

CHAMBER IN-TOUCH

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2026

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

- 1** Budget Telecast Meeting
2nd February 2026
- 2** Webinar on RBI's FEMA Regulations 2026:
Key changes in Export & Import of Goods & Services
3rd February 2026
- 3** Workshop on Union Budget 2026-27
4th February 2026
- 4** Let's Talk Books: Talk #2
5th February 2026
- 5** Export Import Customs Processing – An Overview
12th February 2026
- 6** Session on Creating efficiencies in Supply Chain
through Digitization for MSMEs
18th February 2026
- 7** Sustainability Speaks Series #14
20th February 2026
- 8** Certificate Course on Labour Codes
21st & 28th February and 7th & 14th March 2026

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

- 9** Smart, Secure & Sustainable Water Infrastructure for Industries – Water Today 2026
26th February 2026
- 10** Workshop on Building Flood Resilience for MSMEs in Chennai
27th February 2026
- 11** Let's Talk Books: Talk #3
5th March 2026
- 12** Women's Day Celebrations – Give to Gain: The Power of Purpose Driven Women
7th March 2026
- 13** Interaction with Tokushima Prefecture India Delegation
9th March 2026
- 14** Two-Day Workshop on The DPDP Act & Rules
12th & 13th March 2026
- 15** Webinar on Voyage Disruptions in Maritime Trade: Insurance, Legal & commercial Perspectives
18th March 2026
- 16** Webinar on Drug Abuse: Awareness & Prevention
24th March 2026

PROGRAMS - FEBRUARY 2026

1
Budget Telecast Meeting
2nd February 2026

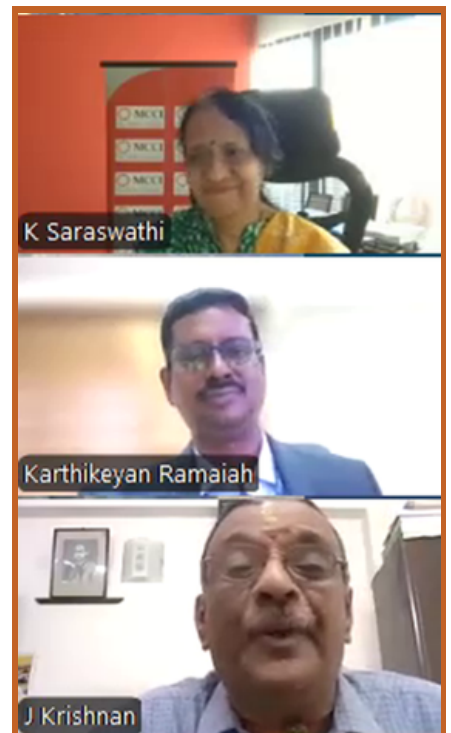

As per the usual practice, the budget was viewed and comments were shared with the Press.


2
**Webinar on RBI's FEMA Regulations 2026:
 Key changes in Export & Import of Goods & Services**
3rd February 2026

The Chamber organised this session which provided an overview of the revised FEMA Regulations, 2026, issued by the Reserve Bank of India and highlighted key changes from the earlier framework and their implications for exporters, importers, and service providers.

Resource person : Mr. Karthikeyan Ramaiah, Deputy General Manager, Reserve Bank Staff College

The resource person explained the ease-of-doing-business measures introduced to simplify export and import procedures, the role of Authorised Dealers, and aspects relating to faster processing of cross-border transactions. The webinar offered practical clarity on compliance and operational issues relevant to businesses engaged in international trade.



3

Workshop on Union Budget 2026-27

4th February 2026

This is the flagship activity of the Chamber.

Mr. Arjun Nagarajan shared his views on the macroeconomic aspects of the budget.

Mr. Vaitheeswaran and Mr. Vikram made a detailed analysis of Indirect and direct taxes respectively.



There were 90+ participants and the feedback was positive.

4

Let's Talk Books: Talk #2

5th February 2026



This was a new initiative of the WBC curated for the members and it was the second edition.

Mr. Maheshkumar shared the review of the book "In distractable" by Nir Eyal and it was appreciated.

5
Export Import Customs Processing – An Overview
12th February 2026


This is a joint program with Wadhvani Foundation. The session covered the basics of import-export documentation, customs procedures and duty calculation, and trade terms, payments and compliance. The programme was led by Mr. J. Krishnan.


6
Session on Creating efficiencies in Supply Chain through Digitization for MSMEs
18th February 2026


This was a joint program with L & T SuFin (a brand of L & T) organised for the benefit of MSMEs.

Mr. Arun M, Regional Head – South, L&T-SuFin, led the discussion and presented the key features of the platform. He elaborated on how L&T-SuFin enables MSMEs to build capacity through stronger market linkages and digital access to industrial buyers. The interactive Q&A session addressed various participant queries, reinforcing the platform's value proposition for scalable and sustainable growth.



7**Sustainability Speaks Series #14****20th February 2026**

This was the 14th edition of the Sustainability Series. Mr. Abhishek Jain highlighted three key global shifts impacting businesses: evolving geopolitics, increasing environmental risks, and rapid technological disruptions driven by AI.

The discussion also touched on areas for green innovation such as new materials, circular economy practices, next-generation energy technologies, and the role of AI and digital tools. The importance of policy support, green finance for MSMEs, and industry collaboration was also highlighted.

**8****Certificate Course on Labour Codes****21st & 28th February and 7th & 14th March 2026**

In view of the impending implementation of the Labour Codes, the Chamber organised this Certificate Course on Labour Codes to provide members and participants with comprehensive clarity on the provisions and practical aspects of implementation.

The programme was conducted on three Saturdays on 21st & 28th February 2026 and 7th, and the fourth one will be held on 14th March 2026, from 9.30 a.m. to 1.45 p.m.

The course covered the following four Codes in detail:

- Code on Social Security
- Code on Industrial Relations
- Code on Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions
- Code on Wages



The sessions included expert-led presentations, detailed discussions, and interactive panels aimed at enhancing understanding and preparedness among industry stakeholders.



25 participants have joined this session.



Smart, Secure & Sustainable Water Infrastructure for Industries – Water Today 2026

26th February 2026



This seminar was organised as part of Water Today 2026, at the Chennai Trade Centre. The Chamber has been associated with Water Today for over a decade.

The seminar brought together industry leaders, policymakers, sustainability experts, and water-sector professionals for insightful discussions on addressing today’s pressing water challenges. With growing concerns around climate change, water scarcity, and industrial resilience, the sessions underscored the importance of climate-resilient infrastructure, digital transformation, and innovative water management practices.

Key takeaways from the seminar included:

- Strategies for building climate-resilient water infrastructure for industries
- The role of digital technologies in transforming industrial water systems
- Practical insights and best practices shared by eminent experts and panellists



Workshop on Building Flood Resilience for MSMEs in Chennai

27th February 2026

This was a joint program with WRI. The workshop aimed at addressing flood risks as a critical business continuity challenge for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Chennai.

Thiru G. Raveendran, Deputy Director, Department of Industries & Commerce, outlined institutional pathways to support MSMEs.

The discussion focused on how floods are impacting MSMEs in Chennai and what practical steps industry and government can take together to reduce disruption and losses.

It was well received by 20 participants.



Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 14th February 2026



Expert Committee Meetings

Company Law / Corporate Matters - 10th February 2026



Education - 23rd February 2026



Other Meetings

Interaction Meeting with Andalusia Trade Delegation (Spain)

4th February 2026

The Chamber in collaboration with Guidance Tamil Nadu, hosted the Andalusia Trade Delegation from Spain at the MCCI Office.

The interaction served as a platform for discussions on trade, logistics, and avenues for international cooperation. Members of MCCI, including the Chair and Co-Chair of the Logistics Committee and the International Cooperation Committee, participated along with other industry representatives.



TN Conversion Conclave 2026

12th February 2026

The Chamber has received an invitation to attend the TN Conversion Conclave 2026, to be presided over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M. K. Stalin.

The Conclave will showcase Tamil Nadu's strength in converting investment commitments into operational projects, highlighting job creation, economic impact, and the State's execution-driven investment ecosystem. It will also outline the roadmap for scaling conversions further. Mr.G.Loganathan – Lead – Training and Programs attended the meeting on behalf of the Chamber.

TN Overseas Mobility and Employer Partnership Summit 2026

16th February 2026

This was a significant initiative aimed at strengthening safe and structured overseas employment opportunities for Tamil Nadu's workforce. Mr. G. Loganathan, Lead- Training & Programs attended the event on behalf of the Chamber.

Networking reception with the Australia India Business Delegation

16th February 2026

Mr. Ramkumar Shankar President and Ms. K. Saraswathi attended the networking reception with the Australia India Business Delegation

Super Chennai Conclave

19th February 2026

This was a first-of-its-kind, day-long citizen-led initiative aimed at crafting a bold and actionable roadmap for Chennai's future. The conclave brought together senior government leaders, industry heads, startup founders, urban development experts, and media leaders to deliberate on positioning Chennai as India's talent capital, a deep-tech hub, and a global startup city. Ms. K. Saraswathi, Secretary General attended the event.



Vision 2030 by State Planning Commission

19th February 2026

An Expert Committee for the Industry, Infrastructure and Transport sector has been constituted by the State Planning Commission to provide strategic inputs and long-term guidance. The meeting, was held to seek expert consultation to shape policies focused on inclusive growth, sustainability, innovation, and balanced regional development.

Mr.A.Viswanathan, Vice President attended the meeting and shared the inputs. Mr J. Krishnan joined virtually and shared his suggestions



Birthday Celebrations of Emperor of Japan

19th February 2026

The reception was hosted by the Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai on the occasion of the Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, a nationally significant event celebrated annually as Japan's National Day. Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, President, Mr. A. Viswanathan, Vice President and Ms. K. Saraswathi joined the celebrations.



75th Independence Day of the Republic of Sri Lanka

23rd February 2026

Sri Lanka celebrates its Independence Day annually on 4th February, marking its independence from British rule in 1948. The Deputy High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Chennai hosted a formal Reception on 23rd February 2026 at The Leela Palace, Chennai. Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, President, Mr. A. Viswanathan, Vice President, and Ms. K. Saraswathi attended the event.



Indo Australian Chamber of Commerce AustCham India – SHERise – Building futures through Commerce

23rd February 2026

Sri Lanka celebrates its Independence Day annually on 4th February, marking its independence from British rule in 1948. The Deputy High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Chennai hosted a formal Reception on 23rd February 2026 at The Leela Palace, Chennai. Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, President, Mr. A. Viswanathan, Vice President, and Ms. K. Saraswathi attended the event.



PROGRAMS - MARCH 2026
11
Let's Talk Books: Talk #3
5th March 2026

This was the 3rd in the series wherein Mr. Maheshkumar reviewed the book "Head & Heart" – The Art of Modern Leadership by Ms. Kirstin Ferguson as part of the Women's Day Celebrations


12
Women's Day Celebrations – Give to Gain: The Power of Purpose Driven Women
7th March 2026

The Women's Business Council organised the Women's Day programme titled "Give to Gain", the theme for this year for Women's Day, focusing on leadership, inclusion and impact.

Chief Guest Address was by Dr. Senthamarai Gokulakrishnan, Founder & Lead Catalyst, Yuukke Global who delivered a thought-provoking talk on "Leading with Purpose".



The program also featured an engaging session "Women Who Give, Women Who Grow" and a dynamic panel discussion – "Give to Gain in Action", where distinguished leaders shared their perspectives on leadership, philanthropy, mentorship, and creating opportunities.

It was followed by an exclusive basic women health check up by Kauvery Hospital.



The Program was attended by 100+ persons who gave positive feedback.



13

Interaction with Tokushima Prefecture India Delegation

9th March 2026

A delegation from Tokushima Prefecture, Japan met with representatives of the Chamber at the Chamber office on 9th March 2026.

Tokushima is an important industrial region in Japan known for advanced chemical and electrical manufacturing, including LED technologies, pharmaceuticals, and lithium-ion batteries.

During the meeting, the delegation made a brief presentation on the industrial strengths of Tokushima Prefecture and expressed interest in exploring potential business collaborations with Indian companies. They also discussed possible avenues for future cooperation with the Chamber, particularly in facilitating business interactions and partnerships between companies from Tokushima and India.

The interaction served as an initial step towards strengthening engagement and exploring opportunities for collaboration between businesses in Tokushima Prefecture and members of the Chamber.



14

Two-Day Workshop on The DPDP Act & Rules

12th & 13th March 2026



Two-Day Workshop on the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act & Rules, organized by the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) on 12th & 13th March 2026 in Chennai.



Thiru. Brajendra Navnit, IAS, Principal Secretary, Information Technology & Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu, as the Keynote Speaker, who shared valuable insights on the importance of data governance and responsible digital transformation.

The Speakers and experts delivered insightful sessions with great depth, practical perspectives, and real-world implementation guidance on the DPDP Act, compliance frameworks, consent management, data governance, breach response, and risk management.

The discussions, case studies, and expert insights made the workshop highly engaging and extremely valuable for organizations preparing for DPDP compliance.

The workshop witnessed excellent participation from industry professionals and business leaders who are keen to understand the evolving landscape of data protection and compliance in India.



15

**Webinar on Voyage Disruptions in Maritime Trade:
Insurance, Legal & commercial Perspectives**

18th March 2026

The Chamber under the auspices of the Logistics Committee, organized a webinar on "Voyage Disruptions in Maritime Trade: Insurance, Legal & Commercial Perspectives", which received an excellent response with over 150 participants from industry, logistics, shipping, and trade sectors.

The session focused on the growing disruptions in global maritime trade, particularly arising from geopolitical tensions, port incidents, and supply chain uncertainties. The discussion examined the legal, insurance, and commercial implications of such disruptions and provided practical guidance for exporters, importers, and logistics stakeholders.

The program commenced with welcome remarks by Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, President, MCCI who highlighted the importance of maritime trade to global commerce and emphasized the need for preparedness and resilience in the face of evolving supply chain challenges.

Mr. Vaitheeswaran K, Moderator for the session, guided the discussion effectively, facilitating a dynamic exchange of views and ensuring a comprehensive coverage of the subject.



Mr. Muthu Jagannath shared valuable insights on legal and contractual aspects, including force majeure, frustration of contracts, cargo owners’ responsibilities, and dispute resolution mechanisms during voyage disruptions. He emphasized the importance of reviewing contractual terms, jurisdiction clauses, and proactive risk mitigation strategies.

Mr. Balasundaram R provided the insurance perspective, highlighting war risk coverage, policy limitations, and the importance of timely communication with insurers. He also discussed practical steps for cargo owners to manage risks, including assessing cargo exposure, understanding policy exclusions, and adopting contingency planning.

The session concluded with closing remarks by Mr. Udayabhaskar Reddy, Chairperson, Logistics Committee, who summarized the key takeaways and emphasized the importance of collaboration, proactive planning, and informed decision-making in navigating maritime disruptions.

The webinar witnessed active engagement and insightful interactions, with participants raising practical queries related to contractual obligations, insurance coverage, and supply chain continuity



16

Webinar on Drug Abuse: Awareness & Prevention

24th March 2026

The Chamber under the auspices of the Education Committee, organized a webinar on “Drug Abuse: Awareness & Prevention, which received an overwhelming response with over 300 participants from educational institutions, industry, and professional backgrounds.

The webinar was conducted in view of the growing concern over substance abuse among youth and the need for awareness, early intervention, and preventive measures. The program brought together experts from law enforcement, medical, and academic fields to provide a comprehensive perspective on the issue.



The session commenced with welcome remarks by Mr. Sai Prakash LeoMuthu, Chairman and CEO, Sairam Institutions, who highlighted the vulnerability of young minds to substance abuse and emphasized the collective responsibility of educational institutions, parents, and society in addressing this challenge.

Mr. P. Aravindhan, IPS, delivered an insightful session on the ground realities of drug abuse, enforcement challenges, and emerging trends. He stressed the importance of community participation, institutional vigilance, and coordinated efforts between law enforcement agencies and educational institutions to effectively combat the issue.

Dr. K. Gireesh, Neurophysician and Neurosurgeon, provided a medical and psychological perspective, explaining the neurological impact of substance abuse, behavioral changes associated with addiction, and the importance of early counselling, mental health support, and rehabilitation.

Prof. Sridhar Narayanan summarized the key takeaways and emphasized the need for sustained awareness programs, institutional support systems, and collaborative efforts to prevent drug abuse. The webinar witnessed active engagement from participants, with an interactive session that addressed several queries and provided practical insights.



Interaction meeting with Mr. Ed Jager, Minister (Commercial), Canadian High Commission, New Delhi

25th March 2026

The Chamber had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Ed Jager, Minister (Commercial), High Commission of Canada, for an interaction on strengthening Canada–India business ties.



The meeting was led by Mr. Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar Limited and President, MCCI, along with Mr. Viswanathan, President, Delphi-TVS and Vice President, MCCI. Members of the International Cooperation Committee, including Mr. Krishnan and Mr. Alex T. Koshy, also participated in the interaction along with Mr. V. Sridhar, GC Member.

The interaction focused on exploring opportunities for enhancing bilateral trade, investment, and business collaboration between Canada and India. Discussions covered potential areas of cooperation across sectors and the role that MCCI could play in facilitating business connections, industry engagement, and knowledge exchange between stakeholders in both regions.

The meeting concluded with a shared interest in continuing engagement and identifying specific areas for collaboration. MCCI will follow up with the High Commission of Canada to explore possible initiatives and opportunities emerging from the discussion.



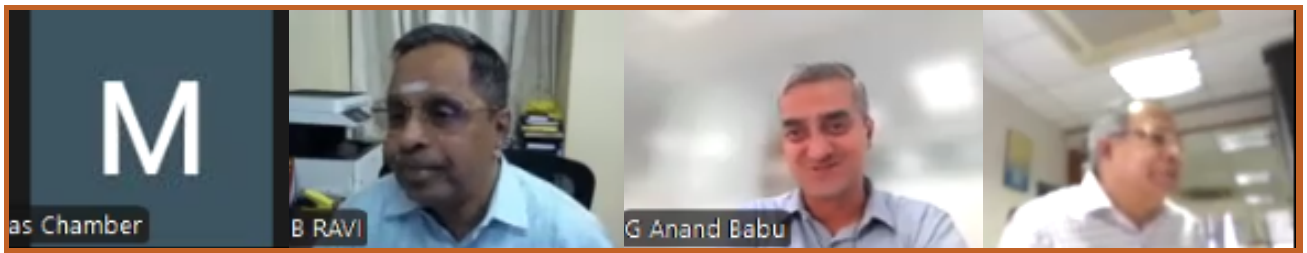
Governing Council Meeting

The Governing Council Meeting was held on 14th March 2026

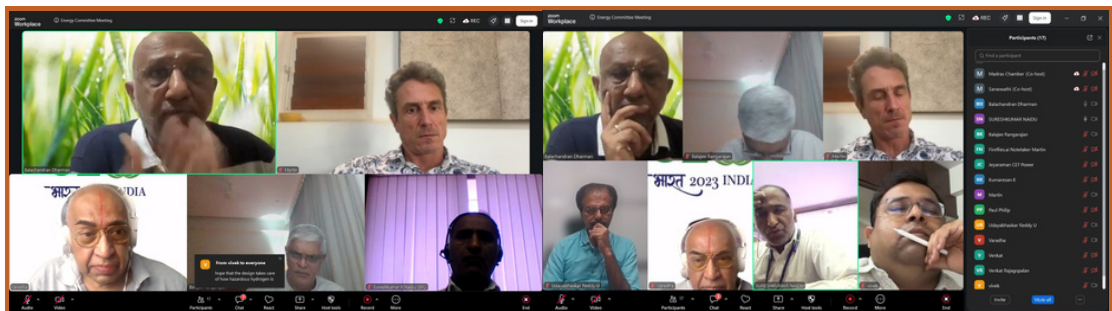


Expert Committee Meetings

Company Law / Corporate Matters - 10th March 2026 (Virtual)



Energy - 18th March 2026 (Virtual)



IT/ITES - 20th March 2026 (Hybrid)



Other Meetings**Webinar on China's Interests in India, Its Commercial Practices, and Strategic Takeaways for India'****20th March 2026**

A webinar on "Selective Partnership – China's Interests in India, Its Commercial Practices & Strategic Takeaways for India" was held on 20 March 2026, with Ms. Garima Arora as the speaker under the CCCCC.

The session examined the evolving India–China economic relationship, trade imbalances, and global supply chain shifts.

The speaker highlighted India's growing strategic leverage as a large consumer market and an emerging "China+1" manufacturing destination. A selective and conditional engagement approach with China, focusing on technology transfer, domestic capability building, and reciprocal market access, was suggested.

The session concluded with key takeaways for India to strategically balance cooperation and competition while safeguarding national and economic interests.

**BDHC Dinner Reception and Discussion on Potential collaboration between UK and Tamil Nadu in the Climate and Energy Space****24th March 2026**

The British Deputy High Commission, Chennai, hosted a dinner reception bringing together stakeholders working across climate, energy, and mobility to explore opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing in sustainable and climate-resilient initiatives.

The interaction provided a useful platform for discussions on clean mobility, climate transitions, and partnerships, particularly in the context of ongoing India–UK cooperation programmes, including initiatives focused on data-driven and inclusive mobility solutions for Tier-2 cities.

Ms. Saraswathi K attended the event on behalf of the Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

