurance Company Limited. He elaborated on comprehensive overview of industry practices, challenges, regulatory trends, and the way forward for India's health insurance ecosystem.



The workshop featured a distinguished lineup of speakers and experts who shared valuable perspectives on:

- New IRDAI regulations and benefits to insurers & insured
- Choosing the right health insurance plan
- EPF, EPS, PPF, NPS and employee benefits
- GST reforms and their impact
- Innovations in product development and the need for insurance for all

A thought-provoking Panel Discussion on Payer–Provider Relationship brought together senior leaders from insurance and healthcare, moderated by Mr. Segar Sampathkumar. The panel delved into improving trust, transparency, efficiency, and patient experience across the payer–provider ecosystem.

Kauvery Hospitals sponsored this workshop and around 80 participants took part in the event . The Feedback was positive.

**8**

Webinar on “Digital Data Protection for Industry - Preparing for the DPDP Act”

22nd December 2025



The Chamber organised a webinar on the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act) as its concluding engagement for the calendar year.

Ms. Saraswati, Secretary General, MCCI, in her opening remarks highlighted the Chamber’s sustained engagement with the DPDP framework since its enactment

Mr. Vaitheeswaran explained the scope and legal framework of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act), noting that it applies to all digital personal data, including data collected physically and later digitized. Personal data has been defined broadly to include any information that can directly or indirectly identify an individual, making the Act relevant to both B2C and B2B organizations. He emphasized that personal data may be processed only with explicit consent or for limited legitimate purposes, and highlighted legacy data and data breach penalties as key compliance challenges.

Mr. Vittal Raj focused on the responsibilities of organizations acting as Data Fiduciaries. He clarified that liability remains with the data fiduciary even when processing is outsourced, and stressed the importance of data minimization, accuracy, traceability, and timely fulfilment of data principal rights such as access, correction, erasure, consent withdrawal, and grievance redressal. He noted that employee and historical data require careful handling, and that effective compliance is not feasible without structured governance and automation.

Mr. L. Ashok addressed the role of technology in DPDP compliance, stating that no single tool can ensure compliance. Organizations must implement a combination of technology controls aligned with the full data lifecycle, including consent management, data discovery, encryption, security monitoring, endpoint protection, and audit readiness. He concluded that DPDP compliance must be embedded into IT systems and that technology-led implementation is essential for scalable and sustainable compliance.

Mr. J. Krishnan, GC Member proposed the vote of thanks.

The session attracted close to 300 registrations, reflecting the relevance and urgency of the subject for businesses across sectors.



Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 13th December 2025



Expert Committee Meetings

Company Law / Corporate Matters - 9th December 2025



Other Meetings

Conference - The AI Revolution and Its Ethical Imperative
11th December 2025



This Inter-Disciplinary Conference on “AI Revolution and Its Ethical Imperative” was jointly organized by Ethiraj College, with the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) as one of the Associate Partners.

The event brought together the Departments of Commerce, Commerce (Hons.), Accounting & Finance, and Psychology, along with students, faculty, researchers, and industry professionals. The conference aimed to explore the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence on industries, society, and everyday life, while underscoring the importance of ethics, governance, and responsible innovation.

The program featured expert talks, panel discussions, and interactive sessions designed to enhance awareness, deepen understanding, and promote the responsible application of AI.

Chief Guest: Ms. Savitha Jagadeesan, Senior Partner, Kochhar & Co., and Chair, MCCI Legal Committee. Her address was very well received by the participants.

The Conference saw enthusiastic participation, with over 400 students in attendance.



Assocham’s 105th Foundation Day Celebrations at New Delhi
11th December 2025

Mr. Viswanathan A, Vice President of the Chamber represented the Chamber and attended the event.



Building Bridges:- University of Western Australia's (UWA) Indo Pacific Engagement Reception

11th December 2025

Ms. K.Saraswathi, Secretary General took part as a Panellist in the discussion on Empowering Communities through Strategic Education and Collaboration.



Meeting with Mr. Sandeep Nanduri, MD, TIDCO

11th December 2025

A presentation on the Airport Study was made to the Managing Director, TIDCO, outlining a structured assessment of passenger and cargo user experience at Chennai Airport and highlighting priority, low-cost, and process-driven interventions that can be implemented in the short to medium term to enhance service quality and competitiveness within existing infrastructure constraints.



Chamber in the media



PROGRAMS - JANUARY 2026

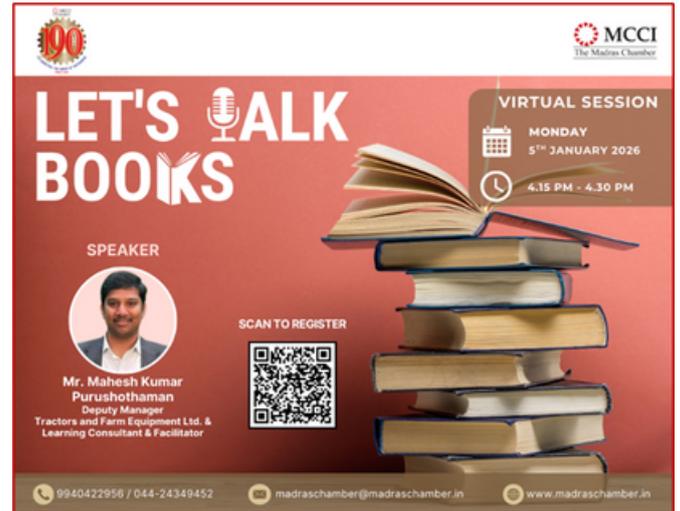
9

Webinar on “Let’s Talk Books”

5th January 2026

This is a new initiative of the WBC to be held every month curated for the members. Each session will feature a concise 15-minute presentation by an expert, capturing the key themes and essence of a carefully selected book. This series has been conceived to ensure that members can still have a flavour of highly rated books on diverse subjects within the shortest possible time.

Mr. Maheshkumar made a presentation on “Let’s talk Money” by Monica Halan and it was appreciated by the participants.



10

Interaction meeting with DBS India Country Head & Managing Director

7th January 2026

Mr. Divyesh and his team visited the Chamber



11

Webinar on “Direct Tax Landscape for BFSI: Key Issues and Updates”

27th January 2026

The BFSI Committee and the Direct Tax Experts Committee of the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) jointly organized a knowledge webinar titled “Direct Tax Landscape for BFSI: Key Issues and Updates” on 27 January 2026.

The session addressed the growing complexity of direct tax compliance, assessments, and risk management faced by BFSI entities in an evolving regulatory environment.



The webinar featured expert speakers from BDO India, the Knowledge Partner for the program— Mr. Manoj Purohit, Leader & Partner – Financial Services, Tax & Regulatory Services; Mr. Ritesh Podar, Associate Partner – Financial Services; and Mr. Pranav Sakhadeo, Director – Direct Taxes.

The speakers provided practical insights into recent direct tax developments affecting the BFSI sector, emerging compliance and assessment challenges, management of tax risks amid regulatory and judicial changes, and the importance of strengthening documentation and governance practices. The session was well received by BFSI professionals, tax practitioners, finance leaders, and compliance teams, and facilitated a clear understanding of key issues and updates relevant to the sector.


12

Workplace Well-Being Through Mindful Health

29th January 2026

This insightful program under the auspices of the HR Committee focused on creating healthier, safer, and more resilient workplaces.



This session had leading medical and wellness experts discuss on the following :-

- Smart eating & workplace wellness
- Workplace injury prevention & ergonomic safety
- Sleep hygiene & shift-work health risks
- Managing workplace stress & mental well-being
- Proactive health screenings for long-term well-being

Resource Persons

Dr. John Benial K – Chief Medical Officer, Coromandel International Ltd.

Dr.Sathappan – Visiting Faculty (Occupational Health & Safety), Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai

Dr. Godwin Erastus – Chief Medical Officer, Ashok Leyland Ltd.

Prof. Aneus – Faculty, Indian Institute Of Sports Medicine

Dr. Anitha S – Senior Consultant, Kauvery Hospital

There were 28 participants who gave a positive feedback.



13

Workshop on Digital and Financial Literacy for MSME Workers

30th January 2026

The Chamber jointly hosted the Workshop on Digital and Financial Literacy for MSME Workers in collaboration with WRI India at the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI)

The session gave a valuable and enriching learning experience for MSME members from both sides, with practical insights on financial management, digital payments, access to banking services, savings, and cyber security.



The interactive discussions and real-world examples helped participants understand how digital and financial literacy can strengthen resilience and informed decision-making at the workplace.

We had 20+ participants who gave a positive feedback.



Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 10th January 2026



Expert Committee Meetings

Women Business Council - 5th January 2026



Company Law / Corporate Matters - 6th January 2026



Legal - 20th January 2026



Other Meetings

Webinar on Using Free Trade Agreements (FTA) – Way Forward for Businesses
7th January 2026

This webinar through zoom platform was under the auspices of the Consultative Committee of City Chambers of Commerce.

The Speaker for the Session was Ms. Sangeeta Godbole Ex IRS , Former Principal Income tax Commissioner, Foreign Trade Negotiator.

Ms. Sangeetha Godbole elaborated on the concept of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and outlined India’s existing and emerging FTAs. She explained who benefits from these agreements—highlighting the advantages for both importers and exporters—and clarified how FTAs can be effectively used in practice, including key considerations such as tariff preferences, rules of origin, and compliance requirements. She also highlighted the practical tools and institutional support available to businesses for leveraging FTAs, including government portals, Export Promotion Councils, Chambers of Commerce, and the electronic Certificate of Origin platform.



RAMESH DUGAR, CHAIRMAN
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF CITY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
cordially invite you to a Webinar on
USING FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS (FTA)
Way forward for Businesses

07 January, 2026 Wednesday
At 01:30PM to 03:00PM 📍 Online

REGISTER NOW




MS. SANGEETA GODBOLE
EX IRS, FORMER PRINCIPAL INCOME
TAX COMMISSIONER, FOREIGN
TRADE NEGOTIATOR

CONSTITUENTS OF CCCC

- Hindustan Chamber of Commerce
- Andhra chamber of commerce
- Madras chamber of commerce
- National Chamber of Commerce
- Southern India Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Tamil Chamber of Commerce



MOU with TNWeSafe - TN Global Women Summit 2026

28th January 2026



At the Global Women Summit 2026, the Chamber exchanged an MoU for Knowledge Collaboration with TNWESAFE, in the august presence of the Honorable Deputy Chief Minister Thiru Udhayanidhi Stalin. TNWeSafe has been initiated to promote women’s employment, workplacesafety, and inclusive practices across member industries, through facilitation, advocacy, knowledge, dissemination, and voluntary adoption of best practices

