

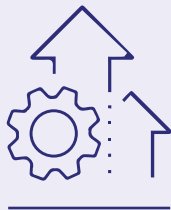
Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth



Annual Report 2024-25



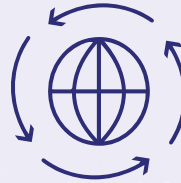
Confederation of Indian Industry



GROWTH



LIVELIHOOD



GLOBALIZATION



BUILDING TRUST

Annual Report 2024-25

ENGAGING GLOBALLY





ENGAGING WITH NATIONAL LEADERS



Interaction of
Shri Piyush Goyal

Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry
with
CII National Council



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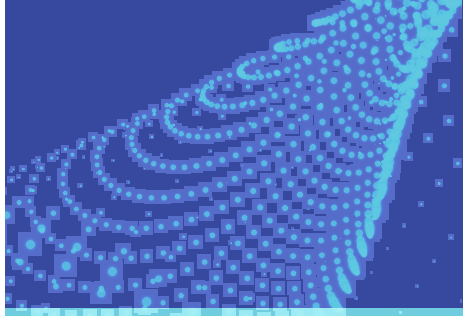
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PRESIDENT'S REVIEW

LOOKING BACK

The year 2024 was marked by heightened global uncertainties arising from geopolitical and geoeconomics challenges. In the face of these challenges India's growth rate of 6.4% for 2024-25 is a source of satisfaction and a testament to the strength of its economic fundamentals – reinforcing its position as the fastest growing large economy in the world.

India's general elections ushered in the third term of the Government, with the promise of continuity of reforms. In line with our deep commitment to nation building, CII took inputs from Members and experts to present a comprehensive election manifesto for political parties to drive the growth agenda. Guided by the vision of *Viksit Bharat*, we aligned our thoughts and shaped our endeavours under the theme 'Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth'.

The year marked the achievement of several milestones and substantive contributions to both policymaking as well as to capacity building. The growth strategies recommended in the manifesto were taken forward and strengthened with recommendations across all sectors

of the economy. For each of the two Budgets presented during the year, CII submitted inputs on macroeconomic management, fiscal prudence, taxation and sectoral actions. The Hon'ble Prime Minister's exclusive interaction with CII soon after assuming office reflected the Government's commitment to partner with industry towards achieving our collective vision.

It was a matter of satisfaction that many of CII's suggestions were incorporated in the Government's policy announcements. The initiatives to promote employment intensive sectors to reap the demographic dividend, the measures to encourage consumption in the economy through revision in personal income tax, the efforts to facilitate Ease of Doing Business and the continued thrust on public capex while adhering to a well-defined fiscal and debt glide path are noteworthy highlights. While CII intensified its policy recommendations in corporate governance, de-criminalisation and simplified regulations, I cannot stress enough that industry as a whole, from large to small enterprises, must ensure a strong focus on compliances and go beyond the letter of the law in respect of ethics and governance.

In order to drive desirable outcomes from the various policy initiatives announced in the last Union Budget, CII will continue to engage with the government on key initiatives such as the National Manufacturing Mission, the High-Level Committee on Regulatory Reforms, enabling PPP in infrastructure and energy sectors, Industry-Government Partnership in R&D and Innovation among others.

Clearly, the next generation of reforms will require deep engagement with the States, particularly for factor reforms. In this context, this year CII developed 'State Strategy Reports' for Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, and West Bengal, outlining each State's economic vision and a detailed roadmap for its achievement. The high levels of engagement of CII and its regions will reduce frictions in the ecosystem and drive consensus in implementing economic reforms with the State Governments.

While government policies are enablers, the role of Indian industry to drive sustainable and equitable growth remains core to CII's endeavours. CII's Business Outlook surveys augur well for growth, investments and employment plans. Our new 'CII Economic Activity Index' which combines data from 21 high frequency economic indicators, offers a proprietary monthly assessment of the country's economic performance and estimates that India will remain on its high growth path.

Integrating with global value chains, which account for about 70% of international trade, is a key growth driver. I am, therefore, happy to note the growing global interest in India and the expansion of CII's international activities to make Indian industry globally competitive. During the year, we had the opportunity to interact with heads of state and leaders of several countries, including Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, Sri Lanka. The delegation from the EU included the President and almost all of her Commissioners, while the Latin America and Caribbean delegation had leaders from 8 of their nations. The hosting of the Global Economic Policy Forum showcased thought leadership and the emergence of India as the credible voice of the Global South. The impetus seen in concluding BTAs with several countries reflects positively for the growth of Indian industry and its deeper integration into global value chains.

It was a privilege for the CII annual delegation to the UK to meet with Rt Hon Keir Starmer, Prime Minister, and for the CII Singapore Core Group to meet with H E Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister, apart from meeting senior ministers in both the countries. The conferment of Singapore's Honorary Citizen Award to Tarun Das, our former Director General, was an honour for CII as well, recognizing our 30-year proactive Singapore engagement initiated by him.

To strengthen Indian industry's presence in global markets and forge new collaborations, CII also led delegations to ASEAN, Africa, Australia, Japan, Latin America, Nepal, Qatar, UK, USA and Vietnam. I joined some of these delegations which presented significant opportunities for cross learning and cross-country collaborations. The many international conclaves and interactions in India also served to deepen our external engagement.

Competitiveness of Indian industry, particularly the MSME sector, is the bedrock to secure high growth. CII plays a pivotal role in supporting MSMEs, driving initiatives that empower and elevate these enterprises across various sectors and geographies. An outstanding example of this focus, 'Digital Saksham', has now reached over 3 lakh micro-enterprises across 13 States over 3 years, empowering them through digital tool adoption.

With a steadfast focus on Innovation and R&D, CII has been actively promoting increased investment in research and development, the creation of a robust R&D ecosystem, and encouraging industry to significantly scale up its innovation capabilities, all crucial for ensuring long-term competitiveness and technological leadership.

Sustainability is a core priority of CII, guiding its efforts towards long term environmental, social, and economic wellbeing. Our Centres of Excellence on Sustainable

Development, Green Business, Water and Food and Agriculture have truly emerged as leaders in industry action. This year, specific thrust was brought into climate and water. CII's 'Building Climate Resilience for Indian Industry' study introduced the 'Physical Climate Risk Assessment Framework' to help businesses prioritize adaptation actions across sectors and regions. Moreover, the Indian Green Building Centre crossed 13 billion square feet in green building space during the current year.

Recognising the critical importance of water to industry and communities alike, CII announced the Water Mission, aiming for water neutrality for industry by 2030. Focused initiatives such as water audits, identifying water efficiency opportunities, water footprinting among others were set in motion.

In Agriculture, CII continued to advocate for strengthening farmer aggregation models, with activities focusing on improving procurement efficiency and export

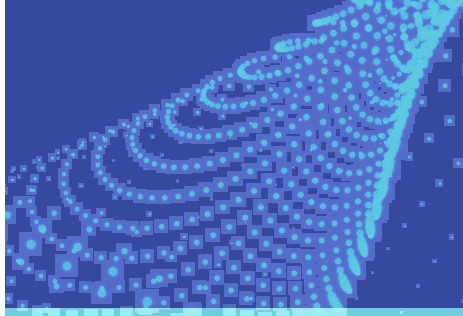
competitiveness in the agrifood sector, and fostering a deeper understanding of carbon markets to promote sustainable value chains. The recent announcement by the government to boost agricultural productivity in 100 less developed districts can be an area where CII can engage and work collaboratively in this comprehensive rural prosperity and resilience programme.

The theme of inclusiveness was manifested in CII's collaboration with the Government to implement the new 'Prime Minister's Internship Scheme' (PMIS), providing technical support in mapping internship opportunities and facilitating offers. Further, CII is working with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship on upgrading 1000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). In partnership with the Government, CII is also supporting the 'Employment-Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme,' focusing on first time employees in the manufacturing sector. The CII Centre for Women's Leadership continued to make

progress in empowering women, while the CII Foundation recognized women leadership at the grassroots.

It was a great honour and privilege to lead CII during this challenging year and experience how working together with Members, we can contribute meaningfully to the growth and development of Indian Industry and the nation at large. The milestones represent sources of satisfaction, while the journey ahead fills me with tremendous excitement and confidence. I wish my successors and industry colleagues a productive year ahead in taking CII's mission forward.

Sanjiv Puri
President, CII
2024-2025



PRESIDENT DESIGNATE'S REPORT

LOOKING AHEAD

I am delighted at this opportunity to reflect on CII's journey through 2024 – 25, and its role in strengthening Indian industry's competitiveness and driving sustainable growth through meaningful policy suggestions and initiatives to build capacity and drive excellence amongst Indian businesses.

During the year, the Finance Minister presented two Union Budgets in July 2024 for the year 24-25 and in February 2025 for the year 25-26. Several important recommendations made by CII such as lowering personal income tax rates and reducing tariff rates were actioned by the Government. These measures reflect CII's vision for a stronger, competitive and a more inclusive economy.

India's long term economic growth requires faster growth in manufacturing and employment generation. In line, CII has made specific policy suggestions to drive growth of labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather and footwear and electronics. In addition, CII also helped in the formulation of the new Capital Goods Policy 2025 and conducted capacity building programmes on smart manufacturing for over 100 companies.

On services side, it focussed on the healthcare sector including on inter-disciplinary collaboration to mitigate the health impacts of climate change, promote sustainable healthcare practices and development of resilient health systems. Under the aegis of the National Medical Technology Forum (NMTF), CII advocated for harmonization of standards and establishment of a separate marketing code for medical devices. Its recommendations on the Tourism sector were well received by the Government.

In addition to manufacturing and services, energy transition and infrastructure development are important enablers of India's long term economic growth. In the renewable energy sector, a rolling plan and capacity reservations were proposed to address supply chain issues in transmission system development. Recommendation was also made to reduce production level requirement for tax loss carry forwards to 20%. Opening PM Gati Shakti portal to the private sector provides private players access to relevant data and maps to aid in project planning.

Technology and R&D remains important pillars of CII's work. While the focus on IPR, design, ICT, and digital transformation and excellence continues, I am happy that new areas of engagement, including AI, gaming and space have taken off well. To establish India as a global satellite manufacturing hub, CII proposed the establishment of dedicated space clusters. Awards, events and expos such as the Bengaluru Space Expo and our flagship IETF, CII has provided industry with the opportunity to showcase progress in these sectors. The engagement on PM's Fellowship for Doctoral Research is increasing every year.

CII's has been for long advocating reforms in the power sector, mining, urban development, financial sector and regulatory frameworks. It was heartening to note the high focus of the Government on these issues.

The CII Centres of Excellence work with objective of enhancing competitiveness of Indian industry, covering a wide spectrum including manufacturing, quality standards, innovation, sustainability, agriculture, and skills.

The 'Trade Enabling Standards Information Portal', launched by the CII Institute of Quality, is a dynamic online platform designed to help Indian industry navigate

standards, regulations, and quality infrastructure. The CII Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Startups continued to conduct capacity building initiatives and market access programmes, among other efforts to support startups.

This year, the CII Green Business Centre (GBC) completed 20 years. It promotes a greener and a healthier India. In addition to record 13 billion sq ft of registered green buildings (making it the 2nd largest globally), GreenPro certified over 10,000 green products from more than 410 manufacturers and over 1200 manufacturing plants were guided in adopting the GreenCo rating.

CII Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence, through the Dairy Investment Accelerator, empowered around 3000 women farmers across Madhya Pradesh. With water management as an urgent task, the CII Water Institute extended its mapping of water resources through its scientific tools. The CII Institute of Logistics capacity building courses have received excellent response from professionals. Likewise, the CII centres on Manufacturing Excellence, Leadership and Competitiveness of SME provide outstanding and relevant learning opportunities for enterprises to drive their competitiveness.

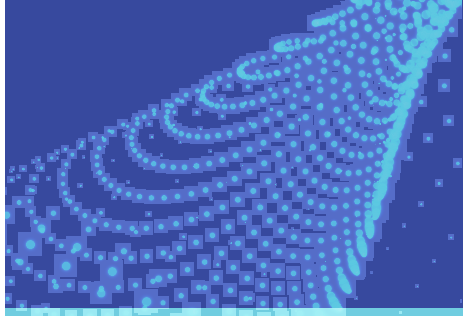
The two new CoEs on Skills and on Employment and Livelihoods got off to a promising start, working with the Central and State Governments for impact at the grassroots.

I am excited at the role that CII plays in contributing to the vision of having a thriving business climate in India driven by innovation, strong collaborations and sustainable growth for the industry and the economy.

I look forward to working with Members to realize this vision.

Rajiv Memani

President Designate, CII
2024-2025



VICE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

REACHING OUT

CII's extensive activities aim to reach out to all regions as well as communities, particularly youth and women. For India to emerge as a developed nation by 2047, it is crucial for all States to progress in tandem. Bridging economic disparities and fostering balanced growth across the country will be key to unlocking India's full potential and ensuring sustainable economic growth development.

CII plays a pivotal role at the regional levels, actively engaging with the industry across States to strengthen the overall business ecosystem. CII continued to collaborate with State Governments to foster sustainable and inclusive growth. This included engaging with State ministers and Government officials and offering recommendations.

A major activity was working with key State Governments on their investment summits and CII participated actively in Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, and others, facilitating roadshows, B2B/B2G meetings, and sectoral sessions for investors.

Sectoral growth was driven through events such as 'AgroTech India – Krishi Bharat 2024', in the Northern Region. Supported by the

Government of Uttar Pradesh and The Netherlands, AgroTech engaged over 100,000 farmers, 3000 FPOs, and 400 business visitors.

For development of North Eastern Region, policy inputs were shared with Government officials from Assam, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura, with recommendations focused on improving logistics and supporting MSME.

CII presented the vision document titled 'Bengal Means Business – Vision for Economic Growth and Inclusivity' at the 'Bengal Global Business Summit'. As the industry partner, CII led a delegation of business leaders to the summit. The Eastern Region also saw many expos, events and seminars

In the Southern Region, CII organized sector specific roundtables and consultations to foster collaboration between industry leaders and key stakeholders. Significant accomplishments include the establishment of 123 committees, task forces, and panels to address industry concerns and offer solutions. Important initiatives were rolled out to strengthen the logistics sector, and industrial zones, and policy recommendations were submitted for manufacturing, MSME development, energy, agriculture, and tourism.

CII Western Region conducted over 190 interactions with State Governments of Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra. Government of Gujarat incorporated CII's inputs into the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Policy and Textile Policy. In Maharashtra, CII's recommendations for the New Industrial Policy are under consideration. A collaboration between CII, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) led to the launch of a Skill Centre in Kandivali, Mumbai, aiming to impact over 50,000 youth and micro entrepreneurs over the next 3 years.

CII continues to be committed to societal development and inclusive growth.

In 2024, the Crop Residue Management initiatives lead by CII Foundation strengthened in-situ (on-field) stubble practices, while focusing on ex-situ (off-field) straw management. This included promoting use of biomass through bio-palletization, biogas plants, and bio-compost.

In 2024, Young Indians (Yi) celebrated 22 years of fostering excellence and collaboration, reaching out to over 7,000 members. Through its 27 regional chapters, the Indian Women Network (IWN) continued to create a supportive ecosystem and launch initiatives to empower women in becoming stronger professionals and achievers.

The CII Foundation continued promoting economic inclusion and self-reliance for underserved communities through skill training, career guidance, and outreach programmes in educational institutes and local communities across Chhindwara in Madhya Pradesh, Vadodara in Gujarat, Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and Sikkim.

Empowering Members is integral to all of CII's efforts. CII's Membership Services are shaped by continuous dialogue and feedback. Through the 'Outreach Initiative,' CII engaged Members both virtually and through in-person interactions. Additionally, participants from Member companies attended 153 Member Meets across 61 locations

to enhance outreach and engagement. A new milestone was achieved as CII facilitated over 10,000 B2B meetings, enabling networking among domestic and international participants. The new initiative of CII Marketplace, bringing together businesses for concrete opportunities, is also expanding rapidly.

In my upcoming role as President Designate, I look forward to leading meaningful initiatives that drive growth, innovation, and sustainable progress of our nation.

R Mukundan

Vice President, CII
2024-2025

CII ANNUAL SESSION 2024

Co-Creating the Future Responsibly: Role of Business

India has set an ambitious goal of becoming a developed country by 2047. The CII Annual Business Summit held around the theme 'Co-Creating the Future Responsibly: Role of Business' on 17-18 May in New Delhi, brought together leaders and key stakeholders to chart the roadmap for the country's path towards a developed nation. Sessions were curated to cater to a range of topics to holistically address growth and development.



KEY TRACKS



Growth and
Development



India and
the World



Employment
and Livelihood



Green
Economy



Startups and
New Age
Businesses



Advanced
Technology
and Innovation







CII THEME FOR 2024-25

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE INDIA: PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

The world economy is experiencing a marked slowdown, the third consecutive year of sluggish growth momentum, projected at 3.1 per cent in 2024. India stands resilient as the fastest-growing large economy for the fourth consecutive year, with an expected growth rate of 7.2 per cent in 2024-25. India's economic resurgence has emerged as a beacon of hope and opportunity, driven by the collective efforts of the Government, Industry, academia, and society.

As a key pillar of the Indian economy, Industry across sectors is positioned beyond being an engine of commerce to act as a dynamic catalyst of change. India Inc. is weaving a narrative of inclusive growth, empowerment, opportunity for all, and sustainability actions.

In the journey of India's economic resurgence, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has undertaken a key role in facilitating the multifaceted contributions of the Indian Industry, charting a path towards a prosperous and sustainable future. Through its advocacy efforts, Industry competitiveness initiatives, promotion of innovation and technology adoption, and partnerships for sustainability, CII continues to play a transformative part in shaping the future of the nation.

With this backdrop, CII has identified "Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" as its Theme for 2024-25. During this year, it would align its policy recommendations, initiatives, and activities with this overarching framework to facilitate strategic actions for driving India's global competitiveness and growth through a robust and resilient Indian Industry.

JOURNEY TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT

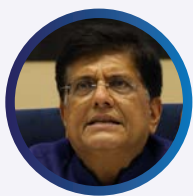
Industry is a strong medium for creating a Viksit Bharat: Prime Minister Narendra Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Conference on 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat' in New Delhi

The 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference' organized by CII presented the outline for the Government's larger vision for growth and the industry's role in this endeavour. More than 1200 participants from the Government, industry, the diplomatic community and think tanks, among others attended the conference. Audiences from over 160 locations in India and over 25 countries worldwide connected virtually.

Amidst a challenging global environment, with many uncertainties, India stands as a beacon of growth and stability, continuing to remain a 'High Growth, Low Inflation' country. The strong macroeconomic fundamentals of the Indian economy make us confident that it will indeed become a developed nation by 2047, highlighted the Prime Minister while addressing the conference.



Piyush Goyal

Minister of Commerce & Industry

“The Government is setting up 12 new industrial parks and 5-6 mega textile parks. We urge the private sector to take advantage of these. Let's work together as a team. CII leads the way—be the change you want to see in India.



Jayant Chaudhary

Minister of State (I/C) for
Skill Development and
Entrepreneurship and Education

“The Union Budget 2024-25 is very forward-looking and not just a statement of accounts, with the Finance Minister emphasizing entrepreneurship, youth, education and skilling. We need to facilitate and build an ecosystem that makes skills aspirational for our youth.



Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (I/C) for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Education with CII leadership and leaders from the industry and Government at the Conference on 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat' in New Delhi



Sanjiv Puri

President, CII and
Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd



The PLI scheme has been a powerful driver of growth and many sectors are performing well under the scheme. Employment-linked schemes and PLI can be linked to make a better impact.



Rajiv Memani

President Designate, CII and Chairman & CEO -
EY India & Chair – EY Growth Markets Council



Laws and compliances are in good shape for the Indian economy and thus for India Inc. India has a higher number of laws and compliances compared to other federal countries ensuring a stable and secure environment for businesses to thrive and innovate.



R Mukundan

Vice President
CII and Managing Director & CEO of Tata Chemicals Ltd



There is a requirement of 400,000 skilled professionals outside India, especially in Japan. To address this, we need to expand beyond the current limitation of 100 companies. Focusing on skilling India will help us meet global demands and enhance our workforce's capabilities.



Chandrajit Banerjee

Director General
Confederation of Indian Industry



The Government has consistently recognized the importance of partnerships, viewing Industry as an essential driver of wealth creation and livelihood opportunities. We have been collaborating with Government on skilling and are excited about the potential for Industry in advancing skill development and capacity building



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS: KEY EXAMPLES





POLICY ADVOCACY



- ▶ Economic Policy and Research
- ▶ Ease of Doing Business
- ▶ Governance Reforms
 - Corporate Governance and Regulatory Affairs
 - Judicial Reforms and Legal Services
- ▶ Financial Reporting
 - Legal Services
 - National Foundation for Corporate Governance (NFCG)
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution
- ▶ Public Policy
- ▶ Taxation

ECONOMIC POLICY AND RESEARCH

The year 2024 saw global uncertainties continuing to affect growth prospects worldwide. Despite these, India maintained robust economic performance, demonstrating its inherent potential and resilience. However, the economy seemed to be transitioning to a more stable growth rate after three years of very high growth.

CII continued to deepen its engagement with Government, industry leaders, economists, and experts towards shaping economic policies. The agenda centred around accelerating India's journey of becoming Viksit Bharat, fortifying macroeconomic stability and focusing on reforms to fully leverage India's strengths for long term sustained high growth.

Policy advocacy efforts covered a wide range of critical areas, including implementing next-generation reforms, devising strategies to manage inflation while promoting growth, mitigating external economic shocks, boosting employment and investments, advancing infrastructure development, and strengthening overall competitiveness of the Indian economy.



Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs and Chair, Global Economic Policy Forum 2024 at the Global Economic Policy Forum in New Delhi

Global Economic Policy Forum 2024

Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, delivered the Vision Address at the 'Global Economic Policy Forum 2024'. Organized in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the forum deliberated on the theme 'Decadal Priorities for the Global Economy'. Discussions centered around 6 tracks, including economic growth, resilience, global cooperation, inclusion, sustainability, and technology and innovation. The forum hosted 22 sessions addressed by 93 speakers, from both India and overseas.

CII ARTHA

ARTHA, CII's quarterly publication, offers an indepth analysis of the latest macroeconomic trends and topical economic issues. In 2024, ARTHA covered themes such as 'India's Growth Prospects' and 'Priorities of the New Government: Playbook for Sustaining High Growth'. The journal featured contributions from eminent policymakers and industry thought leaders.

Election Manifesto

General Elections for the Lok Sabha were held in 2024. A Model Election Manifesto, with suggestions on various aspects of the Indian economy and sustaining high growth with inclusivity, was released by CII.

Agenda for the New Government

CII's 'Agenda for the New Government: For Next Phase of Economic Transition' encompassed a set of policy suggestions to help set the tone for the new Government. The agenda, prepared in extensive consultation with Members, focused on addressing the short-term challenges and charting out a long-term roadmap for achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII; Tuhin Kanta Pandey, then Finance Secretary and then Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance; Moosa Zameer, Minister of Finance, Republic of Maldives; Nirmala Sitharaman; Lyonpo Lekey Dorji, Minister of Finance, The Royal Government of Bhutan; Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd; and R Dinesh, Immediate Past President, CII and Executive Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd at the Global Economic Policy Forum in New Delhi

CII Proposals for Union Budget 2024-25

Due to the General Elections, the first full Union Budget for 2024-25 by the new Government was presented in July 2024. CII, as every year, presented policy recommendations ahead of the Budget, focusing on medium-term growth, fiscal prudence, inflation management, employment generation, ease of doing business, technology development, innovation, and sustainable development.

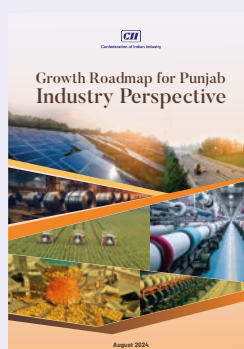
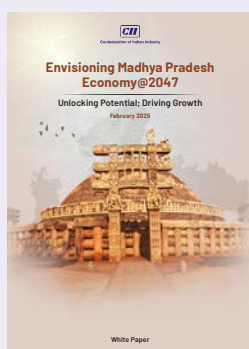
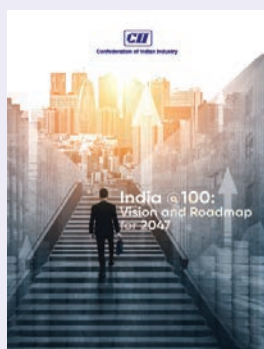
Viksit Bharat@2047

The CII report 'A Roadmap to Viksit Bharat by 2047' outlined the vision for a developed India by the 100th year of independence. The report projects the growth trajectory of India's economy and offers policy suggestions for achieving a USD 38 trillion economy by 2047.

State Reports

India's States play a crucial role in the country's growth path by leveraging their unique regional strengths. CII prepared reports for Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, and West Bengal. These State reports provide an assessment of their macroeconomic and industrial landscape, long-term growth potential, and sector specific challenges.

A CII-Government of Andhra Pradesh Task Force, chaired by Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, was constituted to prepare the vision for 'Swarna Andhra Pradesh 2047'. The aim is to drive substantial growth, attract investments, and position the State as a leader in economic advancement. A first draft was prepared in consultation with industry and the Government of Andhra Pradesh.





Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, at the Global Economic Policy Forum in New Delhi

Economic Activity Index (EAI)

The 'CII-Economic Activity Index' (EAI), featured in the monthly report 'Economy: As We See It', offers a comprehensive evaluation of India's macroeconomic performance and trends. It integrates data from 21 high-frequency indicators spanning production, demand, monetary metrics, prices, external factors, and other key areas.

CII Business Outlook Survey

The 'Business Outlook Survey' assesses the current business sentiment in the country. Conducted every quarter, across various industry sectors and groups, the survey offers valuable insights into business confidence, investment plans, and the overall economic outlook.

Survey on Private Investments

To understand the current state and future outlook of private investments, a dipstick survey was conducted with select CII Members. The results revealed that a majority of participating firms view the present economic environment to be conducive to private investment, with most firms expressing optimism about ramping up investments in the 2nd half of the fiscal year 2024-25.

One Nation One Election

CII expressed support for the 'One Nation One Election' (ONOE) proposal in a presentation to the High-Level Committee chaired by Shri Ram Nath Kovind, former President of India. CII believes that holding simultaneous elections to synchronize electoral cycles at the Central and State levels will bring economic benefits, enhance governance efficiency and foster economic development.

Special Interactions

Special sessions were organized with Prof Krishnamurthy V Subramanian to launch his book 'India@100: Envisioning Viksit Bharat 2047'. The book charts India's path as it marches towards 2047.

Eminent economist, Prof Larry Summers, Former US Treasury Secretary and Charles W Eliot University Professor and President Emeritus at Harvard University, addressed participants on the topic 'Goeconomics and its Implications on the Indian Economy'.

CII continued to collaborate with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on policy reforms and fostering public private dialogue to advance financial stability and innovation. An interactive session with Shri Shaktikanta Das, then Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, gave business leaders in the USA an opportunity to understand India's pro-growth policies and favourable investment environment.

Mr R Dinesh, Immediate Past President, CII and Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions led a CII delegation to Mexico accompanying Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs. The visit was aimed at boosting bilateral trade and investment, strengthening business ties, and exploring new opportunities in mobility and digital solutions. Discussions also focused on enhancing MSME collaboration to better integrate into global supply chains.

Measuring India's Digital Economy (MIDE) Project

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) initiated a study for 'Measuring India's Digital Economy' (MIDE). CII supported Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations (ICRIER) in conducting the study by seeking information and data from Members. The study is a first of its kind in India and even globally, only a handful of such studies have been carried out.

CII Proposals for the Union Budget 2025-26

The Union Budget was set against the backdrop of slowing growth, driven by several factors, including global uncertainties, slow recovery in global growth, slowdown in global trade, slowing domestic demand, high interest rates, etc.



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee; Dr V Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to Government of India; Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Sanjiv Puri at the Global Economic Policy Forum in New Delhi

CII's suggestions, aimed at addressing these challenges, covered areas such as increasing consumption, generating quality employment, boosting Indian industry's competitiveness. Sector specific suggestions were focused on building human capital for the 21st century, facilitating climate transition and adaptation, among others.

The recommendations were presented during a series of meetings with senior Government officials and policy makers as well as during consultations with Smt Nirmala Sitharaman.

Following the presentation of the Budget on February 1, CII organized a 'Post Budget Interactive Session with Ministry of Finance'. The session elaborated on

Budget proposals and partnership with industry and was addressed by senior officials from Ministry of Finance, including Mr Tuhin Kanta Pandey, then Finance and Revenue Secretary; Mr Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs; Mr M Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services; Dr Arunish Chawla, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM); Dr V Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India; Mr Ravi Agarwal, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT); Mr Sanjay Agarwal, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC); Mr Vivek Ranjan, Member (Customs), CBIC; Mr Raman Chopra, Joint Secretary (TPL-I), CBDT; and Mr Pankaj Jindal, Joint Secretary (TPL-II), CBDT.



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee; Sanjay Agarwal, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Ministry of Finance; Dr Arunish Chawla, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), Ministry of Finance; M Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance; Tuhin Kanta Pandey, then Finance and Revenue, Secretary, Ministry of Finance; Ajay Seth; Dr V Anantha Nageswaran; Ravi Agarwal, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance, and Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman and CEO - EY India and Chair - EY Growth Markets Council at the Interactive Session on Union Budget 2025 - 26 in New Delhi

KEY CII BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS AND BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS 2025-26

CII Recommendations	Budget Announcements
Economic Reforms	
CII recommended constitution of GST like Councils to carry forward reforms in areas which are in state or concurrent domain.	The Budget aims to initiate transformative reforms across 6 domains: taxation, power sector, urban development, mining, financial sector, and regulatory frameworks. The reforms in concurrent domains envisage active engagement with the States.
Macro Economy	
Bring the fiscal deficit down to 4.5% of GDP in 2025-26.	The fiscal deficit for 2025-26 is kept at 4.4% of GDP.
Lay out a glide path to reduce the Central Government's Debt-to-GDP ratio to 50% by 2030-31.	Central Government's Debt-to-GDP ratio to be brought down to about 50 ± 1% by March 31, 2031.
Launch National Monetization Pipeline (NMP) 2.0 for the period 2026 to 2030 with a target of INR 10 lakh crore.	National Monetization Pipeline 2.0 was announced for 2025-30 with target of INR 10 lakh crore.
Agriculture and Allied Activities	
Build rural infrastructure such as irrigation, storage facilities for agricultural and allied activities to aid economic activity.	The proposed 'Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' would, among others, augment post-harvest storage and improve irrigation facilities.
Improve farmers' access to markets and finance.	The loan limit taken through the Kisan Credit Cards will be enhanced from INR 3 lakh to INR 5 lakh.
Manufacturing	
To generate employment at scale, initiate targeted sectoral interventions for sectors with significant employment potential, such as textiles, footwear & leather, and toys.	Targeted interventions were announced for textiles, footwear & leather, and toys.
Education	
Take a focussed approach to promote STEM courses in schools.	50,000 Atal Tinkering Labs will be set up in Government schools.
Facilitate digital learning for all students. Promote research in academic institutions.	Broadband connectivity will be provided to all Government secondary schools in rural areas. 10,000 fellowships will be offered for technological research in IITs and IISc.
Tourism	
Grant infrastructure status to hotels delinked from geographical or population criteria.	Hotels in top 50 tourist destinations will be included in the Infrastructure Harmonized List.
MSMEs	
Amend the definition of MSMEs at suitable intervals every 3-5 years.	Investment and turnover limits for MSME classification to be enhanced.
Enhance credit access for MSMEs.	Several measures were announced to enhance credit access to MSMEs.

Technology, Innovation and R&D

Operationalize the INR 1 lakh crore corpus announced earlier for promoting R&D in private sector.

In the Budget, INR 20,000 crore is allocated for the scheme.

Ease of Doing Business

Continue to Rationalize the regulatory compliance burden for industry.

A high level committee for regulatory reforms to be set up for review of all non-financial sector regulations, certifications, licenses and permissions.

Continue with decriminalization of minor offenses.

The Government is working on the Jan Vishwas Bill 2.0 to decriminalize more than 100 provisions in various laws.

Labour Welfare

Launch a scheme towards providing insurance coverage to gig workers.

Gig workers will be provided healthcare coverage under PM Jan Arogya Yojana.

Skill Development

Establish Centres of Excellence for skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling, including in technologies such as AI.

Five National Centres of Excellence for Skilling and 1 Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence for education will be set up.

Infrastructure

Allow private sector appropriate access to the Gati Shakti portal to provide better visibility on infrastructure projects, helping them plan future projects.

Budget announced that private sector will be provided access to relevant data and maps through the PM Gati Shakti portal.

Energy

CII suggested several measures to promote nuclear energy in the country.

Budget announced a number of initiatives for small nuclear reactors, including by the private sector

Taxation

Lowering income tax slab rates for individuals in the lower and middle income groups was suggested.

Budget announced major changes in personal income taxes. No income tax payable up to income of INR 12 lakh under the new tax regime.

Measures are required for rationalization of withholding taxes.

Government has proposed measures for TDS/TCS rationalization for easing the related difficulties.

Tariff structure to be rationalized to address duty inversion and promote exports.

Effective import duty provided through specific notifications to be tweaked in the tariff for ease of doing business.

Remove Social Welfare Surcharge to reduce import duty impact.

Social Welfare Surcharge has been removed from 82 tariff items.

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

Momentum in supporting the Government's efforts to enhance the country's Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) ecosystem was driven under the aegis of the Task Force on EoDB. Several collaborative efforts were undertaken along with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the designated nodal department of the Government of India to promote EoDB. CII also deliberated on policy matters with the Cabinet Secretariat, the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC), NITI Aayog, Union Ministry of Law and Justice, and State Governments, among others.

ADVOCACY

Structural reform proposals were advocated through the 'Government-CII Task Force on EoDB', chaired by Secretary, DPIIT, with representation of 9 key line ministries, select industry leaders and experts. Suggestions were made in 4 broad areas: minimizing regulatory compliance burden, ease of paying taxes, decriminalization of minor offences, and strengthening the contract enforcement mechanism. Presentations were also made to the NITI Aayog and the PMEAC on some of these challenges. The need for adherence to timelines for Government permissions, streamlining environmental clearances and improving trade facilitation were also emphasized.

The 'Regulatory Compliance Portal' (RCP), overseen by the Cabinet Secretary of India, invited suggestions for reducing the industry's compliance burden. Majority of CII suggestions submitted on the portal were favourably considered by the Government.

Several representations on EoDB were submitted to the Cabinet Secretary. CII played a pivotal role in shaping the States' EoDB agenda for discussion during the Chief Secretaries' Conference.

ACTION

To help improve India's ranking in the upcoming B-Ready survey of the World Bank on EoDB, CII supported DPIIT in organizing workshops in different parts of the country. The objective was to sensitize firms about the survey, with a particular focus on their experiences in accessing Government services.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, addressed the 2nd edition of 'DPIIT-CII National Conference on Ease of Doing Business'. Sessions with senior policy makers at the conference resulted in a comprehensive list of policy suggestions, which included implementation of a centralized platform to allow businesses to access necessary documents and services and alignment of Indian standards with globally accepted benchmarks.

A landmark initiative during the year was the inauguration of the 'CII EoDB & Regulatory Portal' by Shri Piyush Goyal. The platform allows CII Members to upload suggestions on reducing compliance burden and track progress on inputs through a dynamic personalized dashboard.



Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry at the 2nd DPIIT – CII National Conference on Ease of Doing Business in New Delhi

GOVERNANCE REFORMS

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

CII encouraged industry towards sustainable long term value creation and continued business success by adopting sound governance practices. The CII Corporate Governance Council and the CII National Committee on Regulatory Affairs engaged with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Competition Commission of India (CCI) with an aim to streamline and simplify the regulatory framework for ease of compliance by industry.

ADVOCACY

In view of the need to effectively regulate industry and to keep pace with the dynamic business environment, the Government is working on continuously evolving the Companies Act, 2013 and SEBI Laws.

Engagement with Ministry of Corporate Affairs

As part of the 100 day agenda for the newly formed Government, detailed representations were made aimed at enabling further easing of regulations under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). Discussions with the MCA revolved around matters pertaining to IEPF; resolution of technical glitches in the e-filing

system; decriminalization of offences, and PM Internship Scheme, among others. Inputs were shared on the Draft CCI Rules on Exempted Combinations, Green Channel and Draft Digital Competition Bill.

Engagement with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Suggestions were made to SEBI on the 'Consultation Paper on Recommendations of the SEBI Expert Committee' to facilitate ease of doing business and for harmonization of ICDR and LODR Regulations. CII shared industry's views on SEBI's Consultation Papers on:

- Proposed review of the definition of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI) under SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015
- Proposed amendments to the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 to rationalize the scope of the expression 'connected person'
- Framework for Price Discovery of Shares of Listed Investment Companies & Listed Investment Holding Companies.

As a member of SEBI's Industry Standards Forum (ISF), CII contributed to the formulation of industry standards for effective implementation of the requirement to verify market rumours under



(L-R): Dr K Nandakumar, Chairman, CII Maharashtra State Council & Chairman and Managing Director, Chemtrols Industries Pvt Ltd; Ravneet Kaur, Chairperson, Competition Commission of India; Zia Mody, Chairperson, CII National Committee on Regulatory Affairs and Co-Founder & Managing Partner, AZB & Partners; and John Khiangte, Executive Director, Global Public Policy, Disney Star India at the Annual Conference on Competition Law and Practice in Mumbai



(L-R): R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO, Tata Chemicals Ltd; K V Kamath, Non-Executive Chairman, Jio Financial Services Ltd; Sanjiv Bajaj, Past President, CII & Chairman, CII Corporate Governance Council and Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd; and Krishnava Dutt, Managing Partner, Argus Partners at the CII Governance Series: Breakfast Session with K V Kamath in Mumbai

Regulation 30(11) of SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015 and ISF Standard on BRSR Core to be followed by listed entities. CII provided suggestions on SEBI's Manual on ISF's working to National Stock Exchange (NSE), which functions as the ISF's secretariat.

Engagement with Competition Commission of India (CCI)

A representation was submitted on the draft 'CCI Regulations on Manner of Recovery of Monetary Penalty'. Inputs were also shared with CCI on the various frequently asked questions.

Engagement with National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

NCLT is working towards enabling speedy adjudication and a more efficient decision-making process. A form/checklist is being introduced in the e-court system for capturing relevant information from parties filing cases under 'Mergers and Amalgamations' under section 230 to 232 of the Companies Act 2013. Detailed submissions were submitted to the NCLT on the questions in the checklist.

Engagement with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

Policy inputs were submitted to IBBI on various discussion papers including measures on issues related to real estate and mediation by operational creditors before initiating an application u/s 9 before the Adjudicating Authority; proposed changes to IBBI (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons)

Regulations, 2016 to address the issues adversely affecting efficiency and effectiveness of corporate insolvency resolution process.

ACTION

Thought leaders deliberated upon the latest trends on corporate governance during interactive sessions with CEOs under the 'CII Governance Series' as well as at the 'Annual Corporate Governance Summit'. A closed-door interaction of industry members was organized with the SEBI Chairperson.

Key aspects related to independent directors and board evaluation were deliberated upon during the sessions on 'CII Guidelines on Appointment of Independent Directors and Process of Board Evaluation'.

The 'Annual Competition Law Conference' organized by CII was led by the Chairperson, Competition Commission of India. Discussions on the 'Report of the Committee on Digital Competition Law' and various aspects of the 'Draft Digital Competition Bill' were discussed during a virtual roundtable.

Following publications were curated to promote good governance among corporates:

- Guidelines on Appointment of Independent Directors and Process of Board Evaluation
- Corporate Governance Charter for Startups
- The DPDP Act and Enterprises in India: Privacy for the Board
- ESG Guidebook and Ready Reckoner for Board of Directors



(L-R): Sanjiv Bajaj; Madhabi Puri Buch, then Chairperson, SEBI; R Dinesh, then President, CII and Executive Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the CII 17th Corporate Governance Summit in Mumbai

The Committee on Regulatory Aspects of Financial Sector discussed the need for assessing and optimizing regulatory approaches and shaping regulatory frameworks for technology in the financial sector with a focus on AI and RegTech.

JUDICIAL REFORMS

The CII Task Force on Judicial Reforms engaged with the Government on judicial reforms, legal issues, and decriminalization. Deliberations were focused on decriminalizing laws, providing speedier resolution of disputes, de-clogging the judicial system and realigning practices with global standards. Efforts were made to bring actionable solutions for a speedy justice delivery system, further decriminalization of offences, to reduce the load of court cases and to increasingly enhance trust-based governance for ease of living and ease of doing business.

ADVOCACY

Following interactions with the Government, a representation on 'Decriminalization of Offences' was submitted covering 39 laws. As a member of the Working Group for Decriminalization of Legislations, CII engaged with the Government on Jan Vishwas 2.0 suggesting further decriminalization of laws on a principle-based approach derived out of the principles followed in the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023. A presentation on the matter made to the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Committee (PMEAC), outlined the statutes recommended for decriminalization under Jan Vishwas 2.0. Illustrative examples of provisions recommended for decriminalization, key drivers to support decriminalization and the need for addressing pendency of cases through decriminalization were also shared.



(L-R): Mohit Bahl, Partner and Head, National Risk Management, KPMG In India; R Mukundan; Sanjiv Bajaj; and Krishnav Dutt, at the CII Governance Series in Mumbai

FINANCIAL REPORTING

CII National Committee on Financial Reporting built continuous dialogues with Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Stock Exchanges, global professional accounting bodies and other regulatory bodies to strengthen the country's corporate reporting ecosystem.

ADVOCACY

Issues related to streamlining the regulatory architecture and enabling EoDB in financial reporting, including Indian and International Reporting Standards, were highlighted to the policy makers. Best practices and emerging trends in corporate financial reporting were discussed with global accounting bodies such as the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

CII's evaluation of the revised 'OECD Principles of Corporate Governance' focused on the future roadmap for SEBI disclosures in India and its effort on

corporate reporting. NFRA was urged to streamline the responsibility of group auditors and consider shared responsibility of component auditors as well as preserve the interest of small audit firms in India.

Impact of MCA's notification of applicability of Ind AS 117 mandating insurance companies to redefine recognition, measurement and reporting of financial statements was explained to the policy makers. In response, MCA and NFRA deferred its applicability for insurance companies. New and emerging intangible assets in the light of India's transition into a digital economy were not envisaged when IAS 38 Intangible Assets was developed. With high economic interest embedded in this issue, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation was urged to review the standard.

Key policy work was undertaken on ISF on KPIs, research on valuation of New Age Technology Company (NATC), and the issue of audit trail. Recommendations were made on the Expert Committees' findings on EoDB with respect to BRSR, SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015 and SEBI ICDR Regulations.



(L-R): Robin Banerjee, Past Chairman, CII Maharashtra State Council and Chairman, Nucleon Research Pvt Ltd; Mark Billington BFP FCA, Managing Director International, ICAEW; N Venkatram, Chairman, CII National Committee on Financial Reporting and Partner, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP; Dr Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey, Chairperson, NFRA and CA Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal, President, ICAI at the Conference on Financial Reporting & Governance Framework: Building Trust held in Mumbai

ACTION

Deliberations at the 'Conference on Financial Reporting & Governance Framework: Building Trust' focused on issues pertinent to Indian and global corporate reporting. The 'CII NFRA Joint Workshop for Independent Directors' was organized during the year. Key challenges discussed included the role of the Board and committees in quality financial reporting and risk governance.

LEGAL SERVICES

CII National Committee on Legal Services undertakes policy advocacy on legal reforms and paves the way for a robust legal framework in the country by providing stakeholders platform for deliberations.

ACTION

Role of corporate sector in economic development was discussed during the 'CII Legal Services Conclave'. Webinars organized through the year created awareness on legaltech, 3 new Criminal Laws in India, and challenges, opportunities and best practices for arbitrators.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (NFCG)

NFCG was set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), in partnership with CII and other institutions. These include MCA, CII, Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICoAI), National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and accredited institutions such as National Centre for

Corporate Governance (NCCG). The foundation plays a critical role in promoting sound corporate governance culture among corporates in the country. The endeavour is to build capacity of corporate professionals by conducting academic research and promoting voluntary adoption of corporate governance as the key to sustainable wealth creation. Since 2003, more than 425 programmes and 60 research projects have been conducted in areas related to corporate governance. In 2024, NFCG undertook 15 research projects and events.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

CII advocates for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as a practical and efficient means to resolve disputes outside the traditional litigation system. Efforts are underway to establish an institutional forum that meets international standards, leveraging advanced technology to deliver ADR services. This initiative will foster mutual trust and active engagement among parties involved in disputes.

ACTION

To enhance the robustness and effectiveness of the ADR system, a session was organized around 'Reshaping the Future of ADR in India through Integration of Technology and Institutional Arbitration'. The keynote address focused on the importance of integrating technology into dispute resolution to accelerate the process and transform the justice delivery framework, ushering in a new era of efficiency and accessibility. It also emphasized the critical need for robust regulatory frameworks to address data privacy and cybersecurity, and ensure secure and reliable ADR mechanisms.



(L-R): Dipen Sabharwal KC, Partner, White & Case LLP, UK; Parnika Chaturvedi, Partner, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, UAE; Dr Lalit Bhasin, Advocate FCI Arb and President, Society of Indian Law Firms; Dr T K Viswanathan, Former Law Secretary and Chairperson of Expert Committee to Examine the Working of Arbitration Law, Ministry of Law & Justice; Dr Shardul Shroff, Executive Chairman, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co; Gourab Banerji, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Overseas Associate, Essex Court Chambers, UK and Phillip D'Costa, Partner, Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, UK at CII Annual Business Summit 2024 in New Delhi

PUBLIC POLICY

Through the public policy initiatives, CII facilitates dialogue on national and global issues, briefing Members of Parliament and political leaders on economic and industry trends while fostering consensus on key policies. Engagement includes interactions with political parties, MPs from both Houses, and state legislators. CII also organizes regional, national, and international conferences on development themes and arranges parliamentary missions to engage with global stakeholders. These efforts are aimed at strengthening policy advocacy and promoting informed decision making for economic and social progress.

ADVOCACY

Manifesto for General Elections and Assembly Elections.

General elections to the 18th Lok Sabha held in 2024 witnessed Shri Narendra Modi becoming the Prime Minister of India 3rd time in a row. Elections were also held to vote in the Assemblies of 8 States. CII prepared model Election Manifestos in partnership with each State and shared these with respective parties. At the national level too, suggestions for election manifesto were submitted to 52 political parties.

ACTION

Engagement with Parliamentarians

CII engaged with Parliamentarians individually and collectively. Interactive sessions with Parliamentarians were organized by 8 of CII's State Councils during the 1st session of 18th Lok Sabha. Parliamentarians participated in these sessions on policies for economic and industrial development. CII also engaged with more than 283 MPs during the year through one on

one meetings. A networking dinner was organized for Parliamentarians on the sidelines of the 'CII Annual Tourism Summit'.

CII Parliamentarians Delegation to Japan

A Parliamentarians delegation to Japan was organized along with Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan. The delegation comprised of 4 MPs representing 4 different political parties including Bhartiya Janata Party, TDP Parliamentary Party, Voice of the People Party and Samajwadi Party. The delegation held interactions with 25 MPs and 5 Ministers of Japan India Parliamentarians Friendship League led by Mr Nishimura, former PM, Mr Suga as well as the LDP leaders, Mr Moriyama and Mr Onodera. The delegation visited Tokyo Electron at the semiconductor hub in Kumamoto, a model high school and interacted with Governor of Kumamoto Prefecture, Mr Kimura.



✓
Takashi Kimura, Governor of Kumamoto Prefecture with Indian Parliamentarians Delegation organized by CII in Tokyo, Japan

TAXATION

The CII National Committee on Taxation, together with its subgroups on direct and indirect taxes, maintained active engagement with both the Government and industry stakeholders. The focus was on assisting Members and addressing key taxation challenges facing the industry. The Government accepted many of CII recommendations on critical issues, with several others being considered favourably by the policy makers.

ADVOCACY

In view of the General Elections, two Union Budgets were presented during 2024-25, one in July 2024 and another in February 2025. Detailed suggestions were submitted on taxation before both sessions. Given the Government's fiscal constraints, CII's suggestions for Union Budget on Direct Taxes did not recommend any significant deductions/ exemptions.

The Government was urged to address income tax disputes pendency at the First Appellate level, as well as to strengthen alternate dispute resolution mechanisms such as Advance Pricing Agreement (APA) and Board for Advance Ruling (BAR).

The inclusion of amounts payable to MSEs in section 43B of the Finance Act, to promote timely payments to such entities, has proven counterproductive with

many larger private sector companies preferring to buy from non-MSEs. It was suggested that this amendment either be rolled back or redrafted to achieve the desired objectives.

Detailed suggestions on Ease of Paying Taxes were shared with the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC) in an interactive closed door meeting.

Some of CII's recommendations made in the Post Budget Memorandum on Union Budget 2024-25 were favourably considered in the Finance Act, 2024.

Inputs were submitted to the Committee for Comprehensive Review of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The suggestions were aimed at simplification of language, reduction in compliance, reduction in litigation and elimination of redundant and obsolete provisions.

Submissions were made to the Government on various direct tax issues such as Rationalisation of Rule 9C for renewable energy sector, group taxation regime for infrastructure sector, angel tax, amendment to provisions of Income Tax Act for education sector, taxation on higher pension received by employees, project integrated e-filing and CPC among others.



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII; Ravi Agrawal, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes; Sanjay Malhotra, Then Revenue Secretary, Ministry of Finance; Sanjay Agarwal, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs and Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII, and Chairman and CEO, EY India and Chair, EY Growth Markets Council at Union Budget 2024-25: Interactive Session with Ministry of Finance in New Delhi

Recommendations were submitted to CBIC and GST Council on key GST issues impacting industry. The Government was urged to introduce GST 2.0 reforms, expand input tax credit to cover all business expenses, and centralize assessments and audits for businesses having pan India presence.

For Union Budget 2025-26, a set of general principles was proposed as a guide to the import tariff structure. CII suggested that a roadmap be drawn to strengthen domestic manufacturing and boost export competitiveness.

A digital intervention on continuing automation and digitalization of customs was suggested to policy makers. It was highlighted that this intervention could allow for data sharing with other Government portals to facilitate various documents such as licenses, E-BRC, and Certificate of Origin details as required by the DGFT.

ACTION

Taxation is a major component of 'Business Ready' (B-Ready), a World Bank Group project aimed at international benchmarking and quantitative assessment of the business environment. Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance has formed a working group for expert consultation, to formulate relevant responses on the subject. CII not only participated in the project meetings but also organized outreach

programmes and submitted inputs and suggestions to the Government to achieve the project objectives. Outreach sessions were hosted in Delhi and Hyderabad for perception management of taxpayers on the ease of paying taxes, as a part of India's preparedness for World Bank's B-Ready Project (EoDB) and Ease of Living Index.

Union Budget 2025-26 considered several CII recommendations submitted through the tax proposals. A 'Post Budget Interactive Session 2024-25' was held with officials of the Ministry of Finance. The session on 'Taxation Policy: Facilitating Higher Investment and Economic Growth' held as part of the 'Global Economic Policy Forum 2024' hosted insightful discussions. Key GST and customs related issues formed the agenda of discussions during meetings with CBIC. A series of webinars and seminars were held in collaboration with DGTS, CBIC for deeper deliberations on changes/amendments in the Customs and GST laws.

An interaction on the technical tax aspects of Union Budget was held with officials of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. Senior Government officials highlighted that the underlying theme of trust is visible in every tax proposal. Proposals are focused on certainty and reduced compliances, with an objective to promote ease of paying taxes and economic growth.



(L-R): Vishal Malhotra, Member, CII National Committee on Taxation and Tax Partner, EY India; Pankaj Jindal, Joint Secretary (TPL-II), Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance; Vivek Ranjan, Member (Tax Policy), Central Board of Indirect Taxes, Ministry of Finance; Raman Chopra, Joint Secretary (TPI-I), Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance and Uday Pimprikar, Chairman, CII Core Group on Indirect Taxes and Tax Partner, EY India along with officials from Ministry of Finance at the Union Budget 2024-25: Interactive Session with Ministry of Finance in New Delhi

A GLIMPSE OF CII PUBLICATIONS





International & Business Development



- ▶ India and the World
- ▶ International Trade Policy
- ▶ Exports and Imports
- ▶ International Research
- ▶ MNCs
- ▶ B20 India
- ▶ Trade Fairs

INDIA AND THE WORLD

India has embarked on a new era of economic prosperity that is reshaping its role in the global economy. As one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, India's rise is driven by its ability to lead on innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability.

Despite global headwinds, CII worked with industry to help India align with global economic opportunities. Interactions were organized with several heads of state and Governments in India as well as overseas. A series of conclaves and summits such as the 'India Mediterranean Business Conclave', 'CII India-Africa Business Conclave', 'Partnership Summit', and CII's representation at the 'World Economic Forum' at Davos, among others, imparted visibility to India on the global stage.

CII's international engagement supports Indian companies to tap global opportunities and establish networks abroad. The CII International Council is dedicated to enhancing India's global connections, advocating for the interests of Indian industry in foreign markets, and attracting international investments. CII fosters multi-stakeholder interactions and articulates industry perspectives on bilateral and multilateral economic relations.

AFRICA

To deepen its close engagement and support Indian industry's renewed interest in Africa, the 19th edition of 'CII India Africa Business Conclave' was organized in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. The conclave highlighted Africa's significance as a key market that offers opportunities for Indian industry. The event saw high level participation, including 5 African Vice Presidents, 40 Ministers from 20 African countries, and over 1,200 international delegates from 47 African nations. Key sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, ICT, manufacturing, and energy were explored through sessions featuring over 120 speakers. Highlights included an exhibition with 47 exhibitors, 380 project opportunities from 39 African countries, and more than 780 B2B meetings.

CII led several delegations to Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, and Uganda among others. A business delegation to Malawi and Zimbabwe was organized coinciding with the State Visit of Smt Droupadi Murmu, President of India.



(L-R): Noel Tata, Chairman, CII Africa Committee and Chairman, Tata International Ltd; Gen (Retd.) Dr C G D N Chiwenga, Vice-President, Republic of Zimbabwe; Prosper Bazombanza, Vice President, Republic of Burundi; Jeremiah Kpan Koung, Vice President, Republic of Liberia; Jagdeep Dhankhar, Vice President of India; Muhammad B S Jallow, Vice-President, Republic of The Gambia; Marie Cyril Eddy Boissézon, Vice President, Republic of Mauritius; Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at CII India Africa Business Conclave in New Delhi

AMERICA

North America

An exclusive interaction was organized with Ambassador Katherine Tai, the then United States Trade Representative (USTR) in New Delhi in partnership with Indiaspora. The most current and pressing issues in the US-India bilateral relations were discussed in the presence of H E Eric Garcetti, the then Ambassador of the US to India. Ambassador Tai underscored the easing up of access to capital and supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in both countries, addressing issues around Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and creating sustainable solutions.

CII and USIBC hosted Ambassador Richard Verma, then Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, US Department of State for an exclusive industry session on the 'US-India Partnership: The Way Forward' in New Delhi. CII joined hands with US Chamber to support United States Department of Commerce and Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India to organize the 2nd edition of the 'Innovation Handshake 2.0'.

The Industry Roundtable on Initiative for Critical and Emerging Technologies' (iCET) was held in New Delhi. The iCET represents a landmark agreement between the two countries on emerging technologies such as AI, semiconductors, biotech, and defence innovation. The Track 1.5 'Dialogue on Advanced Materials R&D Forum' was held in New Delhi for U.S. India partnerships in advanced materials research and innovation.

The CEOs' delegation to the US joined the India reception at the 'SelectUSA Investment Summit' at National Harbor, MD. Several dignitaries and senior officials of the Embassy of India in the USA addressed the gathering. A closed-door interaction with

Mr Daleep Singh, the then United States Deputy National Security Advisor (DNSA) for International Economics and a meeting with Ms Reta Jo Lewis, then President and Chair, Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) were held in New Delhi.

Governor Kim Reynolds, Iowa, participated in an industry roundtable while she was in India on a 10-day mission aimed at strengthening Iowa's trade and investment relationship with India. CII in partnership with USIBC organized a networking event and roundtable with Ms Tahesha Way, Lt Governor of New Jersey.

Many other meetings were held with senior officials of the US Government and finance corporations.

Latin America and the Caribbean

During her visit to Mexico, a CEO's delegation accompanied Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The delegation attended the 'India-Mexico Trade and Investment Summit' hosted in partnership with the Indian Embassy in Mexico. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Business Coordination Council of Mexico (CCE) with a view to fostering greater business-to-business interactions and increasing Mexico's sourcing of pharmaceuticals and medical devices from India.

During an interactive session held in New Delhi, H E Mr Carlos Massa Ratinho Jr, Governor of Paraná, Brazil elucidated the vast possibilities for Indian businesses looking to expand their foothold in the Latin America and Caribbean region. A meeting was held in New Delhi with Rt Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, Industry, Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Economic Development, and Investment of the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis, along with the accompanying Government delegation.



Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman & CEO, EY India & Chair, EY Growth Markets Council; Tamarind Murietta, Principal Officer, US Department of Commerce; Arun Venkataraman, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets; Sanjiv, Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry along with dignitaries at the Innovation Handshake 2.0 in New Delhi

The interactive session with the Prime Minister of Jamaica marked a significant step in strengthening economic cooperation and bilateral relations between India and Jamaica.

During an interactive session with H.E. Ms. Diana Elena Mondino, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina, in New Delhi Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Government of India emphasized India's commitment to strengthening economic ties with Argentina.

ASEAN AND OCEANIA

The India-Indonesia CEO Forum convened in New Delhi, with a focus on fortifying ties in critical areas such as food security, manufacturing, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, energy transition, and technology. Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India outlined priority areas for cooperation. Industry leaders emphasized the mutual benefits that both nations can achieve by leveraging their unique strengths, thereby unlocking significant growth opportunities. A CEOs delegation accompanied Shri Piyush Goyal during his visit to Australia. The 'India-Malaysia CEOs Forum' was also hosted with the Minister of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi.

India's trade, economic, and investment relations with Vietnam, a key ASEAN member, have seen significant growth. A 12-member business delegation that visited Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City explored investment opportunities in sectors such as IT/ITES, healthcare, logistics, and construction.

EAST ASIA

The East Asia region continued to show impressive economic resilience, thriving across key sectors despite global challenges like supply chain issues and geopolitical tensions. To mark the 50th anniversary of India Korea diplomatic ties a compendium titled 'India & Republic of Korea – Enduring Business Partnership @ 50 and Beyond' was released during the 'CII Delhi State Annual Session and Business Conference' in New Delhi. The Compendium was curated with support of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, New Delhi and Embassy of India, Seoul along with Kotra-India Korea Business Cooperation Center and KITA.

Over 600 delegates attended the 7th edition of 'India-Korea Business Partnership Forum' in New Delhi. Held in partnership with KITA and Herald Media Group, the forum discussed ways to enhance bilateral trade, which currently stands at around USD 28 billion.

High level discussions were organized for a 'CEOs Delegation to Tokyo' with a view to strengthening economic ties between India and Japan. The delegation was aimed at creating an increasingly interconnected business landscape that supports sustainable growth for both nations. The 13th edition of the 'Asian Business Summit' in Tokyo concluded with a joint statement presented to Mr Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan. Efforts were also made to meet with other leaders to renew cooperation agreements.



(L-R): Datuk Surendran Menon, Hon. Secretary, MIBC; Tan Sri Ir Kuna Sittampalam, President, MIBC; Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India; Sanjiv Puri and Chandrajit Banerjee at the Meeting of the India – Malaysia CEOs Forum in New Delhi

The 'India-Japan Conference on Emerging Technologies in Digital Manufacturing and Services' was hosted in New Delhi in collaboration with JETRO. Attracting over 100 industry representatives from both countries, the conference focused on cutting-edge technologies transforming manufacturing processes.

EUROPE

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India addressed a CEOs delegation from India and the local industry leaders attending the 'India Austria Business Forum' in Vienna during his visit. H E Mr Karl Nehammer, the Chancellor of Austria also shared his insights at the forum.

The India-Germany CEOs' Forum led by CII met Shri Narendra Modi and Mr Olaf Scholz, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany in New Delhi. The CEOs' Forum was held alongside the 'Asia Pacific Conference (APK) 2024'. Both sides underscored the long-standing presence of German businesses in India and Indian businesses in Germany and agreed to work towards deepening their economic and trade linkages.

The 'Spain India Business Summit' was held in Mumbai following the India visit of H E Mr Pedro Sánchez, President of Spain. This was President Sanchez's first

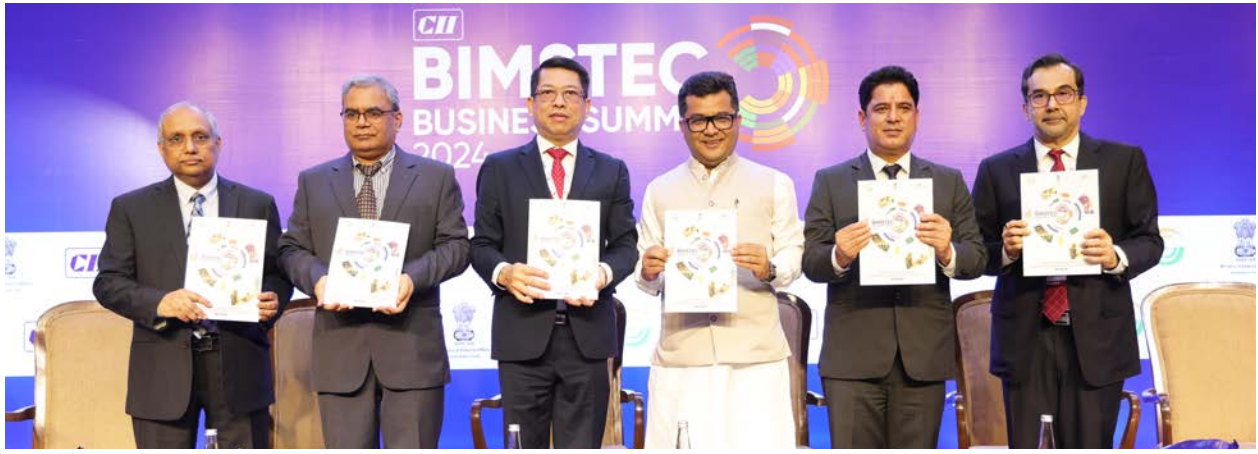
visit to India and the first visit by a President of Spain to India after 18 years. CII supported the Embassy of Spain in India and ICEX (Invest in Spain) in organizing the summit. The 'Business Delegation to Spain' included representatives of industrial clusters of advanced manufacturing, auto components, infrastructure, general engineering and technology. A 'Spain - India Roundtable' was also organized along with Embassy of India in Spain and Spain Chamber of Commerce (CAMARA).

A CII business delegation to Zurich accompanied Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The maiden edition of the 'CII India-Mediterranean Business Conclave' was held in New Delhi in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, (MEA) Government of India. The conclave, addressed by Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, helped to foster collaboration for greater connectivity, inspire trade and investment, and explore new avenues of cooperation between India and the Mediterranean region.

The 'CII CEOs' Delegation to Germany' met Mr Tobias Gotthardt, State Secretary of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Bavaria, Federal Republic of Germany in Munich and discussed several potential areas of collaboration.



Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, along with CII Business Delegation to Zurich



(L-R): Chandrajit Banerjee; Indra Mani Pandey, Secretary-General, BIMSTEC Secretariat; Minn Minn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Myanmar; Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India; Damodar Bhandari, Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Supplies, Government of Nepal; Sanjiv Puri at CII BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi

GULF & MIDDLE EAST

The 'UAE-India Business Forum' was held on the occasion of the visit of His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi in Mumbai. The forum marked a significant event in the bilateral trade relationship between India and UAE. An MoU was signed with the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry during the event. The objective of greater focus on regional cooperation was driven through 'Investopia Global' in Tamil Nadu. This India edition was held in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Guidance, Government of UAE and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

A high-level CEOs' delegation explored possibilities of cooperation and collaboration with Qatari counterparts. The Indian Embassy in Qatar also organized high-level meetings for the visiting CEOs with Government institutions such as the Qatar Free Zone Authority (QFZ), Qatar Financial Centre (QFC), and the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA).

SAARC

The CEOs delegation to Nepal with the 58th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) in Kathmandu. The event was inaugurated by H E Mr Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Prime Minister of Nepal.

Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India addressed the 'BIMSTEC Business Summit' in New Delhi. The summit was held in

partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India. A country session on Sri Lanka and a closed-door session with BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce and Industry was also organized.

Held in partnership with the MEA and support from other national chambers, the 'India-Sri Lanka Business Forum' in New Delhi witnessed participation from H E Mr Anura Kumara Disanayaka, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and other senior ministers.

UK

A high-level delegation to the UK had the privilege of meeting Rt Hon Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of the UK, to discuss a range of areas to strengthen the bilateral economic relationship and apprised him of various CII initiatives. Fruitful meetings were also held with other senior cabinet members.

Industry interactions were organized with the then shadow Deputy Prime Minister of the UK, the then Shadow Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs and the then Shadow Secretary of State for Business and Trade.

During Roundtables in New Delhi and Mumbai, Prof Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum spoke about 4 major transitions the world is witnessing including geopolitical transitions, the 4th industrial revolution, clean economy, and societal polarization. The sessions saw participation of senior industry members from across sectors.



Members of the CII delegation with The Rt Hon David Lammy MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, UK, and The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, UK in London

CII PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT 2024

This year marked the 29th edition of the 'Partnership Summit' held along with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi. The summit, chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India hosted 15 technical sessions, and 4 country sessions. The 7 broad tracks of the summit included trade, future of industrialization, sustainability and climate action, technology and innovation, growth, geoeconomic framework, and inclusion. The summit witnessed participation of 15 overseas ministers, 25 global experts, and over 140 registered international delegates.

DAVOS 2025

CII led a powerful delegation to the 55th 'World Economic Forum Annual Meeting', held under the theme 'Collaboration for the Intelligent Age'. CII's overarching theme at Davos was 'Partner with India Inc: Subscribe to the Future'. The Indian delegation included 5 Ministers of the Government of India –

Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Minister of State Education; Shri Chirag Paswan, Minister of Food Processing Industries; Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Minister of Electronics & Information Technology; Shri K Ram Mohan Naidu, Minister of Civil Aviation; and Shri C R Patil, Minister of Jal Shakti.

The state delegations at Davos were led by Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh; Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Revanth Reddy, Chief Minister of Telangana, and Shri DK Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka. Several other ministers from various states were also present.

The CII WeLead Lounge showcased India's commitment to fostering women's leadership through the Alliance for Global Good – Gender Equity and Equality. Smt Smriti Irani, Founder & Chairperson of the Alliance led an accredited session hosted at the lounge.



(L-R): David Bach, President, IMD Business School, Switzerland; Chandrajit Banerjee; N Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh; N Chandrasekaran, Executive Chairman, Tata Sons and Co-Chair, Task Force on Economic Development for Swarna Andhra Pradesh @ 2047 and G B S Raju, Business Chairman - Airports, GMR Group at the announcement of the CII Centre for Global Leadership on Competitiveness and launch of its brochure at CII-EY Breakfast Session at Davos

INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY

CII disseminates trade-related information and conducts capacity-building sessions to support Members on international trade policy. Inputs on trade issues were submitted to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), Government of India through detailed studies and stakeholder inputs.

ADVOCACY

Amid ongoing India-EU FTA negotiations and recent unilateral regulatory measures by the EU linking trade with sustainability measures, CII submitted to the MoCI a report with actionable policy suggestions on CBAM. Consolidated views of the Members on these issues are also being compiled.

A 'Virtual Industry Stakeholder Consultation on India-EU FTA Negotiations' was organized during the year. The discussions revolved around the services sector with a specific focus on IT/ITES, AVGC, architecture, construction and engineering, and healthcare sectors. The 'Roundtable on the Impact of AI on Services & Vice Versa' highlighted AI's transformative role in enhancing efficiency, optimizing operations, and enabling innovative business models. The discussions also emphasized its role in addressing challenges related to regulatory frameworks, skill development, adoption strategies, and the impact on international trade.

A series of industry stakeholder consultations on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) was held in collaboration with the MoCI and the Centre for WTO Studies. Industry recommendations on Pillar II (Supply Chain) of the IPEF and on Pillar III (Clean Economy) were captured. A detailed report on two critical sectors i.e. automobiles and semiconductor will be submitted in addition to a report on the 'Clean Economy Pillar'.

ACTION

Capacity building initiatives were expanded to address a broader range of topics critical to global trade. Beyond the traditional focus on Free Trade Agreement

(FTA) utilization, these sessions included emerging areas such as the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), Deforestation Regulations, and strategies for internationalization of MSMEs. The 9 sessions organized in cities across the country were complemented by virtual sessions on the IPEF, the impact of AI on services, and India-EU FTA negotiations.

CII partnered NITI Aayog and Government of Punjab for the workshop on 'MSMEs as a Driver of Export Growth: Strategies, Opportunities, and Challenges'. Shri Bhagwant Singh Mann, Chief Minister of Punjab and Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog released a publication on the theme of the workshop, with a focus on Punjab. The publication is curated by CII in collaboration with NITI Aayog.

The Trade Enabling Standards Information Portal was developed jointly with the CII Institute of Quality to equip Indian industry with an understanding of standards.

Topics such as prospects of global government procurement, and outcomes of WTO MC 13 were deliberated upon during virtual sessions. A workshop and conference held in partnership with Amfori was aimed at raising awareness about ESG related issues and equipping Indian industry with tools for compliance.



Bhagwant Singh Mann, Chief Minister of Punjab, along with dignitaries at the workshop on MSMEs As a Driver of Export Growth: Punjab - Strategies, Opportunities, and Challenges in Chandigarh

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

The Government and industry are collectively working towards achieving a target of USD 2 trillion in exports by 2030. The goods and services exports of USD 778 billion achieved in 2023-24 are expected to cross USD 800 billion in 2024-25. During the year, the CII National Committee on EXIM undertook policy advocacy initiatives and created forums to boost exports.

ADVOCACY

- The Government was requested to consider extending the RoDTEP Scheme's benefits for exports of SEZs/EOUs, advance authorization, non-EDI ports, and custom bonded warehouses to sustain India's export competitiveness.
- On an industry request, the Interest Equalization Scheme, which expired on 30 June 2024 was extended only for MSME exporters. A representation was submitted to request a 3 year extension for all companies at the pre-expiry rates, scope and coverage.
- The process to obtain a Certificate of Origin (CoO) from authorized Indian agencies to seek benefits of preferential trade agreements requires extensive documentation, including micro-level costing data and supporting invoice scans. A representation was submitted to seek addressal of this issue and recommendations were made to streamline the certification process and facilitate smoother export operations.
- A representation was submitted to safeguard the interests of India's glass fiber industry by imposing anti-dumping duties and create a level playing field for Indian manufacturers to compete fairly, cover costs, and contribute to sustainable growth.
- Lifts and escalators businesses are unable to claim benefits offered under India's Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the United Arab Emirates. The Government was urged to address the issue of mismatch in Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN) code as well as other anomalies to enable exporters to avail CEPA benefits.

- During the monthly meetings with the Minister of Commerce and Industry, CII put forward several suggestions for sustaining India's export growth.

ACTION

- A forum, formed to create resilient export logistics for trade and connectivity, discussed strategic collaborations and made actionable recommendations to enhance India's global export competitiveness.
- A platform to drive strategic branding of India's exports, BrandEx, discussed actionable strategies to enhance India's global trade presence. Stronger brand recognition, adherence to international quality, adoption of sustainability standards, and trade financing were stressed as being key to India's participation in global value chains.
- The 4th edition of 'CII National Exports Competitiveness Summit' highlighted the need for addressing critical barriers to India's export competitiveness. Some key issues highlighted included infrastructure bottlenecks, logistics challenges, and regulatory hurdles. Strengthening MSME support by improving access to export financing and market intelligence and leveraging India's strengths in the services sector to enhance the global footprint emerged as key levers available for India.



(L-R): Dr Rohit Mehtani, Consultant (International Business & Strategy) and Head (MDP) & Head - Centre for International Negotiations (CIN), IIFT; Narayan Sethuram, Co-Chairman, CII Trade Policy Council and Managing Director, Sanmar Matrix Metals Ltd; Senthil Nathan S, Director, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Sunil Desai, Managing Director, Richfield Engineering India Private Ltd at BrandEX 2024 in New Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

During the year, CII International Research conducted in-depth research and prepared several research papers offering strategic and macroeconomic insights. Country reports curated during the year examined the current trade and investment dynamics between India and key global economies, with an emphasis on strengthening bilateral cooperation and enhancing India's external engagement. The reports highlighted sector specific opportunities for better understanding of economic synergies and deepening economic engagement.

Papers on India's engagement with strategically important regions, including Africa, BIMSTEC economies, and the Mediterranean, highlighted the potential for bilateral trade and investment. While identifying sectors for cooperation, they also made recommendations for further strengthening economic ties.

Research was undertaken to identify fast growing, high potential exports for India during the post-COVID period with a focus on HS-6-digit products. The Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) index and other filters were used to identify exports.

Given the fast changing global geoeconomic and geopolitical framework, international research also worked towards developing India's policy strategy in approaching critical regions such as China and Africa.

This year, a bimonthly newsletter, the 'Geopolitical Monitor' was introduced to capture key geopolitical developments across the world and in India. The monthly 'India Global Update' provided latest developments and data on trade, inward and outward investments, and other key global developments.

Key papers released during the year:

- India-Europe: Dynamic Partnership
- India-Japan: Economic Synergies
- India-Austria: Potential Collaborations on Emerging Opportunities
- BIMSTEC: Industry Partnerships for Deepening Regional Economic Engagement
- India-Malaysia Growing Together
- Pathways for Shared Progress: India-Africa Economic Cooperation
- India and Mediterranean Nations: Crossroads of Commerce
- India-Australia Economic Cooperation
- India-Mexico Economic Engagement: The Next Trajectory
- India-Italy Economic Cooperation



MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES

CII, under the aegis of the National Committee on MNCs, works to promote an increasingly conducive business environment for foreign MNCs in India and to highlight their contribution to the country's growth and development. MNCs from across the globe and sectors such as automotive, engineering, electronics, financial services, chemicals, consumer products/services, hospitality, pharmaceuticals, professional services, among others, come together in this Committee.

ADVOCACY

A wide range of policy and regulatory areas impacting MNCs were pursued during the year. These included:

- Developing a stable and predictable business environment
- Ensuring greater integration of MNCs in India's GVC
- Improving the tax regime
- Providing a thrust to digitization
- Improving the trading ecosystem
- Reducing the regulatory compliance burden.

These issues were pursued with relevant departments and ministries through representations, meetings and deliberations. Suggestions were taken up with authorities at various levels including the Cabinet Secretariat, Prime Minister-EAC, NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance, DPIIT, among others.

During an interactive session, Shri Ajay Seth, Secretary, DEA, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, assured Members that their concerns would be addressed through ongoing engagement and efforts being made towards resolution.

A suggestion was made for developing an integrated framework for industrial, investment, trade, and skilling policies. The Government was also requested to expand the PLI Scheme to sectors such as defence and aerospace. A recommendation was made for implementing a three-tier import duty structure to boost India's role in GVCs.

Other suggestions included streamlining the refund and reimbursement processes; easing environmental clearance; and aligning Indian standards with global benchmarks. The Government was urged to streamline the Advanced Pricing Agreement mechanism to address delays and ensure timely foreign direct investment approvals. Promoting digitalization for enhanced productivity, investing in AI research hubs and fostering industry-academia partnerships were also pursued with the relevant policymakers. Suggestions were made for maximizing the potential of industrial parks and improving Centre-State coordination in areas such as labour, land, and environmental issues.

B20 GLOBAL INSTITUTE

Establishment of the B20 Global Institute, to ensure continuity and impact between successive B20 presidencies, is one of the most significant outcomes of B20 India. Housed in the CII Headquarters, the Institute will bridge the gap between policy recommendations and their implementation through research, advocacy, and capacity building support. Key areas of focus include trade, investment, global value chains, sustainability, digital transformation, and future ready skilling.

ADVOCACY

To ensure that priorities of all economies, especially Global South, are voiced and heard, the Institute worked closely with the CNI B20 Brazil Secretariat. Upon the culmination of the B20 Brazil Presidency in 2024, the B20 Brazil Chair authored an article on 'Outcomes from the B20 Brazil Presidency and Way Forward' for the Institute.

With the Presidency shifting to South Africa in 2025, the Institute aims to work towards building a common narrative for the Global South in partnership with the B20 South Africa Secretariat. A report was curated on the suggested priorities for South Africa's Presidency year, offering an analysis of the evolution of priorities of economies from the Global South i.e. Indonesia, India, and Brazil.

Over the past few months, the Institute curated over 25 policy and issue briefs on areas including trade and GVCs, sustainability, skills, and digital economy.

ACTION

A session was organized during the CII Partnership Summit to deliberate on the theme 'Development Through South-South Collaboration'. Stakeholders discussed opportunities for collaboration to address developmental challenges facing the region. The session also delved into the potential of G20/B20 initiatives to drive transformation, ensuring sustained, inclusive, and resilient economic progress.



(L-R): Dan Ioschpe, Chair, B20 Brazil; Suzzane Clark, President and CEO, US Chamber of Commerce; Mxolisi Mgojo, Chair, B20 South Africa and R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO of Tata Chemicals at the B20 Summit, Brazil at São Paulo, Brazil

TRADE FAIRS

CII remains the country's largest trade fairs organizer for the last 4 decades. With around 50 exhibitions and trade fairs in India, CII holds the largest portfolio of sectors ranging from automotive to engineering and technology, railways, AI, mining, space, construction, agriculture and food processing technology, gaming, healthcare, chemicals and more.

CII trade fairs and business exhibitions continued to catalyse Government of India's efforts of promoting AatmaNirbhar Bharat. By showcasing the latest in technology and services, CII endeavoured to encourage industry to drive efficiency along with cost competitiveness. As a preferred partner to the Government, both at the Centre and State levels, a series of events were organized not just in India but across the world.

International Mining and Machinery Exhibition (IMME)

Organized with support of Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Steel, Government of India, the 17th

edition of 'International Mining and Machinery Exhibition' (IMME) continued to be India's largest fair for the mining industry. Indian Construction Equipment Manufacturers Association (ICEMA) was the sector partner and Australia the partner country for IMME 2024.

The expo featured over 270 exhibitors with 4 country pavilions and 31 international exhibitors from 14 countries. More than 7000 business visitors from India and overseas visited the fair. Over 520 B2B matchmaking services enabled business meetings among delegates, visitors and exhibitors.

Held concurrently to IMME, the 'Global Mining Summit' deliberated on the theme 'Viksit Bharat: Role of a Sustainable Mining Industry'. Discussions focused on ease of doing mining, critical minerals, technology and automation, sustainable mining, health, and safety among others.



(L-R): Thomas M Cherian, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Mining and Managing Director, Essel Mining & Industries Ltd; P M Prasad, Chairman and Managing Director, Coal India Ltd; Shantanu Roy, Chairman & Managing Director, BEML; S K Behera, Chairman, CII Eastern Region and Vice Chairman and Managing Director, RSB Transmissions Ltd; Moley Ghatak, Minister-in-Charge, Law Department, Government of West Bengal; R P Ritolia, Former CMD, Central Coalfields Ltd; Vivek Bhatia, Chairman, CII Mining and Construction Equipment Division and Managing Director and CEO, TKIL Industries Pvt Ltd; V G Sakthikumar, Treasurer, ICEMA and Chairman & Managing Director, Schwing Stetter India Pvt Ltd; B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII Trade Fair Council and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd and V K Arora, Former Chief Mentor, KCT Group at IMME in Kolkata



(L-R): Amit Gossain, Chairman, Real Estate and Building Technology 2025 and Managing Director, KONE Elevator - India & South Asia; Kimmo Lähdevirta, Ambassador, Embassy of Finland; Takashi Suzuki, Chief Director General, JETRO; Rajan Navani, President, IDGS and Chairman & Managing Director, Jet Synthesys; Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd; Robert Maxian, Ambassador of Slovak Republic to India; Andrea Krajčíková, Director General of the Foreign Trade Policy and European Affairs Section, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic; B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII Trade Fair Council and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd and Oota Masami, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan at IETF in New Delhi

International Engineering Technology Fair (IETF)

'IETF 2025' was a multi-sector that showcased future technologies and products and India's industrial strengths and innovation capabilities through focused and concurrent shows representing 11 industry sectors. With over 500 participants from around 10 countries, the event was spread across an exhibition area of over 20,000 square meters.

The fair featured a Japan Pavilion with 70 exhibitors covering several industry segments and exhibiting engineering, innovation, IT, video gaming, tourism, and food technologies. A performing artists' team from Japan was an attraction at the pavilion.

India's startup community had a strong presence of over 40 companies at the fair. They displayed solutions, new technologies, and innovative products of the future that could address challenges of a large number of sectors.

India Korea Industry Expo

Organized in collaboration with KINTEX of South Korea, the 1st edition of 'India Korea Industry Expo' was held to mark 50 years of bilateral relations between the two nations. The 'India Industry Expo 2024' and 'Ko-Index 2024' were recommended by the Embassy of India in Seoul, South Korea, and supported

by the Federal and Provincial Governments of the Republic of Korea. Government of Karnataka was the partner state for the expo that hosted over 250 companies and more than 400 delegates from Korean industry and Government.

'Ko-Index 2024' hosted the largest ever display of Korean products and technologies in India. Apart from 50 companies from the mobility sector, companies from 12 other sectors showcased their products and services.

'India Korea Business Partnership Forum', an annual partnership event held with KITA, and Korea Herald, is aimed enhancing bilateral businesses between the two countries. Over 300 industry and Government leaders from India and the Republic of Korea attended the forum.

Asian Fire Safety Expo (AFSE)

'Asian Fire Safety Expo' (AFSE) 2024, a concurrent show held in collaboration with Ministry of Defense, Government of India, showcased latest products, innovations and technologies for the fire safety and protection sector.

Business delegations from 13 countries attended the event that facilitated over 2000 B2B meetings. More than 12,500 visitors representing industry, Government, academia, and media from India and overseas visited the expo.

InnoRail India

CII in association with Research Designs & Standards Organisation, Ministry of Railways, Government of India organized the 6th edition of 'InnoRail India 2024' with a focus on innovation and technologies for the railways sector. Over 160 exhibitors from India and abroad showcased their products and services. Thought leaders from the industry and senior officials of the Railway Ministry engaged with 250 delegates on increasing efficiencies, competitiveness, safety and service levels of the ever-expanding rail transportation sector. Some of the unique showcases were that of academic institutions dealing in the rail sector, agencies for analysis, consulting, development and planning.

Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit Expo

CII was Government of Rajasthan's preferred partner for 'Rajasthan Global Business Expo' under the aegis of the 'Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024'. Spread over 10,000 sqm, the exhibition featured more than 150 exhibitors. More than 35,000 delegates and 2500 students witnessed innovative products showcased by companies, while industry members explored new partnership opportunities.

The theme of the pavilion 'Viksit Bharat - Viksit Rajasthan', highlighting the Prime Minister of India's vision for 2047, offered an immersive and informative experience.

Urban Air Mobility (EXPO)

'Urban Air Mobility Expo', the first ever international exhibition on advanced air mobility in India, was hosted as part of the 'Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025', with support from the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The expo featured live demonstrations of VTOLs and eVTOLs. Over 50 leading companies showcased their products, services, and prototypes, representing the best in advanced air mobility innovation. Several MoUs were signed during the expo, setting the stage for long term partnerships aimed at driving growth in urban air mobility. A 2 day conference hosted discussions on themes such as sustainability, regulatory frameworks, and technological advancements in urban air mobility.

Agro Bihar

The 13th edition of 'Agro Bihar' was organized in the Eastern Region with Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar. Agro Bihar seeks to empower the agricultural sector through innovation and technology. The presence of Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar, and Agriculture Minister Shri Mangal Pandey, policy makers, and industry leaders, reinforced the State Government's commitment to the agricultural sector. With 91 participating companies, the initiative drew a significant number of farmers from 38 districts of Bihar.



(L-R): Mangal Dev, Chairman – Seminars, InnoRail 2024 and Director, Hitachi India Pvt Ltd & Head - Hitachi Rail India & South Asia (Green Energy Mobility); Uday Borwanker, Director General, Research Designs & Standards Organisation, Ministry of Railways; B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII Trade Fair Council and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd; Abhishek Saraff, Managing Director, Avadh Rail Infra Ltd and Amit Srivastava, Executive Director, Research, Research Designs & Standards Organisation, Ministry of Railways at Inno Rail in Lucknow



(L-R): Shreegopal Kabra, Co Chairman CII WireTech 2024 & Managing Director, RR Kabel Ltd; Sunil Chordia, Chairman, CII WireTech 2024 and Chairman and Managing Director, Rajratan Global Wire Ltd; Jaiprakash Bhatia, Chairman, Builders' Association of India and Anurag Pandey, Co Chairman CII WireTech 2024 and Executive-In-Charge – Global Wires India, Tata Steel Ltd at Wire Tech in Mumbai

Agro Tech India - Krishi Bharat

'CII Agro Tech India – Krishi Bharat 2024' continued to be India's largest comprehensive event for agriculture equipment and technologies. The 16th edition of the event was organized by the Northern Region in partnership with the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Themed 'Harvesting Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture', the exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, alongside esteemed dignitaries, including H E Jan-Kees Goet, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Kingdom of the Netherlands, and key industry leaders. Spanning 20,000 sq mtrs the expo featured more than 200 exhibitors and welcomed 100,000 visitors, including farmers. It served as an umbrella for 6 concurrent shows – 'Farm Tech Implementex', 'Dairy & Livestock Expo', 'Good Earth', 'Food Tech', 'Farm Services', and 'Irrigation and Water Management'.

WireTech

The maiden edition of the exhibition for the wire and cable industry was organized by the Western Region with support from Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India. Top companies and Government

agencies explored growth opportunities at the event that featured over 50 thought leaders, focused B2B meetings, and hosted more than 3000 business visitors.

Foodpro

South India's largest food processing and technology exhibition, 'Foodpro 2024' was curated by CII Southern Region. With Government of Tamil Nadu as the host state and Governments of Kerala and Andhra Pradesh as partner states, the exhibition had Australia as the partner country. The event was supported by the Ministry of Food Processing & Industries (MoFPI) and the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India. With over 282 companies showcasing innovations and cutting edge technologies, the expo attracted more than 20,200 visitors, including over 200 international delegates.

Other Exhibitions

A range of trade shows were held through the country across diverse sectors and states, opening new opportunities for enterprises to showcase their products and seek new partnerships.

Other Exhibitions Organised

Exhibition	Edition	Number of Exhibitors	Number of Visitors	Gross Area of the Event (in Square Meters)	Number of B2B Meetings
Bengaluru Space Expo	8th	170	9567	67000	500
CII Coolex	24th	12	5000	1000	5
CII Rail Connect Expo	1st	45	250	700	50
CII Chandigarh Fair	27th	300	100,000	16,000	Nil
CII SeAiRo Expo 2024	1st	41	3320	4200	NA
CII Edu-Tech Expo	1st	65	5303	5000	NA
CII NexGen Mobility Show 2024	2nd	114	3000	7000	200
Enterprise Odisha	24th	77	10,000	23,750	100
East Tech	3rd	136	5000	7500	NA
Utkarsh Odisha: Make in Odisha 2025	4th	154	75,000	100,000	200
Bengal Global Business Summit 2025	8th	136	75,000	30,000	150
Total		1250	291,440	201,850	1205

India Pavilions at Overseas Shows

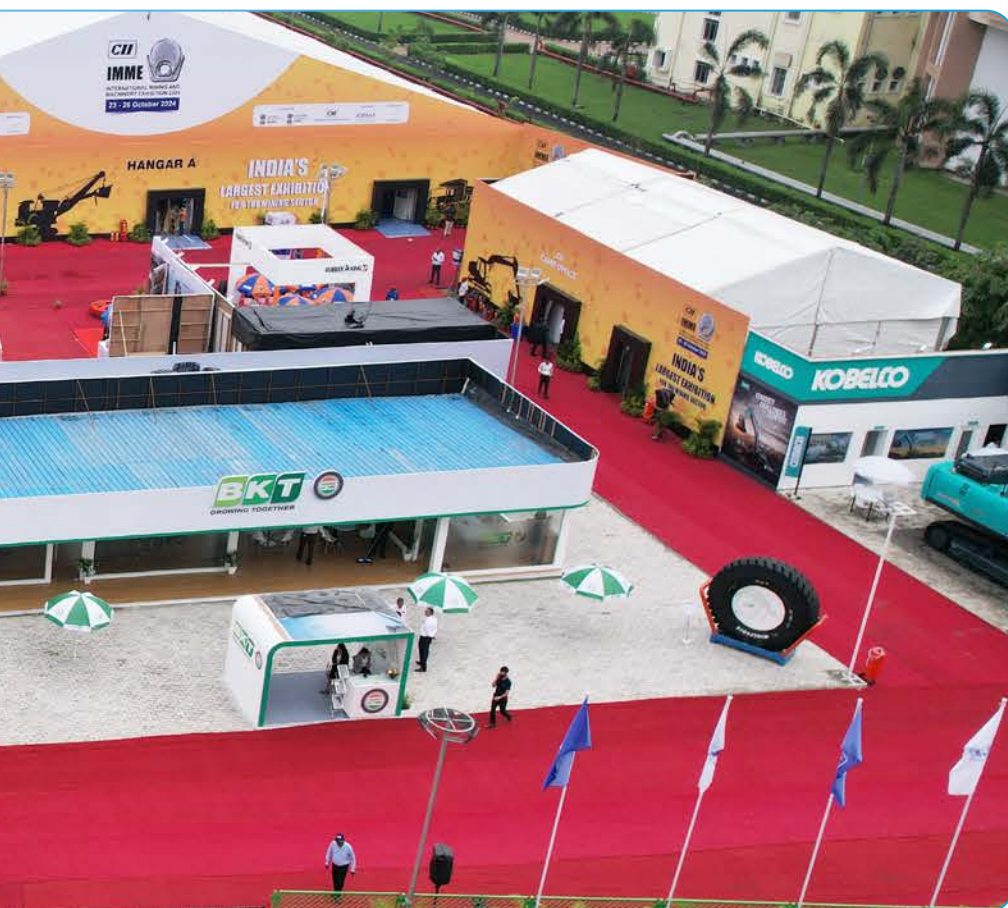
Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition (ADIPEC)

CII, in the continuous endeavour to promote Indian exports, organized the 'India Pavilion' at the (ADIPEC) the world's largest energy exhibition. The pavilion featured over 50 Indian exporters, showcasing a diverse array of cutting edge products and services. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, along with Shri Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to UAE, and Mr Rajiv Memani, President-Designate, CII inaugurated the pavilion.

Steelfab Expo

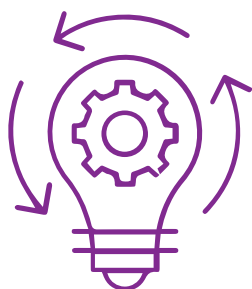
The 'India Pavilion' at the 'SteelFab Expo' in Sharjah, marked the largest ever Indian participation at the event, featuring over 35 leading companies. India's participation in the expo highlighted the country's pivotal role in driving industrial growth in the UAE. Indian firms showcased innovative solutions designed to meet the region's rising demand for advanced metalworking technologies and services. Shri Satish Kumar Sivan, Consul General of India to Dubai inaugurated the pavilion.







Knowledge Economy Initiatives



- ▶ Technology, R&D and Innovation
- ▶ Intellectual Property Rights
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence
- ▶ Space
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Design
- ▶ Indian Digital Gaming Society

TECHNOLOGY, R&D, AND INNOVATION

TECHNOLOGY

As technology drives India's ambitious leap toward an AatmaNirbhar Bharat, CII is charting a new course to harness technology as a catalyst for the nation's growth trajectory. For over 3 decades, the CII National Committee on Technology, R&D, and Innovation has played a pivotal role in fostering an ecosystem that encourages technology adoption and fuels industrial innovation. CII remains committed to accelerating India's technological advancement and ensuring it plays a key role in the global innovation landscape.

ADVOCACY

Various policy advocacy initiatives were undertaken during the year to strengthen India's position in technology, R&D, and innovation. A High-Level Task Force on Advanced Materials, Critical Minerals, and Metals released a thought leadership report highlighting current trends, challenges, and a strategic roadmap on materials. The report covers key areas such as biomaterials, ceramics, composites, graphene, rare earths, recycled materials, titanium, semiconductor materials, aluminium, and steel.

The National Task Force on Genomics worked towards driving innovation in genomics through policy advocacy, capacity building, and international collaborations. A compendium of 60 tech driven genomics projects was presented to the Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology.

To foster collaborations that will bridge gaps in academic research with industry needs, CII set up an 'Industry Academia Partnership Forum'. An offline platform for industry academia partnership to facilitate collaboration between these two key stakeholders in the nation's growth was also set up. The offline platform has participation of several of the IITs as well as Birla Institute of Technology, Manipal,

and Hindustan University. The objective is to drive innovation, skill development and real world problem solving for building a resilient and self-reliant 'Viksit Bharat'.

Round 2 of the study on 'Evaluation of Innovation Excellence Indicators of Public-Funded R&D Organizations' was conducted in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India. This initiative aims to strengthen the innovation ecosystem and advance India's technological growth. Nearly 250 labs were assessed on 62 indicators, including socio economic impact, STI excellence, and organizational capabilities, providing insights to enhance their performance. The findings will be presented to the PMO.

ACTION

The inaugural edition of 'Awards for Excellence in Women in STEM' was launched to recognize organizations leading efforts in diversity and inclusion. Nearly 50 organizations, including industry, academia, and research institutions across various sectors, were honored. These awards mark a significant step forward in advancing gender equality within the STEM landscape, in line with the nation's and CII's vision. A compendium showcasing nearly 50 best practices from organizations supporting women in STEM was also developed during the year.

Top 75 innovative companies across large enterprises and MSMEs and top 5 institutions for excellence in innovation were recognized at the 11th edition of the CII Industrial Innovation Awards 2024. The awards were based on a comprehensive '360-degree Innovation Maturity Model'. A 'Compendium on Innovation Excellence' featuring success stories and best practices from leading Indian organizations was also released.



Participants at the CII Annual Summit on Technology, IP, and Industry-Academia Partnerships in New Delhi

The 2nd edition of the 'Global Summit on Advanced Materials, Critical Minerals, and Metals' was held during the year. The objective was to foster collaborations to address national strategic needs through technology transfer, co-development, and innovation. Deputy NSA, US and several senior leaders from industry, academia, and the Government participated in the summit.

World Creativity & Innovation Day and World Intellectual Property Day were celebrated at the 'Global Innovation & Intellectual Property Summit'. More than 500 participants and eminent thought leaders engaged in discussions on the theme 'Building Synergy Among Innovation, IP, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Futuristic Growth'. The critical connection between innovation, IP, and SDGs to India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat@2047' was emphasized during the deliberations. The event featured the release of thought leadership reports, discussions on remodelling IPR for economic growth, technology startups' contributions to SDGs and technology innovations.

Over 600 participants from various sectors attended the 'Annual Summit on Technology, IP, and Industry-Academia Partnership'. The summit explored the theme 'Shaping the Decade: Empowering Global Growth' and hosted the 'CII Industrial IP Awards', 'Industry-Academia Awards', and 'Innovation Awards'.

An exhibition by IITs and private institutions showcasing innovative projects was also held. The event saw the release of the 'CII Policy Communiqué on Industry-Academia Partnership for R&D and Innovation' and a 'Compendium of Case Studies on Genomic Technologies'.

To advance technological excellence, CII initiated the development of a robust 'Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) Assessment Tool'. This tool defines readiness stages, incorporates best practices, and aligns with standard requirements to streamline technology evaluation.

ICT - TELECOM AND BROADBAND

India's IT and telecom sectors are poised for significant growth, with the IT industry projected to achieve revenues of approximately USD 270 billion, representing a year on year growth of around 10%. The telecom sector, catering to over 1.2 billion subscribers, continues to thrive, bolstered by advancements in 5G technology, which is expected to enhance connectivity and enable new business models.

CII continued to play an instrumental role in fostering collaboration and dialogue among stakeholders to address the multifaceted dimensions of India's digital evolution.

ADVOCACY

The CII National Committee on Telecom and Broadband engaged with regulatory bodies to address pressing concerns within the sector. Recommendations were submitted to consider exempting the telecom sector from directives of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) and Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) regarding Retrofitting of Emission Control Device (RECD) for in-use diesel operated internal combustion engines.

A request was made to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to review inclusion of mobile user equipment in the Draft Equipment Register (ER). This review is essential to ensure that mobile devices are adequately accounted for in regulatory frameworks, facilitating better tracking and management of mobile technology in India.

Inputs were also submitted for Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) consultation paper on Recognition of Specified Digital Platforms (SDPs). This submission emphasizes the need for creating a structured regulatory framework to recognize digital platforms that play a critical role in financial markets.

TAMIL NADU TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION CENTRE

Tamil Nadu Technology Development and Promotion Centre (TNTDPC) works to promote key and emerging technologies in Tamil Nadu and help companies and SMEs scale up and go global. The Centre conducted a series of programmes to promote technology adoption and skill development in the industry and by entrepreneurs. This outreach ensured that the industry and entrepreneurs gained practical insights and enhanced technological skills and capabilities, which aligns with TNTDPC's objectives.

ADVOCACY

During the year, the Centre took technology missions to smart manufacturing companies in Chennai, Hyderabad, Madurai and Pune and workshops on COBOTs (Collaborative Robots). Certification courses such as MS Excel, Advanced Data Science Essentials for Business Leaders were also organized. The Certificate Course on IP and SDG emphasized the critical role of Intellectual Property (IP) in advancing sustainability goals. A 'Virtual Dialogue on Green Hydrogen' explored green hydrogen technologies, highlighting practical applications and future potential.



(L-R): Dr Bharat Bhasker, Director, IIM, Ahmedabad; Ipsita Dasgupta, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, India, Hewlett-Packard; Perry Goes, CII CSO Forum Chairman and Business Transformation Consultant & Mentor; Dr Chitra Singla, Associate Professor of Strategy, IIM, Ahmedabad; Dr Amit Karna, Professor of Strategy, IIM, Ahmedabad at CII India Strategy Conference in Ahmedabad



(L-R): P N Anil Kumar, Co-Convenor, CII Tamil Nadu ICT Panel and Vice President & Delivery Head – Services Development Center Head – Chennai & Coimbatore; Dr Shankar Venugopal, Chairman, CII TNTDPC CTO Forum and Vice President, Mahindra & Mahindra; Innocent Divya, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, Government of Tamil Nadu; Srivats Ram, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu State Council and Managing Director, Wheels India Ltd and Meenakshi Sundaram, Conference Chairperson & Chief Technology Officer, Amalgamations Components Group at the Conference on Emerging Technologies in Chennai

The 4th edition of 'Conference on Emerging Technologies' advocated for technological growth and workforce readiness. While highlighting the need for industry-academia collaboration and skill development, the event explored AI, ML and automation. It also promoted innovation and talent through the Naan Mudhalvan Scheme student projects.

The 'IP NEXT Conference' explored the 'IP Landscape - Powered & Disrupted by Tech'. The focus was on how technology reshapes IP frameworks and addressing IP challenges in the digital era. Discussions also revolved

around promoting inclusive systems for MSMEs, enhancing global collaborations, driving innovation, resilience, and sustainability.

To accelerate India's shift to electric mobility TNTDPC hosted the 3rd edition of the 'EV Summit 2024'. Policymakers, EV manufacturers, technology providers, and industry leaders discussed sustainable manufacturing, infrastructure development, policy frameworks and technological advancements. Emphasizing self reliance, the summit highlighted indigenous innovation and sustainable practices.



(L-R): Sudhakar Vaidyalingam, Managing Director, Balaji Rubber Group and Co-Founder & Managing Director, Birds India Corporation; S A Sundaresan, Head – New Technologies, Ashok Leyland; Thiru Srinivasan, Senior Advisor, FaMeTN and Head, TN EV Taskforce; Dr Alby John Varghese, Managing Director, Metropolitan Transport Corporation; Gajanan V Gandhe, Country Head and Vice President, Dana India and Dr Deepak Ronanki, Department of Engineering Design, Indian Institute of Technology Madras at the EV Summit at Chennai



(L-R): Anil Kumar PN, Co-Convenor, ICT & Electronics Panel, CII Tamil Nadu and Vice President & Delivery Head, ADM, Infosys; Sanjeev Jain, Co-Chairman CII Taskforce on Tech Adoption & Digital Transformation, Summit Chairman and Chief Operating Officer, Wipro Ltd; Sudha Ramen, Member Secretary, State Planning Commission, Government of Tamil Nadu and Vininder Singh Baweja, Chief Digital & Information Officer, Saint Gobain India Pvt Ltd at the AI Powered Summit in Chennai

Benefits of adopting artificial intelligence for stakeholders of the manufacturing ecosystem, including SMEs, were highlighted at the 'AI-Powered Summit'. The summit emphasized the critical role of AI in areas such as supply chain optimization, sustainability in manufacturing, digital commerce and workforce transformation. It served as a key initiative to advance advocacy for widespread adoption of AI technologies across the manufacturing sector.

The 'Conference on Software on Wheels' brought together industry leaders, policymakers, and technology experts to explore the transformative role of software in the automotive sector. Integration of advanced software solutions in mobility was discussed and highlighted innovations in connected vehicles, autonomous systems and electric mobility.

Senior strategy leaders came together at the 'CII Chief Strategy Officers Forum' with a vision to make India a global strategy centre of excellence. The objective was to explore ways of elevating strategy practices

followed by Indian enterprises, organizations and individuals. A joint initiative with Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, the conference focused on the theme, 'Strategies in an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Dominated World'. More than 150 strategic thinkers / CSOs from a wide range of industries engaged in insightful discussions and strategic networking.



(L-R): Srivats Ram, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu and Managing Director, Wheels India Ltd.; S S Sivasankar, Minister for Transport, Government of Tamil Nadu; P Kaniappan, Conference Chairman and Managing Director, ZF Commercial Vehicle Control Systems India Ltd at the Conference on Software on Wheels in Chennai

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Recognizing the importance of IP as well as that of fostering an IPR culture in the country, CII set up the National Committee on IP about 15 years ago. Recently CII launched a 'One Company at least One IP' drive to encourage Members to invest in generating, protecting, and monetizing IP.

ADVOCACY

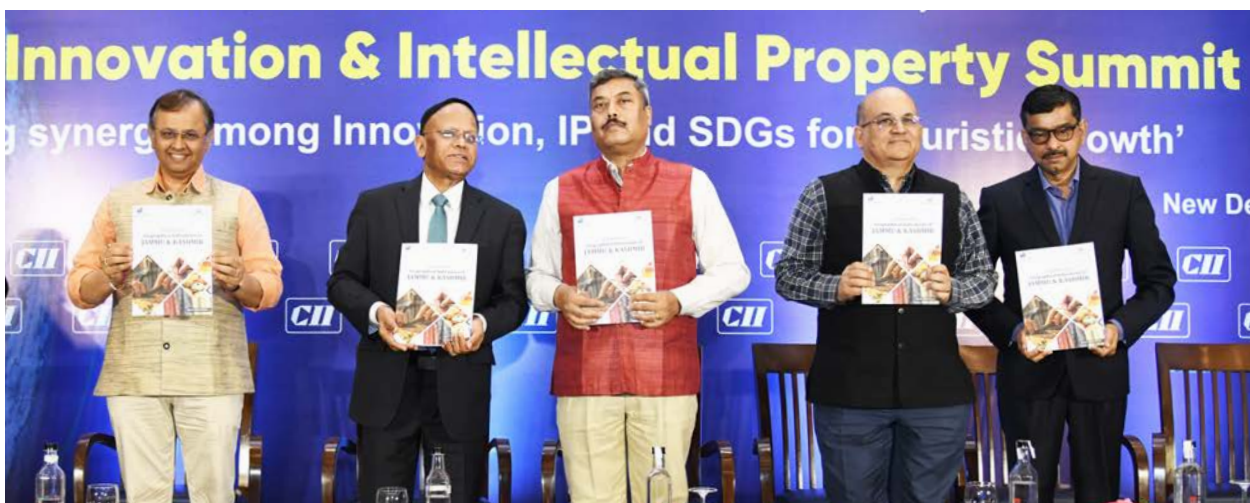
Annual statements and recommendations about the IPR ecosystem in India were submitted to United States Trade Representative (USTR) to provide a more holistic picture. Recommendations were made to the Government of India on a variety of issues related to Design Law treaty. 'CII Proposals for Union Budget 2025-26' and 'Agenda for New Government' provided inputs on IPR, trade secrets and prevention of economic espionage.

Thought leadership reports released during the year, included the 'GI Booklets for Northeast States of India'; 'GI Booklets for the State of Jammu and Kashmir' and 'IP Issues with Respect to Recycled Products'. An 'IPR Compendium on India's Leading IP Driven Organizations' was also released.

ACTION

Winners of the 10th edition of the 'CII Industrial IP Awards', 'Industry Academia Awards' and the 'Innovation Awards' were felicitated at the 'CII Annual Summit on Technology, Intellectual Property, and Industry-Academia Partnership'. This year marked a significant milestone of more than 30 key parameters being considered to evaluate the IP portfolios of patents, trademarks, and industrial designs. The 'Industrial IP Awards' acknowledged 43 outstanding organizations for their exemplary contributions to fostering a strong IP driven culture in India, setting benchmarks for excellence in innovation and IP management.

Since 2009, CII celebrates the 'World Intellectual Property Day' with active participation of the Government of India. This year the 'Global Innovation and IP Summit' underscored the critical connection between these elements for shaping the nation's vision of 'Viksit Bharat@2047'.



(L-R): Prof (Dr) Unnat Pandit, Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, Intellectual Property Office; B Thiagarajan, Managing Director, Blue Star; Surjit Bhujabal, Special Secretary, Government of India and then Member (Customs), CBIC, Ministry of Finance; Rishikesh T Krishnan, Director, IIM, Bangalore and Harish Krishnan, Managing Director & Chief Policy Officer, Cisco India & SAARC at the Global Innovation and Intellectual Property Summit in New Delhi



Winners of 10th edition of CII Industrial IP Awards in New Delhi

A specialized and advanced certification programme, 'Value IPR 2.0', was organized to equip IP professionals with in-depth knowledge and skills in the critical areas of IP valuation and licensing. The programme aimed to empower participants with tools and techniques to help corporates make informed decisions regarding investments in R&D, IPR and strategic long term growth plans. Spanning over three months, the course brought together 39 senior professionals from IP and finance backgrounds, offering a comprehensive blend of theoretical concepts and practical case studies. The initiative further strengthened the commitment to enhancing the strategic role of IP in driving innovation and business success.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FACILITATION CENTRES

CII has set up Intellectual Property Facilitation Centres (IPFC) in Ahmedabad and Indore in association with Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India. The centres drive IP movement by providing support for IP protection, enforcement, and monetization. They aim to boost the IP culture among MSMEs/ technopreneurs/ startup(s) in the respective states.

Since inception both IPFCs have demonstrated their value by counselling more than 5500 MSMEs through the CII IP Clinics and facilitating more than 4800 IP applications in India and abroad. The centres have filed over 650 patent applications, close to 2000 design applications, 1800 trademark applications, and over 375 copyright applications.

CII is working with relevant departments of State Governments to protect and promote unique geographical attributed indigenous products and traditional knowledge under Geographical Indications (IPRs) to drive 'CII GI Tourism Movement'. This is being facilitated through CII's 'One District One Product' initiative. CII IPFCs have so far facilitated registration of 52 products for GI tagging in association with State Governments. In 2024, a total of 234 IPs were filed including 45 patents, 39 designs, 81 trademarks, 67 copyrights and 2 GIs.

A roundtable GI meeting was held with Ministry of Commerce and Industry for GI tagging of Bhavnagri Ganthiya, a spicy Bhavanagar namkeen, under Geographical Indications Act of India.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Artificial Intelligence is a paradigm shift that is reshaping the world and is expected to add USD 967 billion to the Indian economy by 2035. It is also expected to contribute USD 450–500 billion to India's GDP by 2025, accounting for 10% of the country's USD 5 trillion GDP target. India's AI market has the potential to create 1.5 million jobs in the next 10 years. AI adoption has the potential to enhance efficiency, optimize operations, and unlock new market opportunities. CII National AI Forum focuses on 3 key areas of AI - adoption, innovation and regulation.

ADVOCACY

CII continued to engage with the Government to help shape policies that will foster AI innovation and adoption. The focus was also on policies that will facilitate partnerships for sharing knowledge and best practices essential for improving employability and fostering innovation.

ACTION

Deliberations at the 'Roundtable on AI in Telecom' underscored AI's potential to optimize operations, enhance service personalization, and facilitate data-driven decision making in the sector.

The convergence of business, technology, and the growing role of AI in driving inclusive growth and sustainability was highlighted during the 'Session on AI for Enterprises : The Road Ahead'.

A 'Roundtable on AI Impact on Services Trade & Vice Versa' was organized along with CII Digital and CII Trade Policy Department. The Interactive Session on 'The AI Edge: Driving Global Competitiveness in Industry' witnessed discussions on practical AI use-cases to leverage opportunities and build competitiveness of organizations.

The 'AI Immersion Weeks', a group initiative of CII and HP, included a series of certification programmes aimed at empowering businesses and MSMEs to leverage AI. The workshops provided hands on training from experienced practitioners across key areas such as financial management, marketing, and cybersecurity in several locations over a few weeks.

Capacity building programmes were held, especially for MSMEs, in partnership with the National University of Singapore and the Indian Institutes of Management. 'CII AI Awards' were organized to recognize early adopters for leading the AI revolution in India and encourage innovation in AI.

During the 4th edition of the 'International Conference on Artificial Intelligence' held along side the 'AI India Show 2025', stakeholders concurred that to achieve the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047 it is critical for India to become an AI – first nation. A survey report on 'AI Trends and Future Impact' released at the conference revealed that over half of Indian enterprises plan to rapidly expand AI adoption, while 38% remain in early readiness stage.



(L-R): Sachin Tayal, MD, Protiviti; Tejpreet S Chopra, Co-Chairman, CII AI Forum & President and CEO, BLP Group; Peter Stephens, Director of Government Relations, Arm, & Chair UK-India Tech Forum, techUK; Puneet Chandok, Chairman, CII National AI Forum, President, Microsoft India & South Asia and Shiv Siddhant Kaul, Co-Chair, CII National AI Forum, CII & Managing Director, Nicco Engineering Services Ltd, releasing the report on AI Trends and Future Impact at the AI Conference in New Delhi

SPACE

India contributes 2-3% to the global space economy (USD 8.4 billion). The domestic space industry has demonstrated potential to achieve USD 44 billion by 2033, solidifying the country's global standing. Key initiatives such as the Indian Space Policy 2023 and FDI liberalization have unlocked significant opportunities, fostering private sector participation and driving growth in space and allied industries. CII is taking forward the Government's vision of enhancing private sector participation and building global partnerships. The CII National Committee on Space worked towards facilitating private sector engagement in space industry, supporting demand creation and building indigenous capability growth, encouraging space startups and fostering international collaborations.

ADVOCACY

CII submitted comprehensive suggestions and recommendations aimed at harnessing the private space industry's potential to drive domestic growth and expand international exports.

Recommendations from the 'Discussion on Satellite Manufacturing' were also shared with the Government for consideration. The key recommendations included

- Developing space manufacturing clusters
- Integrating satellite-based data into non-space sectors
- Establishing a long-term vision for privatizing the space industry, modelled after NASA's 50-year plan
- Encouraging startups to explore deep space opportunities and fostering innovation through ISRO-academia-industry collaboration
- Setting up shared infrastructure clusters for capital intensive equipment, managed by private entities
- Expanding private participation in space commerce delegations across various countries
- Revising tariffs and tax structures to simplify compliance



(L-R): Rabindra Srikantan, Vice Chairman, CII Karnataka State Council and Managing Director, ASM Technologies Ltd; D Radhakrishnan, Co – Chairman, CII National Committee on Space and Chairman and Managing Director, NSIL; Enrico Palermo, Head, Australian Space Agency; Dr Pawan K Goenka, Chairman, IN-SPACE; Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, and IT & BT, Government of Karnataka; Alfonso Tagliaferri, Consul General of Italy; Apparao Mallavarapu, Chairman, CII National Committee on Space and CMD, Centum Electronics Ltd and Harshbir Sangha, MBE, FRSA Director Missions and Capabilities UK Space Agency at Bengaluru Space Expo in Bengaluru



(L-R): Dr CVS Kiran, VP, Skyroot; Rohan Ganapathy, Co-chairman, CII National Committee on Space and Founder & CEO, Bellatrix; Apparao Mallavarapu; Dr V Narayanan, Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission; AVM Malhi, VP, Tata Advanced Systems Ltd; Vinod Chippalkatti, President, Centum Electronic and Arpan Sahoo, Co-founder and COO, Satsure during the meeting with Dr V Narayanan in New Delhi

- Introducing a sabbatical policy for ISRO scientists
- Creating markets by investing in niche technologies
- Driving demand through collaborations with State Governments
- Developing a Positive Indigenization List (PIL) for the space industry.

ACTION

The 8th edition of 'Bengaluru Space Expo 2024' was organized in collaboration with ISRO, INSPACe and NSIL. The focus country at the international conference and exhibition on space was United Kingdom, Italy the partner country and Australia the innovation partner. The event showcased 10 highly engaging technical sessions and exclusive country sessions with Australia, Italy and the UK alongside organizations such as the World Economic Forum and the European Space Agency.

A significant highlight was the robust participation of three key Indian states: Karnataka, serving as the Host

State; Tamil Nadu, as the Partner State; and Kerala. The conference attracted over 150 distinguished speakers and 800 delegates. More than 160 companies displayed their innovations across a sprawling 65,000 square feet of exhibit space. The event drew an impressive footfall, including over 15,000 visitors. It also facilitated over 500 B2B and 56 B2G meetings, creating valuable networking and business opportunities. The inaugural session was graced by several ministers, senior Government officials, key industry leaders and CII office bearers.

The 'Roundtable on Boosting India's Capability in Satellite Manufacturing' focused on identifying emerging opportunities and addressing critical challenges within India's satellite manufacturing ecosystem. Thought leaders from the space sector including ISRO, INSPACe and NSIL deliberated on the theme 'Navigating Challenges and Unlocking Opportunities'. Experts from across industry, startups, and Government organizations joined the discussions.

EDUCATION

CII shapes India's education landscape through initiatives at both school and higher education levels. The focus includes quality education, vocational training, technology integration, teacher training, and mental health in schools. CII also promotes holistic learning and enhances the learning ecosystem for mental wellbeing. In higher education, the focus is on industry-academia collaboration, faculty development, and improving research quality to produce industry ready graduates, while demonstrating the effectiveness of these initiatives.

ADVOCACY

CII recommendations on expanding STEM education in Government schools, facilitate digital learning for all students and promote research in higher education found place in the Union Budget 2025-26. Suggestions on enhancing the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) are currently under active consideration by the Ministry of Education. CBDT Chairman was requested to consider making amendments to the Income Tax Act applicable to the education sector. The Ministry of Finance accepted a key recommendation on GST on research grants.

ACTIONS

The 8th edition of 'CII National School Education Summit', themed 'Transforming Education: Shaping India's Future Schools', focused on advancing school

education through technology and global leadership. It featured discussions on technology, education and India as a beacon of global education. A masterclass on next-gen pedagogy, and an EdTech exhibition showcasing innovations for future ready schools also marked the summit.

A 'Roundtable on Mental Health' titled 'Imperatives for Indian Educators' was held in collaboration with the Institute of Mental Health, Singapore. The roundtable deliberated on mental health challenges pertaining to Indian school educators. Valuable solutions were suggested based on an analysis of a CII survey on how leading schools in the National Capital Region address educators' mental health.

The 14th edition of 'CII National Higher Education Summit' deliberated on 'Preparing Future Workforce for India@100'. Key discussions included leveraging NEP 2020 for a 50% GER by 2035, integrating design thinking, and fostering lifelong learning. Need for innovation, sustainability, and global competitiveness were further emphasized with CII signing an MoU with the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) to strengthen industry-academia collaboration.

Under the 100:100 initiative's Mentorship Programme, three interdisciplinary research groups were mentored at IIT Kharagpur. Industry-academia interactions and projects from industry members



(L-R): Vivek Suneja, Professor of Strategy, Faculty of Management Studies, University of Delhi; Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, National Education Technology Forum; Dr Naushad Forbes, Chairman, CII National Higher Education Council and Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall; T G Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE and Dr Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities unveiling the CII Report on Work from Home: Benefits and Costs at the CII National Higher Education Summit in New Delhi

were offered to several departments as a part of this programme. While industry delegations to IIT Kharagpur explored collaborations to address their challenges, industry experts shared insights during the guest lectures organized through the year.

The CII-ANRF Prime Minister's Fellowship for Doctoral Research (PMFDR) is offered in a public-private partnership (PPP) mode with the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF). Since 2013, PM Fellows have received over 86 awards at prestigious platforms, published more than 150 high quality papers, and filed over 60 patents.

Prime Minister's Fellowship for Doctoral Research (PMFDR)	
Scholarships awarded in 2024	46
Amount (approximate) spent on each fellow (by industry)	INR 6.87 lakhs per annum
Amount (approximate) spent on each fellow (by Government)	INR 6.87 lakhs per annum
Number of Fellowships awarded since 2013	376
Total amount distributed to fellows	~ INR 114 crore
Institutes supporting scholarships	135
Companies supporting scholarships	280

PUBLICATIONS

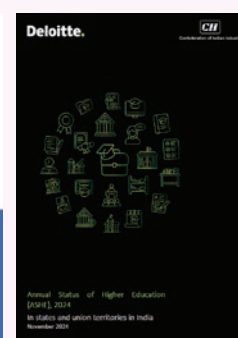
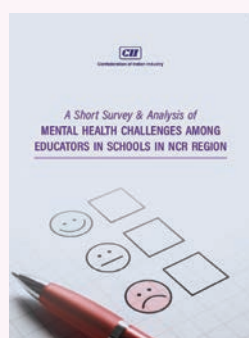
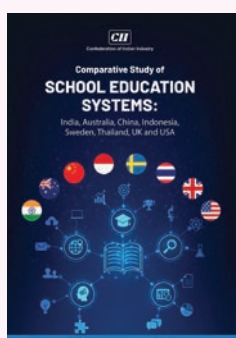
A report on 'Impact of Social, Economic and Other Factors in Developing a Culture of Innovation - A Qualitative Study in the Indian Context' explored the factors influencing innovation. It highlights disparities in gender, socioeconomic status, and caste as key barriers and early exposure, supportive ecosystems, and mentorship as key enablers. The report recommends policies to enhance diversity, access, and industry-academia collaborations among others.

The report on 'Comparative Study of School Education Systems' offers a comparison of structures, teaching methods, funding, assessments, and equity measures across 8 countries. It highlights India's NEP 2020 as a transformative framework addressing local needs while aligning with global trends.

'A Short CII Survey & Analysis of Mental Health Challenges among Educators In Schools In NCR Region' was released during the year. It captures best practices and offers actionable recommendations on improving and providing support to address mental health of school educators.

An in-depth analysis of the research on remote work in India is captured in the 'CII-FMS Report on Work from Home: Benefits and Costs'. The report emphasizes the need for businesses to balance flexibility with strategies that foster collaboration and engagement and explores WFH's potential for geographic inclusivity, enabling access to remote talent, and contributing to ESG goals through reduced urban congestion and carbon emissions. The actionable insights offered by the study serve as a guide for policymakers and businesses to design sustainable hybrid work models.

The 'CII-Deloitte ASHE 2024 Report' offers a comprehensive analysis of India's higher education system, drawing on data from the All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE). Addressing themes such as digital education, research ecosystems, and industry-academia collaboration, ASHE 2024 advocates for curriculum alignment with industry needs and multidisciplinary learning. It outlines a strategic framework for policymakers, educators, and industry leaders to enhance access, quality, and global competitiveness in India's education sector.



DESIGN

CII works to enhance India's design ecosystem through strategic initiatives, policy frameworks, and recognition programmes that drive innovation and celebrate design excellence. During the year, initiatives were aimed at building a sustainable, inclusive, and globally competitive design industry while highlighting design's critical role in advancing economic growth and social development.

ADVOCACY

CII highlighted the transformative impact design can have across the nation and industries in line with the Prime Minister of India's vision 'Design in India for the World'. To support this vision, a comprehensive 'India Design Policy Communiqué' was developed. It provides a concise overview of global design policy developments and highlights the need for inclusive, sustainable, and ethical design principles to be integrated into policies and regulations.

Numerous high impact meetings were facilitated with active participation from key design stakeholders, leading to strategic actions aimed at fostering design innovation across diverse sectors. Several white papers published during the year explored the role of design in areas such as AI, deep tech, urban design, and sustainability. These papers underscore the value of design in driving progress and innovation.

ACTION

CII conceptualized and developed the framework for the 'India Design Tag'. This framework marks a significant milestone in elevating design standards, promoting market competitiveness, and enhancing India's global stature in design.

To recognize and celebrate exceptional design achievements, CII honoured over 75 innovative products across 12 design categories at the 14th edition of 'CII Design Excellence Awards'. This event showcased the rich diversity of India's design landscape.

The 'CII Design Excellence Awards Compendium' launched at the event will serve as a comprehensive repository of successful design practices and case studies.

To encourage and foster innovation among emerging designers, the 4th edition of the 'Young Designers Awards' (YDA) was held in collaboration with the World Design Organization (WDO). A panel of jury members from diverse disciplines evaluated over 300 applications, awarding participants across 3 categories.

The 24th edition of the 'India Design Summit' featured insightful sessions on AI, sustainability, mobility, and design education. The summit brought together nearly 50 distinguished panellists and attracted over 600 delegates, facilitating meaningful knowledge exchange. A unique addition to the summit was four experiential visits to leading design companies. These visits enhanced participant engagement, offering a first hand look at global innovations in engineering, manufacturing, and design.



(L-R): Rabindra Srikantan, Vice Chairman, CII Karnataka State Council and Managing Director, ASM Technologies Ltd; Dr Udayant Malhoutra, Chairman, CII National Committee on Design Innovation and CEO & Managing Director, Dynamatic Technologies Ltd; Bhaskar Bhat, Former Managing Director, Titan Company Ltd and Pradyumna Vyas, Senior Advisor, CII, President-Elect & Board of Directors, World Design Organization, and Former Director, National Institute of Design at the 24th India Design Summit held in Bengaluru

INDIAN DIGITAL GAMING SOCIETY

The Indian Digital Gaming Society (IDGS) continued to play a vital role in shaping the future of India's digital gaming and e-sports industry while positioning India as a global leader. The gaming and e-sports sector is a dynamic ecosystem with tremendous potential - not just as an economic driver but also as a platform for innovation, skill development, and cultural exchange.

ADVOCACY

IDGS collaborated with State Governments to shape policies that stand in industry growth while addressing critical issues such as user protection and promoting positive societal impacts through campaign like #Gaming4Good. IDGS championed the efforts to introduce specialized skill enhancement programmes and educational curricula in video gaming and e-sports with a view to creating employment opportunities for the youth. Strategic recommendations were made to facilitate the development of gaming hubs, e-sports arenas, and digital infrastructure.

ACTION

GameForge, a groundbreaking skill sync initiative was launched to strengthen academia-industry collaboration in esports. It debuted at VIT, University of Bhopal with a focus on identifying 100 new skill sets and career opportunities in gaming and e-sports.



(L-R): Sean Hyunil Sohn, CEO, KRAFTON India; Ashutosh Mohle, Joint Director, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Rajan Navani, President, IDGS and Founder & CEO JetSynthesys at IDGS Gaming Conclave in New Delhi

Participation in gaming events in Germany, Japan and Korea helped forge global connections. IDGS hosted a roadshow in Japan and supported a delegation from Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA) to explore opportunities in India's gaming market.

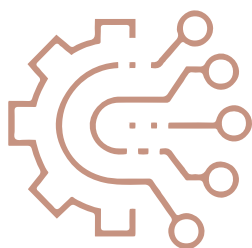
The 'Innovate2Educate Handheld Device Design Challenge' is held under the WAVES (World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit) banner and is supported by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and NFDC. Under this initiative IDGS is developing a 'Create in India' prototype, one of its kind in the world, for the edtech industry.



(L-R): Ashish Kulkarni, Founder Puneryug Art Vision; Amita Sarkar, Deputy Director General, CII and Secretary General, IDGS; Dhiraj Singh, Director FTII, Rajan Navani, President, IDGS and Chairman & MD Jetline Group and JetSynthesys; Neerja Sekhar, then Special Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Ajay Dhole, General Manager, NFDC at the IDGS Roadshow in Pune



SECTORSCAPE



- ▶ Agriculture, Food Processing, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
- ▶ Manufacturing
- ▶ Infrastructure
- ▶ Defence and Aerospace
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Fast Moving Consumer Goods
- ▶ Services
- ▶ Health and Lifesciences

AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING, FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING

AGRICULTURE

The CII National Council on Agriculture continued to champion the need for strengthening farmer aggregation models focusing on farmer producer organizations; enhancing efficiency in procurement and export competitiveness of the agrifood sector; and developing a better understanding of the carbon markets for promoting sustainable value chains.

ADVOCACY

The advocacy agenda for the year prioritized enhancing the agriculture sector's competitiveness. 'Viksit Bharat @2047: Vision for Indian Agriculture' was published with the themes of greater profitability, competitiveness, innovation, and sustainability. It also comprehensively covered CII recommendations.

Industry inputs on the National Policy for Farmer Producer Organizations as well as the National Policy Framework on Agricultural Marketing were submitted to the Government. Additionally, the Pre-Budget Memorandum on Agriculture presented impactful policy recommendations on taxes, customs, and GST to drive sectoral growth.



Minhaj Alam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries and S Sivakumar, Chairman, CII National Council on Agriculture and Group Head, Agri & IT Business, ITC Ltd at CII FPO Summit in New Delhi

Another key milestone was facilitating the Agrochemical Registry (AR) for the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. It is a national database to ensure traceability, streamline licensing, and support system based registrations by CIB&RC. This initiative paves the way for the Integrated Pesticide Management System (IPMS), aiming to enhance transparency, confidence, and ease of doing business.

ACTION

The 'CII FPO Summit 2024', themed 'Empowering FPOs Towards Building Resilient Agri Value Chains', brought together policymakers, industry leaders, AgriTech startups, and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). Over 150 participants explored strategies for transforming FPOs into dynamic enterprises. Discussions emphasized cohesive policies, scaling industry collaborations for market access, leveraging fintech and credit tools for affordable financing, and fostering startup-FPO partnerships for technology adoption. The summit highlighted capacity building and trust building efforts to empower FPOs, strengthen agricultural value chains, and improve farmer livelihoods.

Harnessing the power of technology to revolutionize agriculture took centrestage during 2 stakeholder consultations held in Hyderabad and Lucknow. Agtech entrepreneurs, policy experts, industry professionals, accelerators, and academia explored innovative solutions for building sustainable agricultural value chains. Focusing on resource efficiency, IoT and automation, supply chain management, and carbon smart farming, the consultations highlighted the need to optimize resource use, scale IoT solutions, improve supply chain traceability, and foster multi stakeholder collaborations with Government support to drive sustainable growth in the sector.

CII is exploring India's carbon credit landscape under the guidance of the Task Force on Sustainable Agriculture. As part of this initiative, a consultation on

‘Carbon Smart Agri Value Chains’ brought together stakeholders to discuss advancing carbon smart agricultural practices. The consultation focused on analyzing the voluntary carbon market ecosystem in India and addressing challenges related to regulations, policies, financing, capacity building, and awareness, setting the stage for future work in this critical area.



(L-R): Rajesh Srivastava, Chairman, Prowess Advisors; Jinesh Shah, Lead, CII Task Force on Agtech & Managing Partner, Omnivore; S Sivakumar; Ravi Ranjan, Managing Director, U P Electronics Corporation Ltd and Umesh Kumar Rathod, Chief Operating Officer, NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services) at the Roundtable on ‘Leveraging Technology for Sustainable Agri & Food Value Chain’ in Lucknow

FOOD PROCESSING

The CII National Committee on Food Processing Industries, aligned with the theme ‘Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth’. CII prioritized four key areas of regulatory affairs, export competitiveness, sustainability, and packaged foods. It fostered synergies with CII’s work on agriculture, nutrition, environment, taxation, post harvest infrastructure, FMCGs, and MSMEs, crucial to the Indian economy.

ADVOCACY

Union Budget allocations were discussed during a meeting with Shri Chirag Paswan, Minister for Food Processing Industries and Shri Ravneet Bittu, Minister of State. The deliberations focussed on the allocation of INR 152,000 million for agriculture and allied sectors. It is anticipated that the budgetary allocation will have a downstream impact on the food processing sector, specifically the MSMEs. This is in addition to budgetary financial support for setting up 50 food irradiation units in the MSME sector and 100 NABL accredited food testing labs.

CII is of the view that fitment of food items’ GST rates should be done such that it does not lead to increased inflation and should follow the principle of GST rate being more or less at par with the erstwhile indirect

tax regime. CII submitted a list of chapter wise recommendations to the GST Council and the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) to consider rationalization of GST rates keeping these suggestions in mind.

State level initiatives included a delegation to Bihar to explore and promote investments in the food processing sector. Discussions with Shri Nitish Mishra, Minister of Industries, Government of Bihar and Shri Sanjay Jha, Member of Parliament focussed on exploring opportunities in makhana, mangoes, vegetables, and infrastructure creation.

The MoFPI supported CII’s flagship events, ‘Foodpro 2024’ and ‘Agrotech 2024’, and the release of the report titled ‘Food Processing Sector in India – Potential for Southern States’.

During an interaction with the Indonesia Food and Beverage Association discussions focused on initiatives to strengthen bilateral trade and economic ties. Both nations have set an ambitious target of achieving USD 50 billion in trade by 2025, aligned with their strategic partnership and efforts toward the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

In alignment with Government’s policy of ‘One Nation, One Commodity, One Regulator’, CII is working closely with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and related ministries to eliminate duality in food standards. As per recent FSSAI amendments to FSS (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulation, 2011 the mandatory requirement of BIS/ Agmark certification for food business operators (FBOs) stands removed. The move eliminates the need to navigate multiple certification processes significantly reducing the regulatory burden on FBOs, particularly SMEs and MSMEs.

CII is advocating for uniform labelling implementation to address ad-hoc compliance challenges faced by packaged food industry. A FSSAI order has set the date of enforcement for implementing any labelling amendments to July 1, with a minimum period of 180 days from the date of notification under the said regulations. The extended timelines and a provision to consider emergency situations will allow food businesses to adjust packaging to meet updated standards, promoting smoother compliance while prioritizing consumer safety and transparency in food labelling practices.

ACTION

'STATE CONNECT' is an institutional initiative in partnership with FSSAI and State FDAs to enhance the state food safety index and align with global best practices for trade. It provides a platform for Central/State FDA, FBOs (including SMEs, HORECA), and stakeholders to address challenges and opportunities in the food sector. The session emphasized Government initiatives and encouraged industry collaboration to establish a cohesive food safety ecosystem and improve state performance on the 'Food Safety Index'. During the year, 16 State connect sessions were held across 13 states.

FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

The animal husbandry, dairying, and fisheries sectors are integral to India's socio economic framework, contributing significantly to rural livelihoods, particularly of marginal farmers and women.

These sectors also play a vital role in food security, nutrition, and employment generation. The CII National Committee on Animal Husbandry & Dairying continues to drive strategic initiatives and policy advocacy, aimed at improving productivity, enhancing sustainability, and supporting smallholder farmers.

ADVOCACY

The report titled 'Egg-onomic: Analysis of Egg Value Chain in India' released during the year, analyzes India's growing egg industry. It examines the industry's supply chain, market structure, and challenges in production, distribution, and pricing. It includes a detailed value chain analysis, highlighting key stakeholders and processes from production to consumption. The report advocates for improving supply chain efficiencies, addressing infrastructure and logistics gaps, stabilizing pricing mechanisms, and promoting sustainable practices. These recommendations aim to enhance the industry's resilience, streamline operations, and support its sustainable growth to meet rising consumer demand.

ACTION

Stakeholder consultations and conferences were held to advance the fisheries, poultry, and dairy sectors. The 'National Conference on Shaping the Future of Animal Agriculture in India: Enhancing Global Competitiveness' featured two roundtables. The conference brought together national and international industry leaders, policymakers, technology innovators, and farmers to discuss and create a roadmap for the future of animal agriculture in India. Aligning with India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat by 2047' the conference focused on strengthening the dairy and poultry sectors. Key enablers and actionable steps required for them to become sustainable and economically viable were also discussed.

Discussions were held with Vanakbara Fishing Harbour, Diu to assess the current infrastructure supporting cold chain logistics, storage, transportation, and regulatory frameworks, while also identifying future requirements for managing marine produce. The stakeholder consultation aimed to address critical challenges and recommend initiatives to enhance the fisheries sector and improve the efficiency of domestic markets.

The National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC) and the Tamil Nadu Poultry Farmers Association discussed strategies for expanding export opportunities and strengthening domestic markets within the Namakkal Poultry Cluster. This dialogue resulted in actionable strategies to drive growth and ensure sustainability of this prominent poultry hub.

CII organized a delegation of fisheries and cold chain Members to 'International Indonesia Seafood and Meat Expo' (IISM) and 'Indonesia Cold Chain Expo 2024'. The delegation engaged in productive B2B meetings with international exhibitors and visited seafood and cold chain facilities within Indonesia. Members also held meetings with the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Indonesia and Timor Leste, various key ministers and officials of the Indonesian Government and the Cold Chain Association and Food & Beverages Associations.

MANUFACTURING

India's manufacturing sector is a vital engine of growth, contributing significantly to GDP, employment, and export earnings. India is gearing up to emerge as a global manufacturing hub, renowned for high quality, sustainable, and cost competitive products, driven by large companies, MSMEs, and a supportive policy regime.

As part of the efforts to bolster India's status as a premier global manufacturing destination, CII identified and prioritized key areas of competitiveness during the year. These areas encompassed a range of critical domains, including innovation and technology adoption, skill development, ease of doing business, and environment sustainability.

ADVOCACY

The CII Council on Manufacturing Excellence submitted recommendations to the Government to strengthen manufacturing growth. These included launching national missions on advanced manufacturing and advanced materials, expanding the PLI scheme to sunrise and labour intensive sectors, and promoting green manufacturing.

ACTION

The 'CII National Summit on Indian Manufacturing @2047: Revolutionizing the Next Frontier – Future Ready, Future Smart' included focused sessions on R&D, technology adoption, supply chain resilience, and global value chain participation. Two reports highlighting key policy recommendations were launched during the summit. These were titled 'Future Momentum: Technology's Role in India's Manufacturing Transformation' and 'Raising the Standard: Quality Transformation in Indian Manufacturing'.

The 'Conference on Future Ready and Green Manufacturing for Viksit Bharat' emphasized sustainability and future readiness. The 'CII Manufacturing Conclave: The India Growth Story – Defining Future Readiness' explored opportunities in 7 key sectors of sustainable plastics, ceramics and sanitaryware, foundry, hearables and wearables, printing and packaging, tyres, and welding. The conclave also saw the unveiling of the report 'Towards a Sustainable Future: An Assessment of Indian Manufacturing'.



(L- R): Dilip Sawhney, Chairman, CII National Committee on Smart Manufacturing and Managing Director, Rockwell Automation India Pvt Ltd; Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog & Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and Deepak Shetty, Chairman, CII Council on Manufacturing Excellence and CEO and Managing Director, JCB India Ltd at the CII National Conference on Responsive Supply Chain for Indian Manufacturing in New Delhi



(L - R): Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Secretary, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry and Electronics & Information Technology; Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman & CEO - EY India and Chair – EY Growth Markets Council at the industry interaction in New Delhi

SMART MANUFACTURING

During the year, CII National Committee on Smart Manufacturing addressed user and technology solution providers' perspectives. Efforts were directed at helping industry overcome barriers to implementation, with a special focus on MSMEs. These efforts aim to drive industrial transformation and accelerate adoption of smart manufacturing practices. Key stakeholder engagements, including Government bodies, regulatory authorities, and industry partners, were aimed at spurring technological transformation of the industry.

ACTION

Capacity building programmes held along with global agencies, academia, and tech providers trained over 300 participants across 100 companies. The 'Roundtable on AI in Manufacturing and OT cybersecurity' was organized to enhance operational excellence and system security. The 9th edition of the 'Smart Manufacturing Summit' showcased the 'Industry 4.0 Adoption and Strategic Roadmap for Indian Manufacturing,' offering a blueprint to boost competitiveness and innovation, fostering India's leadership in digital powered manufacturing.

CAPITAL GOODS

As a key provider of machinery, equipment, and technology, the capital goods sector enables Indian manufacturers to upgrade capabilities, improve

productivity, and enhance competitiveness. A strong and self reliant capital goods sector is essential for reducing dependence on imports, promoting indigenous innovation, and supporting the Government's 'Make in India' initiative.

CII National Committee on Capital Goods and Engineering works towards enhancing competitiveness of India's capital goods sector to unlock its full potential and foster a globally competitive manufacturing ecosystem in India.

ADVOCACY

Collaborating with the Ministry of Heavy Industries on the National Capital Goods Policy 2025, CII led stakeholder engagements on digital technology, manufacturing hubs, and trade balance. Recommendations were made to help boost domestic manufacturing, drive technological advancements, expand exports, support MSMEs, and promote sustainability. Key outcomes include policy alignment on energy transition and enhanced industry-Government dialogues to strengthen India's capital goods sector.

An interactive session with Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry was organized to address regulatory hurdles in the sector. CII worked with BIS to strengthen quality ecosystems, focusing on standardization and implementing Quality Control Orders (QCOs).

CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

The chemicals and petrochemicals industry provides essential raw materials and intermediates for various downstream industries, such as textiles, pharmaceuticals, and automotive. CII National Committee on Chemicals and Petrochemicals identified strategic growth opportunities towards fostering a resilient, sustainable ecosystem to build a globally competitive chemicals and petrochemicals industry. Through R&D, innovation, collaboration, and a focus on sustainability, CII aims to position the sector for long term leadership, driving industry growth and creating lasting value on the global stage.

ADVOCACY

During the year, CII advocated for adoption of advanced technologies, supported decarbonization, and worked to enhance global competitiveness while ensuring a skilled and safe workforce. Key policy initiatives undertaken during the year included advocating for a PLI scheme, promoting the 'ChemIndia Portal' and advocating for QCOs to improve quality standards in the sector. Improving trade to position India's chemicals sector as a global leader was aligned with evolving environmental and technological standards.

ACTION

Sessions at the 'Indian Chemicals and Petrochemicals Conference' (ICPC'24) focused on themes such as R&D investment, export growth, and sustainability and their impact on the future of the sector.

The 'Conference on Sustainability & Plastics' saw the release of the report 'Solving Plastic Waste: Roadmap for a Sustainable Future'. The report outlines a strategic framework for addressing the lifecycle of plastics with an emphasis on enhancing plastic circularity and reducing environmental impact.

TEXTILES & APPAREL

India's textiles and apparel industry offers immense opportunities for growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship, particularly in the areas of technical textiles, sustainable manufacturing, and e-commerce. CII National Committee on Textiles & Apparel is

working to enhance market access through FTAs and improve raw material competitiveness. It is also working to advance PLI 2.0, promote sustainable infrastructure, and streamline ease of doing business in the textiles and apparel industry.

ADVOCACY

Strategic measures recommended to achieve the USD 100 billion export target by 2030 with emphasis on sustainability compliance and quality standards. CII engaged with the Ministry of Textiles to address industry concerns on proposed GST rate revisions. Discussions on key recommendations with policymakers resulted in a clearer policy direction on export competitiveness and taxation and an acknowledgement of industry concerns.

ACTION

Recognizing the sector's crucial role in the nation's economic growth, CII organized the 16th edition of 'TEXCON'24' under the theme 'Advancing India's Strategic Pursuit for Global Leadership in Textiles & Apparel with a Focus on Sustainability'. The conference facilitated collaborations across the textile value chain and discussions on market access expansion, raw material competitiveness, promoting Indian brands, and building plug and play infrastructure.

Considering the diverse applications of technical textiles, the 'National Symposium on Advancements in Composites, Specialty Fibers, and Chemicals' was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Textiles. Held under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), the symposium focused on developing indigenous capacity, addressing technology gaps and boosting innovation in high tech fibres and chemicals through industry academia collaboration.

CONSUMER ELECTRONICS AND DURABLES

CII National Committee on Consumer Electronics and Durables is working on key areas such as spurring domestic penetration, value chain localization, building export competitiveness, technology adoption, and promoting sustainable practices.

ADVOCACY

Product wise concerns related to QCOs and specific components, such as AC and refrigeration compressors, were raised during the year. To support indigenization and development of a robust component ecosystem in India, a focused PLI scheme was pushed for. These efforts aimed to address challenges in transitioning to value chain localization, given the evolving domestic ecosystem.

ACTION

The 1st edition of 'CII Consumer Electronics and Durables Summit' was organized on the theme 'Three Pillars of Success – Set the Right Ecosystem, Grow Domestic Scale and Drive Export Competitiveness'. A thought leadership report on the theme 'Vision 2030: India's rise as a Global Force in Consumer Electronics and Durables' featuring a 10 year roadmap for the sector was released during the summit.

The summit focused on 5 areas crucial to achieving global competitiveness - boosting exports, driving domestic demand, fostering industry academia collaboration on R&D, advancing digital manufacturing, and promoting energy transition and sustainability.

ELECTRONICS

As a critical component of the country's digital economy, the electronics sector plays a significant role in driving economic development, improving digital connectivity, and enhancing India's global competitiveness.

CII National Committee on Electronics Manufacturing supports the growth of the sector in India, with a focus on positioning the country as a global hub for electronics manufacturing. CII has formed collaborations to scale Government initiatives such as the 'PLI Scheme for Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing' and the 'Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme'.

ADVOCACY

Efforts to strengthen India's manufacturing ecosystem were aimed at reducing the country's reliance on imported electronic components. Advocacy for policies that support the Government's vision of 'Local Goes Global' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' were pursued to ensure development of high potential components and sub assemblies. Representations were made on CCTV technology, CRO testing, hearables and wearables and BCD on speaker assemblies to amplify industry voices.

CII worked to address challenges such as high import duties on components, unregulated CBU imports, and stringent compliance deadlines to provide a level playing field for Indian manufacturers. Government recognized this view in Union Budget 2025 by reducing customs duty on inputs/parts and sub parts of various electronic products such as wired headsets, and microphones.

CII's report on 'Developing India as the Manufacturing Hub for Electronic Components and Sub Assemblies' and a 'White Paper on Ease of Doing Business' provided strategic recommendations to boost domestic manufacturing and attract investments in electronics.



(L- R): Vinayak Dalmia, Managing Director, 3rdiTech; Vinod Sharma, Chairman, CII National Committee on Electronics Manufacturing and Managing Director, Deki Electronics Ltd; Vinod Subramanian, Vice President, Invest India; Amrit Manwani, Chairman and Managing Director, Sahasra Electronics Ltd; M A Johar, President, CP Plus; Rajeev Singh Thakur, Additional Secretary, DPIIT; Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consulting Editor, Business Standard; Dr Suraj Rengarajan, Managing Director, Applied Materials India and Divyanshu Gautam, Sr Commercial Director, Corning India at the Electronics Summit in New Delhi

ACTION

The 7th edition of the 'Electronics Summit' highlighted the need to focus on domestic component manufacturing to increase India's share in GVC from 15-20% to 40-45%. The 'Conference on Hearables and Wearables' highlighted export potential of this high tech segment.

SEMICONDUCTORS

CII Task Force on Semiconductors supports India's efforts of becoming a global hub for semiconductor manufacturing. Through initiatives such as advocating for the Semiconductor Mission and collaborations with global players, CII contributes to the development of a sustainable ecosystem for semiconductor fabrication and chip design and R&D.

The importance of a well integrated supply chain with strong backward and forward linkages with an aggregated database for manufacturers and raw material suppliers was also highlighted during the year.

ACTION

The 'Roundtable on Strengthening US-India Semiconductor Synergies' addressed regulatory frameworks, identified gaps, and made recommendations to enhance export control regulations. Another 'Roundtable on the Semiconductor Demand Strategy' emphasized the significance of infrastructure investments, building a robust semiconductor supply chain, and strengthening linkages with fabrication plants, OEMs, ODMs, and raw material suppliers. Key opportunities for semiconductor manufacturers in India and the need to work on custom related issues were also outlined.

STEEL

CII National Committee on Steel focused on advancing India's steel sector by fostering enhanced production capacities, boosting per capita steel consumption, and

aligning with the National Steel Policy. The objective is to reduce import dependence, support Make in India and position India's steel industry as a key driver of infrastructure and economic development.

ADVOCACY

During the year, efforts were focused on areas such as demand augmentation, development of logistics infrastructure, enhancing market competitiveness through improved trade policy, and steel decarbonization.

Recommendations submitted to the Government included a review of the suo moto trade actions, Rules of Origin (ROO) for all existing FTAs as 'Melted and Poured' and the removal of Lesser Duty Rule (LDR) to protect India against unfair trade practices. Further, suggestions were made for reduction of import duties on raw materials such as coking coal, limestone, and ferro niobium. The Union Budget 2024-25 adopted the CII recommendations on removal of basic customs duty on ferro nickel and blister copper, as well as the extension of zero basic customs duty on ferro scrap.

ACTION

The theme 'Viksit Bharat: Developing an Atmanirbhar and Globally Competitive Steel Sector' of the 'Steel Summit' explored the transformative potential of India's steel industry. Shri Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, Minister of State for Steel and Heavy Industries launched the 'India Green Steel Coalition (IGSC)' along with a report on 'Green Steel Production Pathways' during the summit. A joint initiative with WWF-India, this coalition will promote green steel manufacturing and consumption in India.

A series of webinars on 'AI in Predictive Maintenance' was held to educate steel producers on the need to maximize asset availability and output in addition to reducing maintenance costs.



(L- R): Koushik Chatterjee, Chairman, CII National Committee on Steel and Executive Director & CFO, Tata Steel Ltd; Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, Minister of State for Steel & Heavy Industries and Sandeep Poundrik, Secretary, Ministry of Steel at the Steel Summit in New Delhi



G Kishan Reddy, Minister of Coal and Mines at a CII interaction in New Delhi

MINING

CII National Committee on Mining worked on unlocking the potential of India's mining sector and positioning it as a global leader. By fostering private sector participation in the exploration and mining of critical, atomic, deep-seated, and rare earth minerals, CII aims to drive growth, support import substitution, and enable the country's clean energy transition.

ADVOCACY

Policy recommendations were made on exploration and mining of deep seated and critical minerals, low grade iron ore beneficiation, timelines for mining leases and composite licenses, and updated mining plan guidelines for coal and lignite blocks. Suggestions on critical mineral development led to the launch of the 'Critical Minerals Mission' in 2024 and a policy for extracting critical minerals from tailings in Union Budget 2025.

CII advocated for recovery of associated minerals, inclusion of contiguous lease areas, and utilization of legacy mineral stocks. Ministry of Mines accepted these requests along with amendments announced during the year.

ACTION

The 17th edition of the 'Global Mining Summit' focused on the theme 'Viksit Bharat: Role of a Sustainable Mining Industry'. Deliberations emphasized the need for ease of doing mining, critical minerals, technology, sustainability, health and safety,

and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Dialogues were built on these key areas during seminars on 'Mine Health and Safety' and 'Digital Mining', and 'Conference on Indian Foundry'.

GEMS AND JEWELLERY

The gems and jewellery sector continues to be amongst the most important sectors of India's economy. The sector contributes to both domestic manufacturing as well as exports, while offering livelihood opportunities to millions. The CII Task Force on Gems and Jewellery works to bring together industry players, sectoral associations, councils and Government representatives to strengthen the brand and address bottlenecks to growth of the gems and jewellery sector.

ACTION

The 'Gems and Jewellery Conference' deliberated on the theme 'Mining and Manufacturing to Markets and Economy'. The focus was on boosting jewellery exports, building brand India, and responsible jewellery business for sustainability. Thought leaders highlighted the frontiers for India's jewellery sector and encouraged the industry to build itself on the strength of integrity. Adoption of technology, innovation and skill development are expected to form the foundation for India to expand its global footprint. A research report on 'ESG Strategies and Practices in Indian Gems and Jewellery Industry' was also released.

Associations' Council (ASCON)

FOCUS

The CII Associations' Council (ASCON) is a pivotal platform that unites 107 national level sectoral associations, collectively representing over 75,000 Indian companies across primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors. By fostering collaboration and coordination among these associations, ASCON amplifies their collective voice, enhances their influence, and strengthens CII's advocacy efforts. Through this platform, ASCON aims to broaden the reach and impact of its member associations, promote policy dialogue, and drive inclusive growth across various sectors of the Indian economy.

Advocacy

ASCON actively engaged in discussions with senior industry leaders across sectors to identify key factors for enhancing industry competitiveness, a crucial element for fostering growth. As part of these efforts, CII in partnership with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) organized an 'Interactive Session on Capital Goods' chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry. Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry and Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Secretary, DPIIT and other senior Government officers also participated in the multi stakeholder interaction. The session discussed policy challenges and regulatory hurdles to boosting the growth and competitiveness of India's capital goods industry.

ASCON members had an interaction with Ministry of Corporate Affairs on the Prime Minister's Internship Programme. They advocated for expanding the programme beyond the top 500 companies and lowering the minimum age from 21 to 18. Members also highlighted the need to attract youth to manufacturing roles, and emphasized the importance of a robust communication strategy for successful implementation of the programme. During the meeting a session was held on the GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT), stressing its vital role in resolving pending disputes and streamlining tax related grievances.



Sampad Chandra Swain, Minister of State, Industries Department (I/C), Government of Odisha with S K Behera, Chairman, CII Eastern Region Council at the Meeting of the Associations' Council at Bhubaneswar



Anuradha Thakur, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman and CEO - EY India and Chair – EY Growth Markets Council at Meeting of CII Associations' Council in New Delhi

INFRASTRUCTURE

CII Infrastructure Council worked with key stakeholders to create a more resilient, sustainable and future ready infrastructure. Recognizing the need for low cost, long term financing mechanisms for the sector, advocacy for a 5 year extension of tax exemptions under Section 10(23FE) to attract long term infrastructure investments was taken up. In addition, recommendations were made for renewal of the Vivaad se Vishwas Scheme II and to include non sub judice cases for efficient dispute resolution in Government contracts.

AVIATION, AEROSPACE AND SHORT HAUL MOBILITY

India's aviation sector is on the cusp of a major transformation, with development of new technologies having potential to make a metamorphic impact on travel and mobility.

ADVOCACY

Initiatives to strengthen India's aviation and aerospace ecosystem were driven in association with Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA). A strategic vision for drones was submitted outlining short, medium and long term priorities. A roadmap for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) is also being developed. CII advocated for indigenous aerospace manufacturing and inclusion of the sector under the PLI scheme to attract investment.

ACTION

CII in partnership with MoCA organized the 'International Conference & Exhibition on Air Mobility' as part of the 'Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025'. Stakeholders discussed the future of Urban Air Mobility (UAM) in India at the conference, themed 'Aerial Evolution: Shaping Tomorrow's Urban Air Mobility'. Focus was on the broader aviation ecosystem, with an emphasis on advanced air mobility technologies such as drones and electric vertical take off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft.



(L- R): Amit Dutta, Chairman, CII Task Force on Short Haul Air Mobility & MD, Hunch Mobility; Salil Gupte, Chairman, CII National Committee on Aerospace Manufacturing & President- Boeing India; Vumlunmang Vualnam, Secretary, MoCA; Aditya Ghosh, Chairman, CII National Committee on Civil Aviation & Co-founder, Akasa Airlines at the International Conference and Exhibition on Air Mobility in Greater Noida

A study mission to 5 major airports of Germany i.e. Cologne, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Leipzig, and Munich was organized along with MoCA. The objective was to study Germany's advanced air cargo security policies, logistics infrastructure, and operational best practices.

An industry delegation interacted with senior Government officials on issues related to air connectivity, upgradation of airport infrastructure and air cargo.

RAILWAYS

India, being the 4th largest railway network in the world, is also the largest market for railway transportation, infrastructure and equipment and aims to contribute about 1.5% to India's GDP.

ADVOCACY

Representations were submitted to the Railway Board for disposal of pending cases on Indian Railways E-Procurement System (IREPS) under the one time settlement scheme 'Vivad Se Vishwas'. CII also requested for the introduction of a Master Policy for Dispute Redressal and making Electronic Reverse Auction (e-RA) optional for work tenders.

ACTION

During an interactive session with officials of the Railway Board discussions focused on railway safety, infrastructure, equipment, wagon and coach manufacturing, track, signaling, sustainability, and environment.

CII mounted a delegation to InnoTrans 2024 in Berlin, Germany, the world's leading trade fair for transport technology with Members of the railway sector along with officials from the Ministry of Railways. The delegation explored cutting edge rail technologies, engaged with global leaders, and identified opportunities for India's rail and mobility sectors.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

CII's National Committee on Roads and Highways continued to sharpen focus on making Indian roads safer and improving quality and sustainability of highways while lowering construction costs. Reviving Public Private Partnership (PPP) through appropriate risk sharing contract mechanisms was an important agenda for the year.

ACTION

The 2nd edition of the 'CII Road Safety Conclave' was themed 'Indian Roads @2030: The Safe Space'. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) addressed the conference which also witnessed participation of key stakeholders and senior officials from MoRTH including Shri V Umashankar, Secretary.

A high level roundtable discussion on 'Building Last Mile Connectivity: Flexible, Affordable, Sustainable Solutions' was held to chart a path towards a more inclusive and sustainable mobility ecosystem in India. The discussion emphasized smart mobility solutions such as bike taxis.

In an interactive session with Members, Shri Anurag Jain, the then Secretary, MoRTH outlined the Government's vision over the next few years. Discussions covered digitization of arbitration proceedings, lowering instances of arbitrations, road safety initiatives, and the need for revitalizing PPP.

REAL ESTATE AND HOUSING

Tier II and tier III cities in India have emerged as attractive investment hubs, an important factor for the growth of the country's real estate sector. CII National Committee on Real Estate advocated for inclusive and sustainable growth of the sector.

ADVOCACY

Recommendations were submitted on the need for GST amendments to foster growth of the sector. Emphasis was also laid on integrating house to habitation principle, along with inclusive rental and co-living solutions, to enhance housing accessibility.

ACTION

A report on 'Indian Real Estate: A Decade from Now' was released during the 'Conference on the Evolving Landscape: Trends and Future Outlook'. The report made recommendations on strategies and policy



(L-R): Rajiv Memani, President Designate – CII and Chairman and CEO - EY India and Chair – EY Growth Markets Council; Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport & Highways; Vinayak Pai, Chairman, CII National Committee on Roads & Highways and CEO & MD, Tata Projects; Rama Shankar Pandey, Chair, CII Task Force on Road Safety and Director (NED), Paracoat Products Ltd at the Road Safety Conference in New Delhi

reforms to help India's real estate sector attain the projected market size of USD 1.5 trillion by 2034.

The Government is promoting inclusive, affordable housing and advocating for increased access for lower income and marginalized populations. CII in association with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) organized the 'Conference on Indian Housing Landscape: Affordable to Accessible'.

The report titled 'Affordable Housing in India' released during the summit, projected a demand for 31.2 million affordable housing units by 2030.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND SMART CITIES

The CII National Committees on Urban Development and Smart Cities worked towards charting a collaborative, sustainable and strategic path for urban development in the Viksit Bharat.

ADVOCACY

Suggestions were made to the Government for implementing data driven strategies to enhance efficiency and sustainability of urban services.

ACTION

A closed door industry roundtable on 'Smart Urban Futures' deliberated on the role and utilization of data in demand supply of urban infrastructure, services and efficacy of delivery.

The roadmap for efficient integration and spreading awareness on BIM was deliberated upon at the conference on 'Building Information Modelling (BIM): Harnessing BIM for Future Ready Infrastructure'.

For the 'Swachhata Hi Sewa' (SHS) campaign CII partnered with the MoHUA. This campaign, themed 'Swabhav Swachhata - Sanskaar Swachhata' mobilized over 2000 industry volunteers.

SHIPPING AND PORTS

India's maritime sector plays a critical role in trade facilitation and economic growth, while utilizing the country's strategic location in global maritime trade. The Government has charted a roadmap to fully utilize the country's maritime potential in the vision documents of 'Maritime India Vision 2030' and 'Maritime Amrit Kal Vision 2047'.

ADVOCACY

CII shared inputs on first and last mile connectivity, land utilization, infrastructure and port development, among others. The suggestion regarding developing ship repair yard and ship breaking yard in East Coast was accepted by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

ACTION

The Government has curated dedicated guidelines for reducing emissions, in line with the COP 26 commitments. These guidelines call for use of clean/green energy in port operations, developing port capabilities for storage, handling and bunkering, use of greener fuels. To discuss this transition with stakeholders, CII organized the 'Harit Sagar Conference 2024'.

An interactive session with Shri T K Ramachandran, Secretary, Ports, Shipping & Waterways was organized to discuss current regional issues and areas of concern in the maritime sector.



(L-R): Gulam Zia, Lead, CII Task Force on Affordable Housing & Sr ED, Knight Frank India; Amit Goenka, CMD, Nisus Finance; Neel Raheja, Chairman, CII National Committee on Real Estate & Group President, K Raheja Corp; Srinivas Katikithala, Secretary, MoHUA; Pankaj Bajaj, CMD, Eldec Group; Deep Sen, CEO & Co Founder, India Housing for All at the Conference on Indian Housing Landscape in New Delhi

DEFENCE AND AEROSPACE

India's defence and aerospace sector is experiencing significant growth, with the country ranking 4th globally in firepower. In FY 2023-24, India achieved the highest ever defence exports at INR 21,083 crore, reflecting a 32.5% increase, alongside a record production value of INR 126,887 crore, marking a 16.8% rise. The Union Budget 2024-25 allocated INR 621,940 crore to defence, with INR 172,000 crore earmarked for modernization, emphasizing India's commitment to self-reliance. The issuance of 606 industrial licenses to 369 companies highlights the sector's rapid expansion, while initiatives such as the 'Positive Indigenization Lists' and the allocation of 75% domestic procurement under the Capital Acquisition Segment further reinforce India's drive for self reliance, positioning the country as a global defence manufacturing and export hub.

In alignment with this national agenda, CII through its dedicated arm, the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), catalyzed transformational growth in the defence ecosystem by spearheading over 100 impactful initiatives in 2024-25. These activities engaged stakeholders across domestic and international defence value chains, ensuring meaningful contributions to India's self reliance and export ambitions.

ADVOCACY

CII pursued significant policy reforms with the Government to enhance ease of doing business and promote indigenous defence manufacturing. A push was given to the request for holistic trial procedure reforms, a shift to the Full Cost No Commitment mode, QA reforms, and lifecycle sustainment contracts. Critical inputs were provided on the Military Airworthiness Bill and the DAP 2020 revision.

CII proposed categorization reviews for make projects and indigenous content incentives, GeM enhancements and implementation of surety bonds. A call was made for tax concessions, capital subsidies, and PLI schemes for defence manufacturing. CII urged the Government to consider higher RoDTEP incentives and focused initiatives to boost defence exports. Of 29 policy inputs submitted, 16 were fully accepted, 2 partially adopted, and 11 remain under consideration.

An ambitious vision for the defence sector under the Viksit Bharat@2047 mission was outlined and shared with the Ministry.

ACTION

Key initiatives, undertaken during the year, in partnership with the Indian Armed Forces focused on bridging the gap between operational requirements and indigenous solutions.



(L-R): Lt Gen Rajeev Puri, AVSM, VSM, GOC 17 Corps; Lt Gen Ram Chander Tiwari, UYSM, AVSM, SM, GOC-in-C Eastern Command & Col of the Kumaon & Naga Regts and Kumaon Scouts; Aroop Biswas, Minister-in-Charge Departments of Power, Housing, Youth Services and Sports, Government of West Bengal; Rajinder Singh Bhatia, President, SIDM and Chairman, Defence Business, Kalyani Group; Lt Gen RC Srikanth, VSM, COS Eastern Command and Sandeep Kumar, Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council at East Tech in Kolkata



(L-R): Rajinder Singh Bhatia; Rajnath Singh, Raksha Mantri; Gen Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, CDS & Secretary DMA, MoD at SIDM Annual Session in New Delhi

The 'East Tech 2024' connected industry, academia, and the Eastern Command with a view to addressing operational needs with innovative solutions. While 'SWAVLAMBAN 3.0' provided startups, MSMEs, DPSUs, DRDO, and industry a platform to showcase advancements in indigenization, 'ANTECH 2024' addressed challenges in the Andaman and Nicobar region, fostering partnerships for strategic solutions.

Interactive sessions were held with the Master General of Sustenance (MGS) to resolve lifecycle sustainment challenges. Requirements for the next generation platforms tailored for diverse terrains were highlighted at the 'Armoured Vehicles India Symposium & Exhibition'. The 17th edition of 'International Aerospace Conference' emphasized self-reliance and global leadership in aerospace technologies.

The 'Forward Area Tours' were a key initiative taken during the year. They helped industry understand operational requirements in high altitude and remote areas, fostering indigenous innovation in AI powered surveillance, habitat systems, and unmanned platforms. A series of webinars with the Indian Navy facilitated collaboration on modernization efforts across IT systems, AI/ML, advanced materials, warship design, and weapons systems.

Efforts were made to advance India's defence exports and international partnerships through strategic initiatives such as international delegations. Industry missions were organized to Australia, Brazil, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Oman, Poland, Romania, Spain, Saudi Arabia, UAE, United Kingdom, and Vietnam. CII advocated for Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA) with the United States to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between the two nations. MOUs were established with global defence associations,

including BDSV (Germany), TEDAE (Spain), EDCC & EDGE (UAE), to promote bilateral trade and technology exchange.

Recognizing MSMEs and startups as key contributors to self reliance, several key initiatives were implemented during the year. While industrial visits to advanced manufacturing facilities offered exposure to state-of-the-art processes, MSME conclaves empowered small businesses to integrate into defence supply chains. Region specific meets were conducted in collaboration with the CII state offices to address local challenges and strengthen grassroots advocacy. A Defence Technology Incubation Council was set up during the year to nurture innovation through mentorship, tools, and funding access.

CII prioritized skill development and capability to strengthen India's defence sector workforce. The 'Defence Acquisition Management Course' trained over 200 professionals on acquisition processes and specialized GeM training sessions equipped over 200 industry representatives with procurement insights. 'Ex-Servicemen Job Fairs' connected thousands of veterans to employment opportunities.



(L-R): Lt Gen JP Nehra, PVSM, AVSM (Retd), Principal Adviser, SIDM; Ramesh K, DG, SIDM; Rajinder Singh Bhatia and Air Marshal Saju Balakrishnan, AVSM, VM, Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN) at ANTECH in Port Blair

ENERGY

India's energy sector is undergoing a transformative journey. The country is looking to add 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030, and even traditional energy sectors are transitioning to clean energy businesses. CII's activities in the energy sector are in sync with this overall momentum towards the national sustainability goal of achieving net zero by 2070.

CII adopted a multi pronged approach across energy sub sectors for a smooth transformation focusing on four pillars: empowering manufacturing, enabling energy access, enhancing energy supply and energy transition. These four pillars were also the track of the flagship energy conference which for the first time brought conventional and new energy companies under one umbrella.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

ADVOCACY

The CII National Committee on Renewable Energy focused on addressing transmission connectivity delays, stricter Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) enforcement, and promoting wind energy under uniform state guidelines. Representations were made regarding delays in signing of Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for renewable energy projects, which hinder progress and affect compliance with RPOs. Additionally, concerns were raised about the misallocation of transmission capacity, with a call for better planning and infrastructure to ensure balanced development of wind and solar energy.

ACTION

The 'Renewable Energy Global Investors Meet & Expo', organized in partnership with Government of India and IREDA, showcased the country's renewable energy potential and highlighted India's leadership in the sector. The event featured 43 sessions attended by over 50,000 delegates, including 250 international



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 4th Global RE-INVEST at Gandhinagar, Gujarat

participants and speakers. Australia, Denmark, Germany, and Norway were some of the countries that participated. Eight partner states, including Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat, were involved, alongside representatives of 22 other states and union territories. An MoU was signed for the India-Germany Platform for Investments in Renewable Energies to develop sustainable solutions. Apart from 363 companies engaging in 816 B2B and 110 B2G meetings, Gujarat pledging to add 128.60 GW capacity by 2030, the overall investments attracted are expected to generate 82 lakh jobs. The event positioned India as a key player in global renewable energy efforts and underscored its commitment to international climate goals.

CII hosted the 5th edition of the 'International Conference & Exhibition on Clean Energy' to take forward the discussions on operational challenges in energy transition. Held in partnership with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the conference focused on the theme 'Global Dialogue on Energy Transformation'. Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New and Renewable Energy and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution launched 'Energy Transition Investment Monitoring (ETIM) 2.0', a platform aimed at connecting renewable energy project developers with global investors.



(L-R): Vineet Mittal, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Renewable Energy and Founder and Chairman, Avaada Group; Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman and CEO - EY India and Chair – EY Growth Markets Council; Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New & Renewable Energy and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Girish Tanti, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Renewable Energy and Vice Chairman, Suzlon Group; Sameer Gupta, Chairman, CII Group on RE Manufacturing and CMD, Jakson Group at the International Conference & Exhibition on Clean Energy in New Delhi

The platform tracks over 1000 energy transition investment opportunities, contributing to India's economic growth, job creation, and long term climate action goals.

The report titled 'Energy Transition for Viksit Bharat 2047' highlighted current challenges in the renewable energy sector. Based on interviews with Members of the CII National Committee on Renewable Energy, the report outlines key strategies for promoting India's long term economic development through wind manufacturing. It also highlights the need for aligning import duties with solar components, introducing domestic content requirements for wind manufacturing and strengthening testing protocols. Other recommendations include the hybridization of mega solar parks, a single window approval system, and tariff rationalization to reflect raw material costs.

GREEN HYDROGEN

ADVOCACY

The CII Task Force on Green Hydrogen created four groups to address various issues across the value chain. These groups focused on capacity building and balancing; bidding guidelines and terms of commission; creating demand through developing supply side / user industry; and regulation standards and codes, testing facilities and policy Interventions

ACTION

CII was the industry partner for the steering group meeting of 'International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy' (IPHE) and its industrial and academia outreach programmes in India. Key topics included technology, safety, trade and investments, with India emphasizing green hydrogen and urging collaboration to accelerate transition and supportive policies. The IPHE is dedicated to advancing hydrogen and fuel cell technologies globally. The biannual IPHE Steering Committee Meetings facilitate information exchange on policy and technical developments, helping to identify key areas for collaboration which inform subsequent initiatives in member countries.

The delegation to the '26th World Energy Congress' in Rotterdam showcased India's energy transition. The delegation sought partnerships in technology and green finance, highlighting free trade agreements, innovative financing and global cooperation for clean energy development.

A workshop themed 'Moving Towards Sustainable Water, Waste Management and Energy in Andaman and Nicobar Islands' was held in partnership with Dr BR Ambedkar Institute of Technology (DBRIT) and was supported by the Andaman & Nicobar Administration. Focused on safeguarding the fragile ecosystem, the workshop addressed water security, waste management, and energy sustainability for the archipelago's socio economic development.

STORAGE

ACTION

With the global surge in renewable energy, energy storage systems are gaining momentum. A CII workshop on 'India's Outlook on Clean Energy Storage: A Roadmap to Net Zero' deliberated on the need for boosting domestic manufacturing, enhancing R&D investment, policy issues among others to promote energy storage sector in India. The idea was to have focused discussions on India's strategy for achieving net zero emissions, emphasizing clean energy storage solutions, challenges, and opportunities. The critical need for 300 GWh of energy storage capacity to support India's goal of renewable energy, domestic battery manufacturing, sustainable sourcing, and recycling was deliberated upon.

A report focusing on the workshop theme was also released. It highlights energy storage priorities necessary to be addressed to drive a 12 fold market growth by 2032. The analysis addresses issues of circular economy for batteries, extraction of reusable elements and disposing batteries safely into the environment. The report offers recommendations from not just the renewable energy sector, but also from automobiles and ancillaries of battery manufactures, developers of pumped hydro, grid operators, among others.



Vikram Handa, Chairman, CII Initiative on Clean Energy Storage Systems and Managing Director, Epsilon Advance Materials and Srikanth Nagulapalli, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power at the launch of the report on 'India's Outlook on Clean Energy Storage: A Roadmap to Net Zero' in New Delhi

POWER

ADVOCACY

The CII National Committee on Power continued to advocate for strategic interventions to foster growth and ease of doing business in India's power sector. Recommendations were submitted for amendments to Rule 9C under Section 72A of the Income Tax Act, proposing a reduction in the required production threshold for renewable energy companies from 50% to 20% to address the sector's unique challenges.

Concerns regarding RBI's draft guidelines on project loan provisioning were raised and suggestions made for exclusion of renewable energy projects from norms that restrict lending. The representation on supply chain issues in transmission system development advocated for adoption of a rolling plan and capacity reservation agreements to enhance project delivery and boost capacity of local suppliers.

Representations were submitted on Standard Bidding Documents for power procurement from thermal generating stations set up on a finance, own, operate (FOO) basis under Para B(v) of the SHAKTI policy. The suggestions included maintaining separate procurement models for design, build, finance, operate, transfer (DBFOT), design, build, finance, own, and operate (DBFOO), FOO and short term contracts to improve project viability and regulatory certainty.

ACTION

The 2nd edition of 'CII Conference on Smart Metering' aimed at accelerating smart meter adoption through innovation and collaboration. The conference addressed key challenges and roadblocks, and suggested strategies for successful implementation. The deliberations offered valuable insights for stakeholders to remain at the forefront of the evolving smart metering landscape.

HYDROCARBONS

ADVOCACY

The CII National Committee on Hydrocarbons has led policy advocacy and industry engagement in the sector, focusing on reducing import dependence, decarbonization, and natural gas as a transition fuel. This approach supports emission reduction through use of natural gas in transportation, industrial, and residential sectors. CII continued to advocate for the inclusion of 5 remaining petroleum and natural gas items under the GST framework to bring in taxation efficiencies.

The committee made recommendations to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) on encouraging piped natural gas adoption, including subsidizing domestic consumers, and integrating gas pipelines in smart city plans. A pan India City Gas Distribution Policy focused on reducing restoration costs and expediting approvals was proposed.

BIOENERGY

The CII Committee on Bioenergy aligned the work with the CII theme of 'Accelerating Sustainable Growth for a Resilient India'. Through 4 sub groups, the committee addresses supply chain inefficiencies; regulatory challenges; carbon credit mechanisms; and fostering bioenergy as a cornerstone of India's energy future.

ADVOCACY

Policy measures proposed during the year included compressed biogas (CBG) projects under the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) 1981 for operational continuity. Recommendations were also made to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for legal clarity in bioenergy projects.

With a focus on emerging solutions such as ethanol, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), and advanced biofuels, regulatory challenges were addressed to position India as a leader in low carbon innovation. Interactive sessions were held with policymakers including senior officials of the MoPNG to address ethanol blending, SAF development, and CBG production, fostering actionable outcomes.



(L-R): Tarun Sawhney, Co-Chairman, CII Committee on Bioenergy, and Vice Chairman, Triveni; Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport & Highways; Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd and Shishir Joshipura, Co-Chairman, CII Committee on Bioenergy & CEO & Managing Director, Praj Industries Ltd at the 12th Bioenergy Summit in New Delhi

ACTION

The 12th 'CII Bioenergy Summit' themed 'Fuelling the Future - Securing India's Green Growth Goals' highlighted bioenergy's role in achieving energy security, sustainability, and climate goals. The summit celebrated India's significant progress in ethanol blending, which surged from 1.53% in 2014 to 15% in 2024, with a 20% target set for 2025.

FUTURE MOBILITY

CII continued to drive the agenda of clean and sustainable mobility solutions that reduce traffic congestion, cut logistics costs, and ensure an efficient, future ready mobility network. Efforts were directed at promoting innovation in domestic manufacturing by advocating for Government initiatives such as Production Linked Incentives (PLIs), adoption of advanced battery technologies, photovoltaics, and charging infrastructure.

ADVOCACY

CII recommended that the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways consider removal of the mandate for a separate commercial license under the Motor Vehicles Act for Light Motor Vehicles weighing less than 7500 kg. This mandate is timeconsuming and costly, hindering livelihood opportunities, especially for those from weaker sections of society.

ENERGY SECURITY

CII works towards institutionalizing a mechanism for a regular interface between the Government, industry, academia, civil society and media on issues related to India's energy security. Efforts are being directed at addressing issues related to oil and gas, critical minerals, cross border integration of renewable energy, and cross border power trading.

ADVOCACY

A paper was published along with Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta on the 'India-ASEAN Power Trading and Regional Grid Connectivity: Challenges and Interventions'. A high level discussion was also organized to identify challenges of regional grid connectivity between India and ASEAN, suggest innovative strategies and make policy recommendations.

The project on 'Changing Dynamics of World Energy: India's Preparedness from Energy Security to Net Zero' studied the global and Indian energy scenarios. The project will assess prevalent policy initiatives and schemes aimed at promoting energy conservation, efficiency, and transition to cleaner energy sources in India.

The existing availability of critical minerals in India was studied under the project 'Creating a Comprehensive Framework to Boost India's Critical Mineral Drive'. The project evaluated Government strategies and policies

for critical minerals and the supply chain challenges. The project identified strategies to enhance domestic exploration of critical minerals and investment opportunities available.

ACTION

India's growing energy consumption, projected to reach 1075 million tonnes oil equivalent (mtoe) by 2040, formed the foundation of discussions at the 'Energy Security Conference'. The conference was organized along with the Ministry of External Affairs and under the guidance of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. The conference built dialogues on strategies to ensure energy security while meeting climate goals and possibilities for stakeholder collaboration to shape India's energy future.

CII and Ministry of Power brought topics critical to energy security up for discussion at the 'South Asia (BBIN) Power Summit 2024'. The need for a plan to enhance cross border power trade in the BBIN region, and design strategies to establish integrated transmission lines under the ambit of 'One Sun One World One Grid Connectivity' were deliberated upon. The summit aimed to strengthen energy cooperation among BBIN member countries. Stakeholders also highlighted the business opportunities offered by the region and the potential for promoting regional energy integration and collaboration.



Periasamy Kumaran, Special Secretary (ER & DPA), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India at the Energy Security Conference in New Delhi



Suresh Acharya, Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Government of Nepal at the South Asia (BBIN) Power Summit in New Delhi

FAST MOVING CONSUMER GOODS

The FMCG sector experienced a dynamic year characterized by shifting consumer behaviours and technological evolution. The CII National Committee on FMCG continued to champion industry growth by engaging in regulatory advocacy, fostering stakeholder dialogue, and addressing emerging challenges.

ADVOCACY

CII facilitated productive interactions with policymakers, ensuring that the FMCG sector's priorities were reflected in regulatory deliberations.

Critical regulatory discussions were advanced with a representation to retain Rule 11(4) and the Third Schedule of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011. The regulation acknowledged natural weight variations in products such as soaps, driven by environmental conditions. Alternative solutions, such as secondary packaging, were deemed difficult to implement due to increased costs and waste generation. Drawing on international practices, the representation bolstered the case for preserving these rules to benefit both industry and consumers.

A representation opposing proposed amendments to Rule 3, which is aimed at including bags exceeding 25 kilograms within the rules, was submitted to the authorities. Evidence indicated these larger packages cater to small contractors rather than individual consumers. The representation highlighted operational strain and negligible consumer benefit associated with this amendment, advocating for its withdrawal.

ACTION

The 'CII National FMCG Summit' saw industry leaders and stakeholders explore strategies for adapting to a rapidly evolving market. The summit, themed 'Metamorphosis – Change Lanes to Unlock Growth', examined India's dual consumer landscape, where rural consumers seek value driven products while urban buyers demand convenience and personalization. Discussions highlighted the rise of quick commerce, the challenges of navigating a multi channel environment . They also explored sectoral growth opportunities including innovations in supply chain management and use of first party data to enhance consumer engagement. Sustainability remained a core focus, with emphasis on strategies for embedding green practices into business models while maintaining profitability.

'Interactive CEO Sessions' offered a platform for strategic insights. These sessions examined India's growth trajectory amid global uncertainties and discussed leadership driven growth strategies. They reinforced the importance of visionary leadership in navigating an increasingly complex business environment.



Bharat Puri, Chairman, CII National Committee on FMCG and Managing Director, Pidilite Industries at CII National FMCG Summit in Mumbai

SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

In 2024, India's banking and finance sector showcased remarkable stability and innovation in effectively meeting the diverse credit needs of the economy. CII collaborated with Members, regulators, and the Government to foster a supportive regulatory framework, driving the overall growth of the Indian financial sector.

BANKING

ADVOCACY

During the year, discussions revolved around providing finance to important sectors of the economy such as infrastructure, MSMEs, exports, climate finance and ESG. An important aspect pertaining to 'Striking a Balance Between Technological Innovations and Customer Privacy' was also discussed. Various working groups were formed with Members indicating interest in sharing inputs and making policy recommendations.

NBFC AND HFCs

ADVOCACY

Working groups were formed to finalize recommendations and submission to relevant authorities for consideration on various regulatory aspects. These included scale based regulations, strengthening liabilities and diverse capital reserves, responsible lending practices in microfinance, re-financing institutions for NBFCs and HFCs, and encouraging responsible growth of NBFCs.

INSURANCE AND PENSIONS

ADVOCACY

Issues and challenges impacting the insurance industry discussed during the year included allowing value added services, ease of bringing FDI, standardization of treatment and pricing in health insurance, among others. Government support was sought on existing issues such as taxation on health and annuity products and implementation of data protection.

ACTION

The way forward on existing issues of the insurance sector was discussed during closed door roundtables with Dr M P Tangirala, Additional Secretary, and Shri Prashant Kumar Goyal, Joint Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance.

At the 25th edition of the 'Insurance & Pensions Summit' Members echoed their request on interventions expected from the Insurance Regulator and the Ministry of Finance to develop a robust insurance sector.

As recommended by CII, the Union Budget 2025-26 announced the formation of a forum for regulation and development of more competitive pension products.

FINTECH

ADVOCACY

Implementation of a uniform KYC regime, scale based regulations, and strengthening business correspondents model were discussed as imperatives to propelling inclusive growth.

ACTION

A closed door 'Virtual Industry Interaction' was held with the Reserve Bank of India to present to and seek advice and guidance on a set of key recommendations. Senior Government officials of the Ministry of Finance addressed the 'Financial Inclusion and FinTech Summit'. Issues related to digital lending and payments were discussed at the summit. Stakeholders stressed the importance of collaborations and partnerships among financial institutions for the nation's holistic growth.

A handbook titled 'An Easy Guide to Financial Literacy' was released during the summit. The handbook explains the role of money as a medium of exchange, the importance of earning, saving, and spending wisely. It also provides guidance on making prudent financial decisions to meet long term goals and security.

PRIVATE EQUITY AND VENTURE CAPITAL

ADVOCACY

Various working groups deliberated on matters related to mobilizing domestic pools of capital, safeguarding investor rights, issues facing foreign funds, regulatory and tax related challenges.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

ADVOCACY

Deepening of corporate bond markets, prioritizing quality disclosure of material information, simplifying the framework governing Related Party Transactions (RPTs) and developing a green bond framework and green financing were some of the areas of work during the year.

ACTION

Recommendations on financial markets and PE&VC sector were presented for consideration of the SEBI Chairperson during an industry interaction.

NEW INITIATIVES

During the year, CII curated and launched the 1st edition of the 'CII Financing Summit' under the Chairmanship of Dr Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India. Financial sector experts, policymakers and regulators deliberated on the theme 'Preparing for a Viksit Bharat', to explore the channels of funding cross sectoral growth.

An evolving regulatory framework, funding infrastructure growth, supporting MSMEs, insurance sector challenges, and transitioning from a nation of savers to a nation of investors were explored during the summit.



(L-R): Ira Duggal, Editor, Reuters; C S Setty, Chairman, State Bank of India; Sanjiv Bajaj, Past President CII and Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd; Dr V Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India; Ashishkumar Chauhan, Managing Director & CEO, National Stock Exchange and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the Financing 3.0 Summit in Mumbai

MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

CII has launched a series of initiatives to promote and develop India's media and entertainment sector. The objective is to expand the sector's presence in global markets in close collaboration with industry stakeholders and the Government of India.

ADVOCACY

CII actively participated in major policy interventions to support the growth of India's media and entertainment industry. A representation on the Draft Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill 2023 was submitted to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB). The recommendations addressing industry concerns and aimed at ensuring a balanced regulatory framework are under consideration by the Ministry.

A submission made to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) and MoIB highlighted practical challenges arising from the former's amendments to the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply, and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2024 (COTPA Amendment Rules). The representations address industry concerns regarding compliance, implementation, and potential impact on stakeholders.

CII participated in stakeholder consultations following the Supreme Court's order on Advertising Regulations Compliance. These dialogues advocated for practical solutions that balance regulatory adherence with industry requirements.

ACTION

The 22nd year of CII's participation in the prestigious 'Marché du Film', the film market held alongside the 'Cannes Film Festival' in France, marked a significant milestone. For over two decades, CII has consistently showcased India's media and entertainment industry on this global platform. The initiative aims to highlight India's strengths in content creation, connect Indian content creators and distributors with global markets, promote international co-productions, and enhance India's soft power on the world stage.

The 'CII-Bharat Pavilion' was inaugurated by Shri Javed Ashraf, Ambassador of India to France, and Shri Sanjay Jaju, Secretary, MoIB. The pavilion was a testament to India's growing influence and opportunities in the global film industry, fostering creativity, collaboration, and international partnerships. It offered a unique platform for the 30 regional filmmakers to connect with global counterparts. Centered on the theme 'Create in India for the World', the pavilion positioned India as a hub for independent filmmakers and producers while facilitating collaboration. More than 100 business meetings were conducted over the week.

'CII Summit FX 2024' was held in collaboration with the MoIB and Karnataka as the partner state. It brought together over 300 stakeholders, 50 speakers, and 12 sessions to explore the theme 'Connecting Creativity with Technology'. The event addressed India's AVGC sector's growth, unveiling the knowledge report 'FX & Beyond: Shaping India's AVGC Landscape'. Discussions revolved around the National AVGC-XR Policy, regional development, and skilling.

Role of emerging technologies such as AI within the AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics) sector was also discussed. The summit emphasized creating global IPs, fostering innovation, and building a robust ecosystem to position India as a global AVGC leader.



Sanjay Jaju, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India; Dr. Jawed Ashraf, Ambassador of India to France at the inauguration of the CII Bharat Pavilion at Cannes



(L-R): Shalabh Saxena, Partner and Media & Entertainment Industry Leader, Grant Thornton Bharat; Sanjay Jaju; Biren Ghose, Chair, CII Sub Committee on AVGC & Vice Chair, CII National M&E Committee and Managing Director, Asia Pacific, Technicolor Group; Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skills and Entrepreneurship and Ruchi Bindal, Deputy Secretary, Department of ITBT, Government of Karnataka at CII FX Summit in New Delhi

CII participated in 'IndiaJoy 2024', a digital entertainment festival showcasing India's vibrant AVGC and digital content ecosystem. The event served as a global platform to highlight India's potential in content creation, immersive technologies, and innovation. Panel discussions, networking sessions, and showcases highlighted opportunities in skilling, regional development, and emerging technologies such as AI and XR.

The 'Networking Evening' hosted at 'IFFI 2024' brought together industry leaders, filmmakers, and celebrities. Panel discussions revolved around how Indian content has taken flight and served as a curtain raiser for the 'Big Picture Summit 2025'. Eminent speakers from the Indian film industry and CII Members emphasized global storytelling, innovative marketing, and emerging technologies. The importance of

collaborations such as the India Spain co-production and skilling initiatives with the Indian Institute of Creative Technologies (IICT) was also highlighted.

The 'Anti Piracy Challenge' was launched in collaboration with MoIB under the 'Create in India' initiative to address the sector's rising piracy threats. The initiative emphasizes CII's commitment to strengthening India's creative economy by supporting technological advancements and protecting the rights of content creators, ensuring a sustainable and secure ecosystem for the industry. Focused on innovative media and entertainment content security solutions, the challenge fosters innovation while safeguarding intellectual property and digital content. It will be held during 'World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025'.



(L-R): Biren Ghose; Nikhil Advani, Director, Producer & Screenwriter; Boman Irani, Actor & Director; Bobby Bedi, Producer & Director; Rajan Navani, Chairman & Managing Director, Jetline Group and JetSynthesys; Anna Saura, Producer; Nikunj Garg, Senior Managing Editor, NDTV at networking evening hosted at the CII IFFI 2024 in Goa

RETAIL

CII has taken a lead in advancing the retail industry in India through a range of strategic initiatives.

Acknowledging the pivotal position of the retail industry in the nation's economic framework, CII participates in policy development, advocacy, and promoting collaboration with a view to strengthening this industry, enhancing its competitiveness and ensure consumer friendly practices.

ACTION

A white paper carrying case studies of sustainable retail practices in India was initiated last year. The paper will document innovative approaches adopted by retailers to integrate sustainability across operations, supply chains, and consumer engagement. The white paper will highlight successful strategies such as waste reduction, energy efficiency, circular economy models, and the adoption of eco-friendly products. By showcasing real world examples, the paper aspires to provide actionable insights and inspire the retail sector to embrace sustainability as a core business strategy.

E-COMMERCE

India's e-commerce industry has witnessed significant growth and is on track to becoming one of the largest globally. The CII National Committee on E-commerce advocated for policy reforms, aiming to establish a regulatory framework that facilitates industry expansion and ensures a level playing field for stakeholders.

ADVOCACY

A representation was made to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) addressing industry concerns regarding the guidelines for Payment Aggregators – Cross Border (PA-CB). The submission focused on resolving operational and compliance challenges faced by payment service providers in facilitating cross border transactions. Emphasizing the need for balanced regulations, CII advocated for seamless international payment processes that foster innovation and competitiveness. The representation called for policy

measures aligned with global standards to ensure sustained growth in an increasingly interconnected global marketplace. These measures are focused on enhancing ease of doing business and strengthening India's digital economy.

ACTION

The CII Working Group on E-commerce Exports developed a comprehensive report aimed at boosting cross-border trade through e-commerce. The report examines India's e-commerce export landscape and provides actionable recommendations for increasing its share in global markets. It emphasizes strategies for streamlining customs procedures, reducing operational complexities, and fostering partnerships with global platforms. By addressing key challenges and identifying growth opportunities, the report seeks to position e-commerce exports as a significant contributor to India's total exports, supporting its expansion and strengthening India's presence in the global digital trade ecosystem.

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

The tourism and hospitality sector is a key driver of economic activity and an integral part of India's growth narrative. According to the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC), the sector is expected to contribute INR 36.8 trillion by 2033 to the GDP, accounting for approximately 7% of India's economy. It is also expected to employ over 58.2 million people, with 1 in every 10 jobs linked to the sector. The CII National Committee on Tourism serves as a catalyst for advancing the tourism sector and positioning tourism as a mainstream industry.

ADVOCACY

CII participated in an interaction of tourism and hospitality industry bodies/federations, travel and trade associations and other key stakeholders with Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Tourism. The dialogue marked the initiation of a series of forward looking proposals aimed at making India a year round destination for global tourists.



(L-R): Puneet Chhatwal, Chairman, CII National Committee on Tourism and Hospitality and MD & CEO, IHCL; Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Minister of Communications & DoNER, and Priya Paul, Chairperson, Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels at the CII Annual Tourism Summit in New Delhi

CII advocated industry status, infrastructure status for the sector, introducing the long impending National Tourism Policy and establishing a dedicated tourist police force to ensure round-the-clock security at major tourist destinations.

A recommendation was submitted to the Ministry of Tourism to address parking and ground coverage limitations for existing hotels seeking to utilize increased FAR and aligning rates for hotels with commercial properties to incentivize investment in hotel expansion. A meeting was also held with senior officials of the Delhi Development Authority to resolve these issues.

Suggestions were shared with Ministry of Tourism and India's G20 Sherpa to introduce key Initiatives to strengthen India's tourism sector. These include 'Mission Suvidha' for improving last mile connectivity, 'Paryatan Vikas' for skill development, 'Mission Nivesh' for enhanced investments and 'Mission Suraksha' for tourist safety and security.

CII's recommendation of conferring industry status to the hospitality sector in Andhra Pradesh was accepted by the State Government and incorporated in the State Tourism Policy. This will help the industry attract

investments and develop infrastructure, essential for positioning the State among the top 5 in foreign tourist arrivals. The state tourism policy framework proposed by CII also emphasized ways to create employment opportunities.

A call on meeting with the Minister of Tourism and Culture was held to discuss strategies for enhancing domestic and inbound tourism, conferring industry status, skill development and sector branding. Following the meeting, a representation was submitted to emphasize the need to revive inbound tourism by reestablishing connections between global B2B travel buyers and the Indian tourism industry. Key initiatives highlighted included the launch of 'Incredible India 3.0', participation in international travel shows and scheduling the 'India Tourism Mart' (ITM) within the current financial year.

Inputs were submitted on the Draft Goa Tourism Promotion, Management, and Regulation Bill 2024. The suggestions focused on ensuring a favourable business environment, simplifying registration processes, rationalizing fees and event permits.

A 'Samvaad on Revenue Trends and Issues Related to Hospitality, Travel & Tourism' with Directorate General of Goods & Services Tax (DGGST) was held.

The dialogue addressed key GST challenges and practical issues faced by the industry. A comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at fostering tax compliance and facilitating trade within the sector were submitted.

Union Budget 2025-26 partially accepted several CII recommendations. The development of 50 key tourist destinations and their inclusion in Infrastructure Harmonized list aligns with CII's call for infrastructure status for hotels and structured destination development. Expansion of the UDAN scheme to 120 new destinations is also in line with CII's advocacy for improved regional connectivity and last mile tourism infrastructure. Intensive skill development programmes in hospitality align with CII's push for industry led workforce training. The focus on spiritual and medical tourism supports CII's recommendation to boost niche tourism segments such as MICE, cruise, adventure, and heritage tourism.

ACTION

The 18th 'CII Annual Tourism Summit' was held under the theme 'Can Tourism be the Game Changer for India?'. The summit held discussions on the sector's recent achievements, challenges and strategies for further growth. The deliberations also focused on strengthening inbound tourism, ease of doing tourism business, and employment and skill development.



Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Tourism & Culture at the CII Annual Tourism Summit in New Delhi



Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir at the CII Annual Tourism Summit in New Delhi

Senior ministers, Government officials, diplomats and industry thought leaders addressed more than 375 delegates from the tourism and hospitality industry.

The 'CII-EY Report on Employment Landscape in Tourism and Hospitality in India' was also released during the summit. The report provides a forward-looking analysis of employment trends in the sector and its critical role in driving economic growth and job creation. The report also introduced the innovative 'Tourism Employment Index' (TEI) which will enable better analysis of the employment dynamics.

WASTE TO WORTH

CII's 'Waste to Worth Movement' is a part of the commitment to promoting sustainability across the industry. The initiative helps companies manage and reduce the environmental impact of their operations. One key area of attention is technologies enabling waste to worth transformation, with an emphasis on encouraging circular economy practices. Through this movement, CII fosters collaboration among companies, Governments, and other stakeholders to develop and implement strategies that contribute to a sustainable future.

ADVOCACY

CII's 'National Circular Economy Framework (NCEF) Edition 2' focuses on key milestones, targets, scale, and timelines for 16 sectors that align with the 11 focus areas identified by NITI Aayog. The 'White Paper on Top Issues Related to Waste to Worth Sector' was curated to serve as a valuable resource for policymakers, industry leaders, and those committed to advancing sustainable waste management practices in India.

ACTION

The 9th edition of the 'International Conference on Waste to Worth Technologies' was themed 'Enabling Partnerships for Growth Through Sustainable Environs'. The event brought together key stakeholders from various sectors, including Government, industry, startups, and educational and research institutions. The critical role of waste management, technology, policy, and public private partnerships in building a sustainable future was emphasized during the deliberations.

Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, highlighted the importance of rethinking resource use amidst global challenges such as energy consumption, biodiversity loss, and desertification.

A compendium of outstanding work done by 45 organizations was released during the conference. The objective was to reward best practices adopted by industry players, startups, and research institutes to set a benchmark of excellence in waste management. The 5th edition of the 'CII 4R Awards' received more than 75 applications of which 60 were shortlisted by an expert committee. The Grand Jury awarded 45 applicants in 7 categories.

The first ever 'Mission to Japan on Technologies Enabling Waste to Worth' comprised 15 representatives of industry, academic institutions, startups, and research labs. The mission was a platform for Members to network with representatives of leading Japanese companies as well as representatives of technology and incineration centers. The delegation also met the Ambassador of India to Japan to explore potential areas of collaboration between India and Japan.



Sibi George, Ambassador of India to Japan, along with the members of the CII Mission on Waste to Wealth Technologies to Japan

HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

HEALTHCARE

India's healthcare sector is poised to experience phenomenal growth. Key drivers of this growth include a trainable workforce to address human resource shortages, increasing disease burden, rising healthcare consumption and health insurance penetration, increased investments by PE funds, and diversification of care delivery models. The critical goal of achieving quality healthcare that is both accessible and affordable remains an aspiration for India. Healthcare, encompassing care, treatment, and prevention, has become a central narrative linking the economy and businesses to the overarching goal of Health for All.

CII focuses on creating value for India's healthcare ecosystem by prioritizing key areas that drive systemic improvement and access.

ADVOCACY

The 3rd edition of 'CII Digital Health Summit' addressed crucial topics such as improvements in care delivery, ethical implementation, and responsible AI. Insightful discussions were held on emerging healthcare trends and innovations. The summit

showcased RIA, a humanoid robot capable of offering personalized health advice by interpreting health data, prescriptions, and lab reports.

The need for a comprehensive and inclusive approach to health insurance was emphasized at the 17th edition of 'Health Insurance Summit'.

The deliberations on the theme 'Health Insurance for All by 2047' addressed key challenges such as the trust deficit in the insurance ecosystem, driven by information asymmetry and lack of standardization.

India's MedTech revolution and innovative financing mechanisms were at the center of discussions at the 21st 'Annual Health Summit'. The theme 'Transforming Healthcare for Viksit Bharat 2047' also elicited deliberations on reimagining human resources, carbon care for healthcare, and fostering global collaborations, such as the India-Japan partnership.

'CII Self-Regulatory Code of Conduct for Telemedicine' was released during the summit with a view to creating a patient-centric ecosystem. This code aims to set high professional standards, ensure patient safety, promote transparency and adoption of advanced technologies.



(L-R): Madan Krishnan, Vice President & Managing Director, Asia Pacific Growth Markets, Boston Scientific; Suresh Vazirani, Chairman, Transasia Bio-medicals; Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers; Himanshu Baid, Chairman, CII National Medical Technology Forum and Managing Director, Poly Medicure Ltd; Joy Chakraborty, Chief Operating Officer, Hinduja Hospitals; Hariharan Subramanian, Co-Chairman, CII National Medical Technology Forum and Managing Director, Siemens Healthineers, and Anish Bafna, Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director - Healthium Medtech Ltd at the Annual Health Summit in New Delhi



(L-R): Dr Naresh Trehan, Chairman, CII National Healthcare Council and Chairman and Managing Director, Medanta – The Medicity; Punya S Srivastava, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Dilip Jose, Co Chairman, CII National Healthcare Council and Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer - Manipal Health Enterprises Pvt Ltd at the Annual Health Summit in New Delhi



Dr Vinod Paul, Member Niti Aayog interacting with Ria, Humanoid who addressed CII Digital Health Summit 2024 in New Delhi

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

CII-Medical Excellence JAPAN Collaboration was initiated to promote innovation and excellence in healthcare. The partnership aims to drive knowledge exchange, capacity building, and joint initiatives on advancing high quality care and building resilient, inclusive healthcare systems.

The report titled 'Mapping India's Corporate Health and Wellness Landscape' offers recommendations to enhance digital healthcare adoption, improve workforce health, bridge gaps in existing wellness programmes and emphasize the need for corporate organizations to make health a 'boardroom agenda'.

The global medical device industry is poised for growth, with global annual sales forecast to rise by over 5% a year and reach nearly USD 800 billion by 2030. MedTech sector is recognized as a sunrise sector by Government of India with immense potential to play a role in making India a USD 35 trillion economy by 2047.

ADVOCACY

CII through the National Medical Technology Forum advocated for harmonization of standards and the establishment of a separate marketing code for medical devices.



(L-R): Dilip Kumar Chakuri, Chief Executive Officer, Medivalley-Andhra Medtech Zone; Anish Bafna, CEO & MD, Healthium MedTech Ltd; Awadhesh Kumar Choudhary, Sr Economic Advisor, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers; Himanshu Baid, Chairman, CII National Medical Technology Forum and Managing Director Poly Medicure Ltd; Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (I/C) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (I/C) for Earth Sciences, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy and Minister of State, Department of Space; Dr Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, Drugs Controller General of India, Central Drugs Standard Control Organization; Atul Grover, Managing Director India/South Asia; Becton Dickinson India Pvt Ltd; Ganesh Sabat, Chief Executive Officer, Sahajanand Medical Technologies; Sanjay Bhutani, Managing Director, Bausch & Lomb Eyecare at the 16th CII Global MedTech Summit in New Delhi

The forum also highlighted several challenges faced by the MedTech industry, including issues related to imports, the impact of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on medical device manufacturing, and the import of refurbished medical devices.

ACTION

The 'Medi Tech Stackathon 2024' was organized in collaboration with Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The value chains of select medical devices were analyzed to explore ways to reduce import dependence, promote domestic manufacturing, and address issues such as an inverted duty structure.

The 16th edition of the 'CII Global MedTech Summit' deliberated on the theme 'MediTech: Shaping the Future of Healthcare'. Key discussions revolved around regulatory reforms, value based procurement, and factors that make India an attractive destination for investment and manufacturing.

AYUSH

The AYUSH industry in India has witnessed remarkable growth, with manufacturing increasing from USD 18 billion in 2020 to USD 24 billion by 2024. Combined with the AYUSH service sector's valuation, the industry's overall worth exceeds USD 50 billion. The CII National Taskforce on AYUSH, represents the interests of this

industry including drug manufacturers, product and service providers, hospitals, and medical professionals.

The CII National Taskforce on AYUSH is working to create an enabling policy environment for this industry to become a vibrant sector and accelerating its mainstreaming for disease prevention, disease management and health promotion.

ADVOCACY

CII made policy representations on the use of *Sida cordifolia* plant and its derivatives by the AYUSH industry.

ACTION

The 7th 'CII AYUSH Conclave' deliberated on the theme 'Emerging Trends in AYUSH: Unleashing the Market Potential'. Thought leaders and stakeholders deliberated on the challenges, opportunities and future trajectory of the sector, globalization of products, and role of AYUSH in achieving universal health coverage.

Myths and opportunities related to homeopathy were addressed in a webinar aimed at creating awareness, catalyzing engagements and highlighting new developments. Presenters shared success stories and outlined the future of the sector.

CII organized 'Yoga Day' in its Delhi, Gurgaon and Mumbai offices with a focus on wellness and balance.



CII School WASH Project: Field Visit to School, Gairaha, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of health through a comprehensive range of interventions, including addressing social and environmental determinants. In 2024, the growing challenges posed by emerging infectious diseases brought the intersection of environmental factors, climate change, and health to the forefront of discussions with public health stakeholders. CII continued to work on strengthening health systems through a series of initiatives.

ACTION

CII brought together key stakeholders at the '5th Public Health Summit 2024'. The theme 'Climate and Health: Pathways to Resilience and Adaptation' focused on exploring interdisciplinary collaboration to mitigate health impacts of climate change, while setting pathways for sustainable healthcare practices and building resilient health systems. The summit marked the release of the report 'Evidence for Current Practices in Resilience & Adaptation'.

India faces significant challenges in achieving optimal early childhood development outcomes, (ECD) with a large population of children at risk of compromised development. Private sector engagement in promoting inclusive ECD can be viewed under three pillars of assets, CSR/ cash and employee engagement (ACE). A closed door stakeholder roundtable was held along with UNICEF as a knowledge partner. The discussions focused on the enablers and barriers for businesses to ensure inclusive early childhood development.

Wellbeing at the workplace is a key measure for ensuring prevention of lifestyle diseases or NCDs in the workforce. CII's 'Workplace Wellness Index', a

comprehensive programme to enhance workplace wellbeing was validated during the year. It provides organizations with a structured framework to assess and improve workplace wellness comprehensively.

To ensure quality maternal health services in the Government General Hospital (GGH), Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, a model post-natal ward was developed based on a CII assessment. The assessment determined the capacity of the maternity ward to deliver high quality maternal and childcare services. As a result major infrastructure corrections were undertaken, clinical care processes improved and infection control practices introduced.

An initiative was rolled out along with the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine to upgrade healthcare infrastructure in Tiruvallur Health Unit, Tamil Nadu benefiting around 9.5 lakh individuals. A range of medical equipment was provided to the 17 health facilities of 6 blocks of the district.

With a view to transforming schools into healthier environments, 'CII WASH and Nutrition Intervention' project was successfully executed in 6 identified Government schools in Varanasi, UP. It impacted over 1200 students providing them with essential infrastructure for safe drinking water, renovating handwashing stations, developing poshan vaticas, and installation of sanitary pad vending machines. Awareness sessions were held on the importance of sanitation, promoting menstrual hygiene, oral hygiene, nutrition and tuberculosis.

Blood donation camps were organized under the 'CII Safe Blood Campaign', a project being driven in partnership with Lady Hardinge Medical College. The camps, held along with Thalassemics India (TI) and Thalassemia Patients Advocacy Group (TPAG), were aimed at supporting thalassemia patients.

LIFESCIENCES

India produces 60% of the world's vaccines, a testament to its robust manufacturing capabilities and commitment to global health. India is also the largest provider of generic medicines by volume, supplying over 50% of the global demand.

ADVOCACY

The combined strength of India's pharmaceutical and biotech sectors has the potential to shape the future of global healthcare. By continuing to innovate, collaborate, and focus on sustainability, India's life sciences sector can build a self-reliant, innovation-driven ecosystem that serves both India and the world.

A representation on Pricing Reforms for Drugs was submitted to DoP, subsequent to a stakeholder meeting. Industry inputs were shared with policy makers on developing a sustainable, green, and circular economy in the pharma sector.

The CDSCO was urged to consider import of excipient grade chemical products for use in the pharmaceutical

industry. Based on CII's interactions, CDSCO released a 'Guidance Document on Procedures' to be followed for evaluation of applications by a Subject Expert Committee (SEC).

A representation concerning the increase of basic Customs Duty Laboratory Chemicals classified under HSN9802 0000 was accepted by the Ministry. CII also submitted a representation on the issue of counterfeit medicines in India and detailed industry recommendations to address the issue. The issue of tax on time expired drugs was taken up with the policy makers.

ACTION

The 6th edition of 'Pharma & Life Sciences Summit' offered critical insights into India's pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. It also outlined a roadmap for sustaining the global leadership position and addressing upcoming challenges. The summit witnessed participation of over 250 delegates and more than 40 industry and Government stakeholders, representing a diverse group from pharmaceutical and biotechnology landscape.



(L-R): Dr Arunish Chawla, Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers; Dr Vinod K Paul; Dr Rajesh S Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology; Dr Rajeesh Singh Raghuvanshi and Dr Rajesh Jain, Chairman, CII National Committee on Biotechnology & Chairman & Managing Director, Panacea Biotec Ltd at the CII Pharma & Lifesciences Summit in New Delhi

CII IN THE MEDIA










NURTURING COMPETITIVENESS










- ▶ CII Institute of Logistics
- ▶ CII Institute of Quality
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs
- ▶ CII Centre of Manufacturing Excellence
- ▶ CII Green Business Centre
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence for Leadership
- ▶ CII Water Institute
- ▶ CII Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence in Skills
- ▶ CII Centre of Excellence in Employment and Livelihood
- ▶ Competitiveness Development Services
- ▶ CII Centre for Digital Transformation
- ▶ Family Business Network
- ▶ Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- ▶ Public Sector Enterprises
- ▶ Human Resource Development
- ▶ Industrial Relations
- ▶ Marketing

CII CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE: CATALYSING COMPETITIVENESS ACROSS INDUSTRIES

 LOGISTICS CII Institute of Logistics Chennai	FOCUS Transform India as a global leader in logistics and supply chain			
	5000 Professionals trained / certified through various capacity building activities.	25 Educational institutions served across India	90 SCALE awards were presented in 2024	
 QUALITY CII Institute of Quality Bengaluru	FOCUS Quality for a new India			
	13,622 Participants attended 283 programmes	25 New products developed to support quality and productivity improvement	2597 Companies engaged for various quality projects	
 SUSTAINABILITY CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development New Delhi	FOCUS Advance the agenda of sustainable business practices in India			
	11,000 Professionals trained	260+ Sites received Single-use Plastic Free certification	1000+ MSMEs and value chain partners engaged in 10 industry clusters	41 Million kg air pollution (PM10 & secondary aerosols) saved through Crop Residue Management
 SME COMPETITIVENESS CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs Chandigarh	FOCUS Enhancing business competitiveness and growth of MSMEs			
	1725 INR Lakh Savings achieved by companies from audits, projects and consulting assignments	5376 Participants skilled/upskilled through various initiatives	500+ Working professionals upgraded through PG industry courses	1700 Companies impacted through CFC's technical services, projects and capacity development initiatives
 MANUFACTURING CII Centre of Manufacturing Excellence Mumbai	FOCUS Promote competitiveness and foster pre-eminence in industry to build India into a world class manufacturing hub			
	3700+ Professionals across the country trained	1500+ Organizations impacted	430+ MSMEs impacted	190+ Training programmes conducted

For the period till January 2025

<div></div> <div>GREEN BUSINESS</div> <div>CII-Green Business Centre</div> <div>Hyderabad</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Foster, promote and accelerate green practices and businesses</div>				
	<div>15,040+</div> <div>Green and net zero building projects registered</div>	<div>1200+</div> <div>GreenCo registrations</div>	<div>10,000+</div> <div>GreenPro certified products</div>	<div>2100+</div> <div>Energy audits conducted</div>	
<div></div> <div>LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT</div> <div>CII-Centre of Excellence for Leadership</div> <div>Kolkata</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Drive business resurgence through leadership capacity building across levels</div>				
	<div>28</div> <div>Targeted interventions conducted</div>	<div>497</div> <div>Participating companies</div>		<div>1257</div> <div>Participants trained</div>	
<div></div> <div>WATER</div> <div>CII-Water Institute</div> <div>New Delhi</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Enable India's progress towards achieving water security</div>				
	<div>26</div> <div>Water neutrality assessments, hydrological and hydrogeological evaluations, applying CII's WATSCAN</div>	<div>96</div> <div>Water audits conducted and 23 companies recognized for excellence in water management; 8 Blue Rating System pilots executed</div>		<div>3000+</div> <div>Stakeholders sensitized for water use efficiency through focused events</div>	
<div></div> <div>AGRICULTURE</div> <div>CII-Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence</div> <div>New Delhi</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Improve competitiveness of agriculture and food value chains by catalysing innovation, building capacity and enhancing competitiveness</div>				
	<div>2</div> <div>Value chains (apple and mango)</div>	<div>4100</div> <div>Participants trained in programmes on food safety, quality and regulatory aspects</div>		<div>22</div> <div>Sectors provided advisory services on food safety and Cold Chain Maturity Assessments</div>	
<div></div> <div>STARTUPS</div> <div>CII Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups</div> <div>Hyderabad</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Create a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in India</div>				
	<div>5336</div> <div>Industry members engaged</div>	<div>20,279</div> <div>Startups engaged</div>		<div>98</div> <div>Policy recommendations made</div>	
<div></div> <div>CII Centre of Excellence on Skills</div> <div>Pune</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Enhance industry competitiveness with social impact</div>				
	<div>12.9</div> <div>lakh candidates counselled</div>	<div>8.8</div> <div>lakh candidates placed</div>	<div>900+</div> <div>job drives conducted</div>	<div>700+</div> <div>partner employers</div>	<div>15,000+</div> <div>candidates trained through CII MSTIs and sector specific labs</div>
<div></div> <div>CII Centre of Excellence for Employment & Livelihood</div> <div>Madurai</div>	<div>FOCUS</div> <div>Create and sustain employment and livelihoods by fostering the growth and establishment of micro-enterprises</div>				
	<div>2500+</div> <div>Micro-entrepreneurs engaged</div>	<div>5</div> <div>States impacted</div>		<div>22</div> <div>Entrepreneur development forums established</div>	

For the period till January 2025

CII Institute of Logistics works towards enhancing competitiveness and growth of India's logistics sector through education, advocacy, and innovation. In 2024, the Centre's focus was on advancing last mile delivery, promoting technology driven logistics, improving competitive warehousing, driving digital transformation, and supporting green logistics initiatives. The Institute also emphasized fostering startups and exploring the future of e-commerce.

ADVOCACY

Stakeholders identified 8 critical areas for policy and plan development during discussions held on the theme 'Building Logistics Capitals'. These included upgrading infrastructure, building an investor friendly environment, attracting global capability centres, enhancing customs efficiency, implementing environmental and safety standards, developing an urban logistics plan, enhancing workforce skills, and establishing a centre of excellence to drive logistics excellence.

Indian Electric Truck Coalition was formed to accelerate adoption of electric trucks. Consultations were expanded to the USA to gain insights from similar initiatives. The coalition will be expanded to encompass a wider range of stakeholders, such as charging infrastructure providers, battery manufacturers, truck maintenance service providers, and financiers.

A 'Study on Indian Logistics Startups', conducted in association with IIT Madras, highlighted that 1500 startups are involved in automation, data analytics, IoT, and AI to optimize operations. The gaps outlined include workforce management, infrastructure, and regulatory solutions. The report also emphasizes that while venture capital and Government schemes offer startup support, enhanced stakeholder collaboration is crucial to unlock the sector's full potential.

The Institute conducted a study and developed a strategy for meeting the logistics demand and skill gap in India. Discussions were held with the Government of Goa for establishing a Center of Excellence in Logistics in the State.



(L-R): Dr K Ganesh, Member, CII National Committee on Logistics and Partner, McKinsey & Company; C S Babu Ganesh, Joint Director, Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre, Government of Karnataka; Abhishek Bansal, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Shadowfax and Abhishek Prakash, Chief Executive Officer, BEUMER Group at the event on E-commerce Supply Chain in Bengaluru

ACTION

Education

The Institute focused on nurturing logistics talent through capacity building programmes along with its network of 25 partner institutions. The 100% placement achieved during the year reflects the Centre's alignment with industry needs. Over 5000 professionals underwent training and certification programmes to gain skills relevant to the logistics sector.

Advisory Services

CII WAREX certification is a well established process excellence model. It grades warehouses and awards ratings at 5 levels - bronze, silver, gold, platinum and titanium. A total of 1.35 lakh sq ft of warehouses space is WAREX certified.

Training and Certification

- The 'Supply Chain Professional Competency Assessment and Certification Programme' benefited over 150 organizations
- The 'Warehousing Watch' initiative promoted safety standards in over 10 cities, benefiting more than 800 professionals and supporting advancement of safety practices in the sector.

Membership of Value Engagement

'Membership of Value of Engagement' (MOVE) is a unified forum that acts as a knowledge sharing platform to address industry challenges and foster

professional growth. In 2024 the forum submitted Members' inputs to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on identifying policy gaps and enhancing efficiency in India's logistics sector. Monthly online sessions were held on topics such as IR policies for logistics, ensuring sustainability in global supply chain, role of AI in the supply chain among others.

Events

To create awareness on latest developments in the sector, 6 conferences were organized during the year. The conferences deliberated on various subjects related to warehousing, automotive supply chains, global supply chains, e-commerce and retail logistics, and emerging technologies. These events attracted more than 1800 participants. Industry thought leaders explored modern supply chain complexities, global competitiveness customer centric infrastructure and innovative business models during the 'Logistics Summit'.

SCALE Awards

This year's edition of 'SCALE Awards' attracted over 250 registrations from a range of sectors including automotive, manufacturing, electronics, infrastructure, e-commerce, and retail. Contenders presented case studies for awards in categories such as overall excellence, logistics service provider, and service user. Over 90 awards were presented in categories such as digital excellence, innovation, gender diversity, kaizens, and green practices.



Winners of the SCALE Awards 2024 in Mumbai

CII Institute of Quality (CII- IQ) pursues the development of an excellence environment for building competitiveness of Indian Industry. The Institute trains organizations in tools and techniques to build quality systems and handholds them in the process of improving performance and setting excellence benchmarks.

Business Excellence

The year 2024 marked 30 years of promoting business excellence in India through the 'CII-EXIM Bank Award for Business Excellence'. To celebrate this occasion, a coffee table book and a video capturing various milestones of this journey were launched during the 32nd edition of the 'Excellence Summit'.

CII and India EXIM Bank jointly institutionalized this award in 1994 to support Indian industry in their endeavour to build competitiveness by adopting global business excellence practices. Over the past three decades, the Award has recognized globally acclaimed role model organizations inspiring many others to embark on the business excellence journey. This year 16 organizations challenged the CII-EXIM Bank Award and were recognized under the categories of platinum and gold plus at the 'CII Excellence Summit'.

Total Productive Maintenance

TPM Club India has built an environment of manufacturing excellence in India by working with over 2500 companies in the last 25 years. The 24th edition of 'TPM National Conference' was conducted with the theme 'TPM Scaling Excellence and Agility for Business Transformation'. The conference hosted sessions with TPM world class awarded companies and supplier cluster TPM practitioners.

New TPM clusters launched during the year provided MSMEs the platform to adopt manufacturing excellence practices. The participating companies demonstrated significant improvements in productivity through kaizen practices.

In 2024, 25 companies that cleared the TPM Assessment were recognized during the National Conference. Their success stories and PQCDSM results were covered by the TPM Newsletter. Over 1000 delegates who participated in events such as poka yoke, kaizen, 3M, circle competitions benefited from cross learnings from each other. Another significant milestone reached during the year was the 50th edition of 'TPM National Kaizen Competition' which saw participation of more than 300 teams.



Winners of Business Excellence Awards 2024 in Bengaluru



Quality Metrology and Standards

The Trade Enabling Standards Information Portal (TESIP), developed by CII and Institute of Quality, was launched during the 'Global Economic Policy Forum'. TESIP is a dynamic online platform designed to equip Indian companies with the understanding of standards, regulations, quality infrastructure framework and other relevant information to excel in the rapidly evolving global trade environment.

CII-IQ, in collaboration with BIS, initiated the 'International Standards Summit'. This initiative aims to highlight the importance of standards and position India as a global leader in standards development.

A position paper titled 'Women in Quality Framework - Bridging the Gap' was also released during the year. Significant MoUs were signed, including partnerships with TUV SUD South Asia, TIC Council, Indian Foundation for Quality Management and Defence Institute of Quality Assurance to promote advanced quality tools and practices across industries.

CII IQ Quality Ratna Award

Since 2019, the CII Quality Ratna Award is being bestowed upon eminent Indian manufacturing quality leaders in recognition of their outstanding contribution, and distinguished service to India's quality movement. The prestigious Quality Ratna Award for 2024 was bestowed upon Mr B Muthuraman, Past President, CII, Former Vice Chairman of Tata Steel and Former Chairman, Tata International.

The 32nd edition of 'Excellence Summit' deliberated on the theme 'Driving Competitiveness: Excellence for Sustainable Growth'. Masterclasses and best practice sharing plant visits were some key highlights of the summit.

The annual meeting of GEC discussed global trends and challenges faced by the industry. The meeting saw participation from the Australian Organizational Excellence Foundation, China Association for Quality, Dubai Government Excellence Programme, European Foundation for Quality Management, Japan Quality Award Council and the Malaysia Productivity Corporation.



(L-R): Soumitra Bhattacharya, Chairman, CII IQ and CEO/Director, Indian Foundation for Quality Management; Sumathi Muthuraman; B Muthuraman, Past President, CII and Former Vice Chairman, Tata Steel & Former Chairman, Tata International and Harsha Bangari, MD, EXIM Bank of India at Quality Ratna Awards 2024 in Bengaluru



CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD), now in its 20th year, drives sustainable, environmental, inclusive, and climate friendly transformation through data driven research, digital tools, frameworks, collaborative initiatives and capacity development. With a vision to drive transformation towards sustainable development, the Centre continues to play a focal role in Government industry dialogues on national regulations; articulate stakeholder discourses on global policies; put forth Indian industry's stand on macro economic issues and accentuate the need for sustainable and inclusive transformation.

Advancing Creation of a Circular Economy

CESD partners with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) for streamlining implementation of environmental reforms, thereby fostering circular economy, transparency and enhancing natural resource management. Some regulations where CESD offered industry insights include End-of-Life Vehicles (Management) Rules, 2024; Non-Ferrous Metals under Hazardous Waste Management Rules, 2024 and Environment Protection (Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging made from Paper, Glass, Metal, and Sanitary Products) Rules, 2024, among others.

Circular Economy (CE), being an important area of the Government's work, was also a sub-theme for the 4th edition of the 'National Conference of Chief Secretaries' (NCCS). As a contributor to the MoEFCC's Working Group (WG) on CE, CII emphasized the following:

- Developing skills in and fostering opportunities in waste recycling
- Addressing industry needs across the 12 waste sectors
- Encouraging AI-supported skilling initiatives and entrepreneurship

- Integrating informal sector workers
- Offering financial incentives and establishing incubators, accelerators and waste technology parks.

The 1st edition of the 'CII Circular Economy Conference' was organized by the CII Initiative 'India Plastics Pact' to encourage wider industry adoption of CE practices. Industry inputs to the draft text for an internationally legally binding instrument on plastic pollution were provided to MoEFCC and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. CII participated as an observer to the negotiation process for the instrument and highlighted the country's strong policy driven landscape to tackle plastics.

CII partnered with several committees of the Environment and Ecology Department (EED), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to develop standards related to waste management, sustainability, environmental management and ecological priorities. Work was also undertaken with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), to resolve challenges related to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) obligations under the rules for plastics, e-waste, battery, and hazardous waste management.



(L-R): Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd; Bhupender Yadav, Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the 19th Sustainability Summit in New Delhi

Facilitating an Enabling Ecosystem for ESG Reporting

CII engaged with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Indian industry to facilitate easy adoption of Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR). As part of SEBI's Industry Standards Forum (ISF), CII formed a Core Group and held consultations to develop Standards for Reporting on BRSR Core.

SEBI invited suggestions on the 'Consultation Paper on Recommendations of the Expert Committee for Facilitating Ease of Doing Business with Respect to BRSR'. The following CII suggestions were accepted and detailed by SEBI:

- ESG disclosures for value chain shall be 'voluntary', instead of 'comply-and-explain'
- Introduction of a leadership indicator in Principle 6 of BRSR for disclosure of green credits
- Substitution of 'assurance' with 'assessment or assurance'.

The key aspects of ESG compliance and the need for adopting a phased approach for value chain reporting to support MSMEs were highlighted in the 'CII Policy Watch on ESG'. In recognition of the urgent need for capacity development in BRSR, a 'Management Development Programme (MDP) on achieving BRSR Core Compliance' was delivered along with National Institute of Securities Market (SEBI-NISM).

The 'CII Eco Edge Programme' provided a platform for value chain partners of organizations to integrate sustainability into their operations and evaluate performance. The 1st edition of 'CII Eco Edge Insights Report' titled 'Integrating Sustainability in the Automobile Value Chain' presented key findings from the project's work with 3 OEMs and 150 value chain partners.

To resolve ESG reporting challenges, a closed door roundtable was held with Chair of the IFRS Foundation, Mr Erkki Liikanen. The roundtable with ISSB at the World Economic Forum in Davos deliberated on creating a common language for disclosing effects of climate related risks and opportunities and sustainability performance.

Accelerating Nature Positive Actions

The India Business and Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI) participated in consultation meetings for updating the 'National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan' (NBSAP) and 'Adoption of National Biodiversity Targets' (NBTs) in alignment with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). IBBI is designated as the responsible agency for Target 15 of India's updated NBSAP. Findings of the CII survey were included in a joint report with World Economic Forum's 1t.org. They underscore the economic and environmental benefits of private sector investment in Nature Climate Solutions (NCS).

Representing IBBI members at COP 16 in Colombia, CII emphasized the need for cross sector collaboration and private sector involvement in biodiversity related actions. IBBI side event on 'Ecosystem Restoration and Species Conservation' saw representatives from ASEAN, CEOE, and WWF sharing perspectives on PPPs, business strategies, and structured financing for biodiversity. The outcomes from the pilot of the Task Force on Nature Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) Framework were also presented, demonstrating the impact of integrating nature related risks into business practices.

Enhancing Solutions for Clean Air

The Centre's Cleaner Air Better Life (CABL) initiative drives action towards the vision of better quality of life by engaging key stakeholders including governments, institutions and citizen groups for collaborative action. The initiative currently engages 116 committed business leaders on the platform 'India CEO Forum for Clean Air'.

The 'CABL: Crop Residue Management Programme (CRM)' reached out to 1.28 lakh (0.128 million) farmers and 793 villages in 2024. In the last 6 years, the CRM interventions drove community level change with 94% farmers avoiding burning, leading to:

- saving of 41 million kg air pollution (PM10 and secondary aerosols)
- co-benefit of 630 million kg CO₂ eq saved in greenhouse gases
- co-benefit of 1.3 million kg black carbon being avoided
- saving of 148 million cubic metre irrigation water.

In 2024, city level awareness activities in Indore resulted in proactive action by citizens such as:

- 8% increase in sustainable transport
- 6.7% increase in waste segregation
- 5% switch to clean energy sources for cooking
- 3% upgrades to BSVI vehicles.

To enhance the ecosystem for Electric Vehicle (EV), CII facilitated industry inputs for 3 key Working Groups under the newly formed National EV Task Force of the Ministry of Heavy Industry (MHI). A multi stakeholder roundtable focused on scaling zero emission (urban last-mile/ULM) deliveries, underscored the importance of fit-for-purpose solutions; innovation in EV financing to gig workers and collaborations to derisk investments for scaling adoption of zero emission fleets.

Building Climate Resilience and Low Carbon Economy

In an effort to help businesses identify risks from climate related natural events and prioritize effective adaptation actions across sectors and regions based on impact and feasibility, CII developed a study titled 'Building Climate Resilience for Indian Industry'. Launched by Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change at the 19th 'Sustainability Summit', the report also shares a physical climate risk assessment framework. Deepening of the work at the state level has begun with the CII-AP Task Force on Swarna Andhra Pradesh studying the State's disaster resilience, with an aim to develop cyclone and flood resilience in two districts.

Under the CII Climate Action Charter (CCAC), MSMEs located across India's industrial clusters measure GHG emissions by using a free to access toolkit. The Charter with more than 500 signatories, analyzed the emission data (for 2022 and 2023) and highlighted that a majority of the signatories achieved emission reductions of 53.65% in Scope 1 emissions and 4.62% in Scope 2 emissions. During 2024, CCAC:

- helped raise awareness and conducted knowledge sharing sessions for more than 1000 organizations and supply chain partners
- conducted over 22 workshops through regional CII offices for industrial clusters across 7 states
- worked with 200 MSMEs to establish baselines and track progress.



Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India at the 19th Sustainability Summit in New Delhi

During COP29, the CII Business Delegation engaged in deliberations on accelerating transitions, enhancing climate finance, market mechanisms, resilience, adaptation, technology driven climate solutions, and investments for Global South. The report 'CII at COP29 Negotiations: Indian Industry Expectations' shared industry perspectives on key priorities.

Fostering Dialogues, Engagements and Knowledge Exchange

The 19th edition of 'Sustainability Summit' discussed tangible actions in driving implementation of sustainability strategies, featured an exhibition on sustainability solutions by startups and hosted a 'Roundtable Series on Clean Air'. The 18th edition of 'CII-ITC Sustainability Awards' recognized and awarded 35 organizations for achieving excellence in sustainable and inclusive practices in business operations.

To strengthen stakeholder outreach, highlight best practices and improve knowledge exchange, the Centre unveiled 'CESD Engage'. It is a platform to consolidate stakeholders' perspectives and capture insights from case studies and research.



Exhibition on Sustainability Solutions by Startups at the 19th Sustainability Summit in New Delhi

CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR COMPETITIVENESS FOR SMEs



CII
Centre of Excellence
for Competitiveness for SMEs

The CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs (CII CFC) has emerged as a premier institution dedicated to transforming Indian MSMEs into globally competitive enterprises. The Centre drives excellence in manufacturing, promotes sustainability, fosters innovation and enhances supply chain resilience through structured interventions, capability building and industry collaborations.

The Centre's mission, future ready strategy and specialized services underscore the commitment to strengthen MSMEs to navigate the challenges and seize opportunities offered by a dynamic business landscape.

Through a range of impact services, the Centre supports MSMEs and suppliers in integrating into OEM supply chains and enhancing competitiveness through operational excellence and energy efficiency. Scale up is enabled through adoption of digital solutions and sustainability practices. The Centre also drives long term growth of MSMEs through financial, strategic, and workforce interventions, export readiness, market linkages, and corrosion management for asset longevity.

ADVOCACY

OEM Supplier Cluster Development and Operational Excellence Programme

The Centre focuses on creating a conducive ecosystem that facilitates knowledge exchange, technology adoption, and skill development within identified clusters. The guiding principle of the cluster programme is 'Getting Together - Learning Together - Achieving Together'.

By promoting synergy among members of over 360 clusters, the Centre helped enhance collective capabilities of over 5500 SMEs driving innovation and productivity gains. The members cumulatively recorded savings of over INR 11,500 million.

Energy Efficiency, Audits and Climate Action

Energy efficiency and climate action was promoted across sectors through a range of activities:

- Over the years, energy audits and assignments conducted in over 1600 companies, including 1050 SMEs, resulted in savings of INR 3350 million
- A pilot project 'CII Motor Rewinders Certification System' was held under HAREDA's ambit in Haryana



Winners of the Championship Awards and Kaizen Awards at the 17th CII National Competitiveness & Cluster Summit 2024 in New Delhi



Winners at 8th CII National Energy Efficiency Circle Competition 2024 in Chandigarh

- Over 100 professionals from different organizations underwent the 'ISO 50001 Energy Management System Implementer Training'

While SMEs recorded reduced operational costs, these interventions also contributed to India's sustainability goals. CII CFC continued to engage with agencies such as BEE, HAREDA, GGGI, UNIDO, and World Bank to enable MSMEs to improve energy and resource efficiency.

Corrosion Protection, Technology and Management

Corrosion management stands as a critical imperative for India's industrial and infrastructure sectors, necessitating a paradigm shift in policy focus similar to other national missions of the Government. CII's National Mission on War Against Corrosion recognized the substantial threat posed by corrosion to the nation's infrastructure, industry, environment, and public safety. It also highlights the urgent need for a dedicated national mission to mitigate corrosion's significant economic impact. During the year, several actions were initiated to achieve these objectives:

- A Draft National Policy on Corrosion Control & Management for India was submitted to NITI Aayog and Ministry of Steel
- Cutting edge, sector specific corrosion mitigation strategies are being prepared to advance best practices, foster innovation, and bolster industry's resilience against corrosion

- Training and certification programmes to build industry expertise in corrosion management are being designed
- Best practices and technology recommendations for corrosion control were submitted.

Industry outreach activities include:

- Over 70 training programmes impacting nearly 2000 organizations and 3000 managers and engineers
- Corrosion audits conducted for 22 organizations
- A total of 26 industry specific booklets on corrosion management and posters on corrosion awareness developed.

HR Strategy, Audits and Employee Engagement

Recognizing the human capital needs of MSMEs, CII-CFC provided HR competency development and training to enhance workforce management. Leadership and managerial capability building programmes were offered to groom industry ready professionals. Interventions on digital HR solutions and analytics were organized to support automation in workforce planning and talent management.

Capability and Competence Development

CII-CFC continued to support industry with technical training and workshops to upskill the workforce.

The Centre is also focused on building competitiveness through industry academia partnership. Several managers underwent the 'Post Graduate Professional Development Programme' being delivered jointly with the Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar and the Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala among others. Business leaders interacted with participants of the programme to help develop competencies and skills. More than 500 participants underwent programmes in manufacturing excellence and management, energy management and climate action and corrosion management and technology.

International Collaboration to Enhance SMEs Business Growth

'Partnering in Business with Germany Programme' was launched in 2009 with the aim to enable Indian companies to engage in business with German companies leading to collaborations for imports, exports, and joint venture. More than 680 senior managers representing SMEs have undergone this programme over the last 15 years, including more than 50 who attended in 2024. Apart from a general batch, domain specific batches were conducted in healthcare, Industry 4.0, green technology, energy efficiency, mining and a special women only batch.

Learning Missions and Competitions

More than 2500 industry professionals participated in 13 competition related interventions in manufacturing best practices, HR excellence,

maintenance, digitization, energy management and corrosion. These resulted in over 350 awards and recognitions being given and more than 1100 best practices being shared, promoting learning and sharing.

Manufacturing missions were organized to benchmark companies across India. These interventions helped participating companies improve processes for product development, quality, energy efficiency, and employee engagement.

Impact Made by the Centre

Key Parameters 2024	
Savings from energy audits, clusters, assignments	INR 1725 lakh +
Companies directly impacted through clusters, audits, consulting and other projects	50 +
Kaizens to showcase continuous improvement through the cluster approach till date	10 lakh +
ISO 50001 implementer professionals trained	100+
Virtual/physical training programmes, workshops, competitions and webinars	5376
Indian managers trained through Partnering in Business with Germany Programme for business networking and collaborations with German companies	680+ (cumulative)



Shop floor training at a manufacturing facility in Mumbai

CII CENTRE OF MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE

The CII Centre of Manufacturing Excellence, driven by the vision to support India's ambition of becoming a manufacturing powerhouse, is committed to creating a future ready workforce.

The Centre works in 6 different areas of capacity building, undertaking learning missions, occupational health and safety, promoting competitiveness through awards and competitions, encouraging youth in manufacturing and connecting large scale companies to MSMEs.

Capacity Building

The Centre organizes technical training programmes to build a future ready manufacturing workforce. With highly qualified and experienced faculty, the centre successfully conducted over 190 training programmes during the year. These programmes, both open as well as tailored to specific company needs, focused on manufacturing and operations, Industry 4.0, advanced manufacturing and analytics. They also covered critical topics such as occupational health and safety, project and supply chain management, international trade, HR and other soft skills. These programmes have helped more than 1500 organizations, 3700 professionals and over 430 MSMEs to upgrade and align with latest industry trends.

Learning Missions

CII organized a series of domestic and international learning missions to benchmark global best practices. Delegates of the 'Advanced Manufacturing Mission to Germany' visited Munich and Frankfurt, with a focus on Industry 4.0 implementation. Recognized as the origin of Industry 4.0, Germany provided an ideal backdrop for Indian manufacturers to gain insights into advanced manufacturing technologies and sustainable practices.

A 2-day 'Learning Mission on Best Practices in Occupational Health and Safety' was organized to Mumbai based past winners of the 'Best Practices in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Competition'. Professionals from the health and safety domain from across the nation visited leading manufacturing companies to learn from the best in the industry.

Professionals from prominent manufacturing firms across the nation joined the 'Learning Mission on Manufacturing Excellence to Hosur, Tamil Nadu' to understand how to cultivate, shape, and rejuvenate manufacturing capabilities. The delegates were exposed to the manufacturing practices of the host companies followed by plant visits and interactions on their technological strengths.



(L-R): Winners of the CII Pinnacle Awards for Excellence in Manufacturing felicitated by B Thiagarajan, Past Chairman, CII Western Region and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd and Swati Salgaocar, Chairman, CII Western Region & President, VM Salgaocar and Brother Pvt Ltd in Mumbai



✓
Anil G Verma, Chairman, CII Task Force on Industrial Safety and Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer, Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd and Senthil Balasubramanian, Group President- Manufacturing, Blue Star Ltd at the Occupational Health & Safety Conference in Mumbai

Occupational Health & Safety

The CII National Task Force on Industrial Safety was set up in 2015 to build and strengthen a culture of safety and promote safety excellence in companies operating in India. Through this initiative the Centre supports and handholds Member companies and other industry members, sensitizes them on safety needs and techniques leading to enhanced health protection for employees, increased business value, and greater societal contribution.

A series of webinars on OHS, training programmes, safety assessments, best practices competitions and an annual conference are conducted every year.

The 9th edition of the 'National Conference on Occupational Health and Safety' emphasized the theme 'Sustainable Business Performance- Driving Value through Safety'. Over 200 safety professionals engaged in dialogues on efforts required towards ensuring safety and wellbeing of India's workforce.

Awards & Competitions

'CII National Awards for Excellence in Manufacturing', is one of the most prestigious and coveted awards for manufacturing excellence. The awards are based on a comprehensive manufacturing framework, covering every aspect of manufacturing. Winners of the 3rd edition of the awards were felicitated at a ceremony held during the year.

The 6th edition of the 'Competition on Best Practices in Occupational Health & Safety' focused on 'Electrical Safety Management'. The competition aimed to recognize and reward organizations that have implemented exemplary initiatives, innovations, and best practices in occupational health and safety, contributing to safer workplaces. Awards were given to companies in the small enterprises, medium enterprises, and large enterprises categories.

Youth in Manufacturing

The 5th edition of 'ANVESH', India's Premier Manufacturing Quiz, was organized with the objective to promote and engage youth in manufacturing. The quiz witnessed huge participation of over 200 young manufacturing enthusiasts from prominent manufacturing firms and academic institutions from across the nation.

Connecting Large Scale & MSME Companies

More than 50 MSMEs attending the 'Buyer Seller Meet on Industrial Safety' interacted with large industry buyers, including OEMs. A 'Buyer Seller Meet on Oil and Gas' was also organized by the Centre.



✓
Buyer Seller Meet on Industrial Safety held in Mumbai

CII GREEN BUSINESS CENTRE

CII Green Business Centre (CII GBC) is a developmental institute on green practices and businesses. The Centre offers world class advisory services on conservation of natural resources. Celebrating 20 years in the pursuit of a greener and healthier India, CII GBC provides services on energy management, green buildings, green companies, renewable energy, green product certification and waste management, cleaner production processes, cleantech startup acceleration programmes, green mobility, and green cooling.

Energy Transition Services

CII GBC houses India's largest energy efficiency team, facilitating the industry's efforts of achieving world class energy efficiency standards. Cumulative achievements of the Centre include the following:

- Conducted more than 2100 energy audits across 20 countries
- Trained over 100,000 professionals in energy efficiency management
- Developed 80 energy efficiency manuals/publications
- Facilitated close to 300 innovative technologies which would lead to emissions reduction
- Certified 103 vendors in the country through the 'CII Rooftop Solar Vendor Rating Programme' (VRP)
- Recognized 140 plants through the 'CII Performance Excellence Awards' for solar, wind and hybrid plants.

The 'National Award for Excellence in Energy Management' marked its 25th anniversary in 2024. This year, over 570 companies from more than 15 sectors participated, with 207 shortlisted for excellence in energy optimization and innovative solutions.

Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)

In line with India's climate goals, IGBC is committed to driving the transition toward a 'Net Zero Built Environment'. With the certification and ongoing

innovations, IGBC provides the blueprint for energy-efficient, resource-efficient buildings that will contribute to India's pledge of becoming carbon neutral by 2070.

IGBC's cumulative milestones since 2001:

- 13 billion sq ft green building footprint with over 15,040 registered projects
- 30 regional chapters, 230 founding members, and 2,260 corporate members
- Impact: close to 2.5 million green homes, more than 6,500 commercial projects, over 765 industrial buildings, 175 campuses, 820 transit stations, more than 100 villages, and 30 cities.

Shri Eshwar Khandre, Minister of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Government of Karnataka addressed the 22nd edition of 'Green Building Congress'. The World Green Building Council's 'APN Meeting and Awards' were also hosted as a prelude to the event. The meeting showcased the impact of green and net zero buildings and built environment in India.

GreenPro Ecolabel

The GreenPro Ecolabel empowers end users to choose environment friendly products and materials. To date, GreenPro has certified over 10,000 products from more than 410 prominent manufacturers across 33



✓ Commemoration of 20 Years of CII Green Business Centre, Hyderabad with a sapling plantation by Anumula Revanth Reddy, Chief Minister of Telangana in presence of Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd; R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO of Tata Chemicals Ltd and Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Past President, CII and Vice Chairman, Bharti Enterprises



(L-R): Isabella Huang-Loh, Chairperson, Singapore Environment Council; Dr Ulf D Jaeckel, Head of Division of Sustainable, Consumer Protection, Federal Ministry for Environment, Germany; Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman, CII – GBC & Past President, CII and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce; Kamal Bali, President and Managing Director, Volvo Group, India; Girish DM, Vice President, Volvo Group Trucks Purchasing and A R Unnikrishnan, Chairman, Green Products and Services Council and Managing Director, Saint-Gobain India Pvt Ltd, Glass Business at the Excellence in Green Supply Chain Award at the 7th GreenPro Summit 2024 in Delhi

categories in the building industry. GreenPro launched the first of its kind 'Ecolabelling for Facility Management Services' at the 'GreenPro Summit 2024'. The event also featured an MoU with Eco Choice Aotearoa, New Zealand, to promote green trade, and a leadership award for 'Excellence in Green Supply Chain'.

GreenCo Council

The GreenCo Rating System is a first of its kind framework in the world developed by CII GBC. The aim is to champion sustainable practices and facilitate businesses in their pursuit of attaining Net Zero status. In 2024, registrations grew to over 1200 manufacturing plants.

'Pharma Sector-Specific GreenCo Guidelines' and a 'Whitepaper on ESG Approach for MSMEs' were released during the year. More than 4000 professionals underwent certification on the GreenCo E-Learning platform. In addition, the 30 'GreenCo Forums' held across 12 different locations saw participation of more than 700 participants.

Engagements continued with the Pollution Control Boards of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Uttarakhand. An AI chatbot was launched to provide registered companies with enhanced information and analytical support at the click of a button.

The 13th edition of 'GreenCo Summit' deliberated on the theme 'Maximizing the Synergies of Net Zero, Circular Economy, and ESG'. Over 950 delegates from

various sectors attended the event which saw the release of the 'Net-Zero Operational Carbon Certification Guidelines' and a 'Coffee Table Book' chronicling the journeys of Green Champions.

Green Entrepreneurship Council

The Green Entrepreneurship Council (GEC) fosters an ecosystem of innovators, implementers, and mentors to drive clean tech innovation and accelerate market adoption. With a view to promoting collaboration and innovation within the cleantech and sustainability sectors, CII GBC signed up more than 45 cleantech startup cohort members and introduced them to over 15 sectors. More than 350 B2B interactions were facilitated during the year, generating over 500 interests from industry stakeholders. Over 100 webinars/engagement activities were also organized for Members.

Council on Green Mobility and Green Cooling Council

The CII Council on Green Mobility was formed during the year to support India's movement towards green mobility to support national net zero goals. The council analyzed EV policies across States and developed a comprehensive model EV policy. Battery technologies were reviewed, and a roadmap for India's self sufficiency developed.

The Green Cooling Council, also a new initiative of CII GBC, will serve as a dynamic knowledge and technology focused platform dedicated to advancing sustainable cooling solutions.

CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR LEADERSHIP

The CII Centre of Excellence for Leadership focused on building leadership capacities through innovative people and process transformation initiatives. Highlights of the year included training programmes, flagship conferences, masterclasses, and targeted interventions, fostering new skills and driving business excellence.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PEOPLE TRANSFORMATION

Certified Online Leadership Development Programme for First Time Managers

Recognizing the critical role of emerging talent in driving organizational success, the Centre conducted 3 editions of its flagship long duration, evaluation based certification programme. Designed to develop future ready leaders, this initiative focused on equipping participants with the mindset, skills, and tools essential for transitioning from individual contributors to effective team leaders. The programme incorporated innovative learning methodologies such as online simulations, e-learning modules, and videocasts.

11th Young Leadership Development Digital Programme

The 'Young Leadership Development Digital Programme' (YLDP), a multi module initiative, was designed to equip high potential young leaders with foundational leadership and management skills across functions. Its sustained impact is evident in organizations repeatedly nominating participants to this year's edition as well. The continued success of this programme highlights its effectiveness in preparing future leaders for greater responsibilities.

CII Certified Online Programme on Strategizing in Fiercely Competitive Markets

Recognizing the crucial role of mid-level managers in organizational success, this programme was designed to equip middle and senior managers with advanced strategic management skills. The programme is tailored for the ongoing competitive and unpredictable business landscape. It equipped participants with tools to navigate market complexities while emphasizing strategic agility combined with practical insights. Participants also learnt to make informed decisions and deliver sustainable competitive advantage.

Certified Programme on Current & Emerging Technologies for Managers

To help managers navigate the fast changing technological landscape, the Centre launched the 'CII Certified Programme on Current & Emerging Technologies for Managers' (CII-CETM) in 2024. The programme covered the six essential technologies to empower managers with actionable insights. It focused on leveraging these technologies to drive innovation, enhance efficiency, and create competitive advantages.

6th Certified Online Programme on People Analytics

As organizations prioritized building and retaining top talent, HR professionals increasingly relied on data driven decision making. The 6th edition of the 'Certified Online Programme on People Analytics', a forward thinking HR training initiative, addressed this imperative. The programme provided key insights into applying analytics across HR sub functions. Delivered through a real time platform with live faculty engagement, it combined theoretical knowledge with practical implementation. The initiative drew strong participation from a wide range of organizations.

Leadership Programme on Generative AI and Knowledge Graphs for Business Growth

This virtual course explored how generative AI, enhanced by retrieval augmented generation (RAG) and knowledge graphs, can drive innovation, improve decision making, and boost operational efficiency. Participants included business leaders and professionals keen to leverage these transformative technologies.

ENABLING STRATEGIC AND LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

3rd CII Suresh Neotia Memorial Lecture

Prof Krishnamurthy Subramanian, IMF Executive Director for India and former Chief Economic Advisor presented a vision for India to become a USD 55 trillion economy by 2047, while maintaining an 8% annual growth rate. Productivity, innovation, and private credit expansion were highlighted as key growth drivers, with generative AI and R&D playing critical roles. The lecture, attended by over 150 delegates, concluded with the launch of his book, 'India@100: Building a USD 55 Trillion Economy'.

CII StrategyEdge 2025

The 9th edition of 'CII StrategyEdge' featured Prof Vijay Govindarajan (VG), Coxie Distinguished Professor

at Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College. He spoke on the theme 'Fusion Strategy: Leveraging Real Time Data and AI to Drive Innovation'. The session demonstrated how industrial organizations could integrate real time data and AI to transform operations and competitive strategies. The case studies presented illustrated how fusion strategies combine physical products with advanced digital technologies, enabling smarter products, optimized operations, and tailored solutions.

OutThink Masterclass Series

The high impact virtual 'Strategy Session' was themed 'Fostering Growth Through Strategic Innovation – A Product Manager's Playbook'. The session provided insights on developing innovation strategies aligned with long term goals. Using real world case studies it provided a framework to address challenges and drive growth.

CII STRATEGIQ Business & Leadership Quiz

The inaugural edition of 'STRATEGIQ: Business & Leadership Quiz' drew 47 teams from leading corporates and business schools. The event featured challenging rounds testing business, leadership, and critical thinking skills.



Quizmaster Titash Banerjee conducting CII StrategIQ in Kolkata

The CII Water Institute (CII-TWI) is dedicated to addressing the growing challenges related to water. The Institute employs advanced digital analytical tools, techniques, and frameworks to guide these efforts and promote a water secure future.

ACTION

ADVISORY SERVICES

Water Audits and Blue Rating System

CII's water audits have over the years resulted in potential water savings of 400 billion litres guiding Indian companies towards improved water use efficiency. Leveraging the expertise of its CGWA certified auditors, the Institute undertook 95 water audits across India in 2024. These revealed 30-40% water saving potential through low-to-medium cost strategies.

Using the CII Blue Rating System, performance of several plants was evaluated based on efforts made in water stewardship in operations, community at watershed level, supply chains, and in leadership strategies. Exemplary efforts of plants were recognized with the conferment of platinum and gold rating certifications.

Hydrological, Hydrogeological and WATSCAN Studies

CII's WATSCAN tool, a digital water resource assessment tool, facilitates hydrological assessments, offering insights on water resources. Thus far, about 4.5 lakh sq km of India's geographical area has been mapped by applying WATSCAN. The tool was applied at multiple sites for watershed assessments and identification of sustainable water management strategies, and water conservation initiatives, including artificial lakes. A unique application of WATSCAN was undertaken for the Sriperumbudur watershed, Tamil Nadu, in partnership with Frank Water, UK. The study provided a blueprint for a water allocation framework and highlighted the need for collective action for achieving water security.

Six detailed hydrogeological studies were conducted across India, addressing aquifer mapping, groundwater sustainability and recharge for food processing, IT, and airports among others. The projects included aquifer analysis, groundwater monitoring, and water neutrality assessments. These efforts promote sustainable water management through aquifer evaluation and recharge recommendations.



Top row (L-R): Dr B Sengupta, Former Member Secretary, CPCB; Sushil Gupta, Former Chairman, CGWA; Nikhil Sawhney, Chairman, CII Water Institute and Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Triveni Turbine; Ashok K K Meena, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti; Prof AK Keshari, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi and Pinaki Bhadury, Member of Jury, CII National Awards for Excellence in Water Management with the Recipients of Blue Rating Shields 2024 at CII 10th Water Innovation Summit in New Delhi



(L-R): Nikhil Sawhney; Sudhir R Menon, Vice President and Head, Facilities, Infosys; Rakesh Kumar Verma, Additional Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation Ministry of Jal Shakti; Kimmo Lähdevirta, Ambassador of Finland to India, Embassy of Finland and Dr Kapil K Narula, Executive Director & CEO, CII Water Institute at CII 10th Water Innovation Summit 2024 in New Delhi

Water Neutrality

The journey of achieving water neutrality was given a thrust with 5 plants getting certified as 'Aspiring Water Neutral Plants' based on NITI Aayog's 'Water Neutrality Framework'. Thus far, 16 plants have accomplished this status, with some companies achieving water neutrality across Scope 1, 2 and 3. An MoU was signed with Infosys to strengthen their water management efforts towards the water neutrality goals across all their India sites.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

CII Water Institute compiled Indian industry's exemplary initiatives to respond to the emerging climate related water challenges. The compendium on 'Water for Climate Neutrality – Good Practices by India Inc' was published during the year. It entails a compilation of scalable and replicable water related adaptation and mitigation strategies to address the impact of climate change on water security.

Water Innovation Summit

The 10th edition of the 'Water Innovation Summit,' deliberated on the theme 'Viksit Bharat@2047: Water Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth'. Thought leaders addressed water challenges posed by increasing uncertainties and complexities related to resource availability and usage. The summit highlighted innovative solutions aimed at reducing reliance on freshwater sources while enhancing reuse and recovery. It also explored pathways to prepare the industry for realizing India's vision for 'Viksit Bharat@2047'.

CII National Awards for Excellence in Water Management

Water stewardship efforts of 23 companies were recognized at the 'CII National Awards for Excellence in Water Management'. The awards are given in 3 categories - Within the Fence, Beyond the Fence and Innovative Water Saving Product.

WaterTech Summit

Advancement in scientific knowledge and technology is transforming water and wastewater management to meet human, economic, and environmental needs. Discussions at the 'CII WaterTech Summit 2024' focused on innovative, cost effective, and environment friendly strategies for water reuse and resource recovery, as well as technologies for measuring and monitoring water resources. Israel was the focus country at the summit, where Indian companies participated in B2B meetings with the Israeli delegation.

National Conference on Pulp and Paper

Sustainability, technological innovation, and the role of advanced water treatment technologies were the focus of discussions at the 9th edition of 'CII National Conference on Pulp and Paper'. Latest trends, challenges and innovations in the pulp and paper industry were also deliberated upon.

India Business Forum

The 'India Business Forum' was organized jointly with the High Commission of India, Singapore during the 'Singapore International Water Week'. Senior Government officials and industry leaders, including a 20 member Indian delegation, discussed solutions for water management through cooperation and technology.

CII FOOD AND AGRICULTURE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The CII Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence (CII FACE) is dedicated to enhancing efficiency and competitiveness across India's agricultural value chain from farm to fork. By fostering innovation, capacity building, and productivity, the Centre collaborates with farmers, businesses, institutions, and the Government to drive market access, reduce losses, and boost farmer incomes. Its services include value chain assessments, food safety consulting, sectoral research, and scalable PPP projects to transform India's agrifood systems. Over the years, CII FACE has evolved into a credible source of knowledge in the agriculture and food domain.

PROJECTS

Climate Resilient Dairy Ecosystem

CII FACE, in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), conducted a project to promote climate resilient practices for strengthening India's dairy ecosystem. The initiative included stakeholder consultations across the cities of Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Delhi, and Patna. In depth studies were conducted in Maharashtra, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu. The outcome report titled 'India's Dairy Future: Aligning Livelihoods, Growth, and Climate Solutions' offers actionable insights for sustainable and climate resilient dairying in India.

Dairy Investment Accelerator

The Dairy Investment Accelerator (DIA) was initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) in collaboration with CII-FACE and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). The DIA focuses on facilitating investments, improving market access for farmers, supporting smallholder farmers, and strengthening the overall dairy ecosystem.

Efforts to strengthen the dairy ecosystem by fostering investments, improving market access, and enhancing productivity and sustainability included:

- **Empowering Women Farmers:** over 3000 women farmers were mobilized across Jabalpur, Morena, and Sehore districts and over 21,000 litres of milk production daily to be formalized in partnership with 3 major dairy companies
- **Grounded Investments:** investments of INR 3000 crores (INR 30,000 million) were facilitated across the dairy value chain in India
- **Investor Engagement:** the investor roundtables held in Gwalior, Sagar, and Ujjain engaged over 300 investors and stakeholders across the value chain
- **Training Programmes:** the 8 training sessions held in 5 districts of Madhya Pradesh benefitted more than 3000 women farmers and helped improve dairy practices
- **Animal Health Camps:** through 14 animal health camps held in Khargone, Morena, and Sehore care was provided to over 3000 livestock.

One Health Pilot Project

The 'One Health Pilot Project' by the One Health Support Unit (OHSU) aimed to integrate human, animal, and environmental health to address zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and pandemic preparedness. During 2024, the project concluded marking a significant milestone in advancing the One Health approach in India.

The initiative benefited 1668 Van Gujjar households, vaccinated 26,728 animals, and held 43 health camps in Uttarakhand. It trained 83 health professionals, 300 students, 346 community members, and 125 A-HELP workers. A 'National One Health Framework' was developed to address zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and pandemics, alongside a sustainable health blueprint integrating human, animal, and environmental health. This effort bridges gaps, fosters collaboration, and strengthens India's health resilience.

Building Resilient Apple Value Chains

This programme was initiated in 2023 in partnership with CII Foundation and Blue Star Ltd with 3 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) from Kullu, Mandi, and Shimla districts. It was scaled to 6 FPOs in 2024 covering a membership of around 700 farmers.

Training and capacity building, key focus areas of the project, were undertaken with partners including the State Horticulture Department, Dr Y S Parmar University, Nauni; and NIFTEM, Kundli, Haryana. The interventions included training on post harvest apple and orchard management as well as value addition and branding. These programmes helped bridge critical gaps in post harvest practices, enhance profitability and improve marketability through value addition. Some key outcomes included:

- Improved knowledge of post harvest management, including optimal harvest timing, proper plucking techniques, and farm level handling to maintain apple quality
- Increased awareness of importance of pre cooling and its role in preserving freshness and minimizing losses
- Understanding the role of soil and leaf analysis for informed decision making
- Advanced skills in fruit processing and product development
- Expertise in ecofriendly, cost effective packaging innovations
- Practical experience with innovative cold chain and canning technologies.

Enhancing Laboratory Ecosystem

Towards enhancing FSSAI's State Food Safety Index, the CII FACE-FDA Lab Cluster was piloted in Maharashtra using the cluster approach. The initiative brought notable advancements in workplace organization, system design, documentation, and implementation. Competence was developed on microbiological analysis, testing and sampling.

Eight laboratories collaborated to enhance their skills and systems in alignment with NABL accreditation requirements. This initiative helped to significantly improve laboratory capabilities, setting a precedence for similar models nationwide by:

- Strengthening laboratory staff's skills and knowledge on microbiological testing
- Identifying gaps in existing infrastructure and systems vis-à-vis NABL accreditation requirements
- Enhancing efficiency of workplace organization through safe, systematic, and Good Laboratory Practices
- Facilitating system design, documentation and development of a pool of certified internal auditors for NABL accreditation
- Training for ISO 17025:2017 certification and implementation
- Conducting internal audits to strengthen laboratory readiness

Pilot Study on Workforce Nutrition

CII-FACE initiated workplace nutrition and wellness through initiatives such as the 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah', campaigns for promoting balanced diets, hydration, and lifestyle disease prevention. Healthy recipe competitions and discussions on adopting wholesome snack options encouraged nutritious choices by the workforce. The '21-Day Health Challenge', featuring activities such as 10,000 daily steps, reduced sugar intake and inclusion of seasonal fruits and vegetables inspired sustainable habits, enhancing energy and wellbeing of the workforce. Focused sessions, on PCOS, lactose intolerance, pre-menopausal diet, and workshops on occasions such as the World Diabetes Day, supported a health conscious work culture aligned with public health goals.



Winners of the Gold Trophy at the 6th CII FACE Food Safety & Quality Kaizen Competition in Pune

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Food Safety and Quality Workshops

Interactive workshops including assessor trainings for CII Food Safety Awards, FSSAI's Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC), Enhancing Analytical Skills of Food Lab Personnel and Food Allergen Risk Mitigation were attended by more than 500 participants.

Small Tea Growers' Capacity Building

The initiative aimed to facilitate compliance with Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) among tea growers, engaging key stakeholders such as FSSAI, the Tea Board of India, FDA Tamil Nadu, pesticide manufacturers, bio-fertilizer producers, small tea growers, and tea manufacturers. Approximately 70 small tea growers from the Coonoor cluster participated.

Developing Food and Agriculture ESG Ecosystem

CII FACE worked towards transforming India's food systems, and aligning local priorities with global sustainability goals. In 2024 CII FACE and CESD advanced ESG practices through consultative workshops in Delhi and Mumbai, engaging over 25 industry leaders and sustainability experts. The outcome was a sector specific ESG Benchmarking Tool, refining metrics, fostering collaborations, and embedding ESG principles into business operations.

ACTION

BUILDING A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

Food Safety and Quality Kaizen Competition

The 6th edition of 'Food Safety and Quality Kaizen Competition' showcased grassroots innovations in the food industry, drawing nearly 100 participants. Over the years, the competition has spurred 264 inhouse improvement ideas across 10 food sectors, leveraging tools such as 5S, 3M, 5Whys, 4W1H, and RCA to enhance productivity, safety, and quality. It continues to set benchmarks for MSMEs and large companies, fostering cross learning and spotlighting role models.

CII FPO Excellence Awards

The 2nd edition of 'CII FPO Excellence Awards', held alongside the 'CII FPO Summit', recognized achievements in market linkages, women leadership, technology deployment, and value addition and branding. This year saw a 250% rise in participation, with 140 applications (up from 40 last year) and 90 qualifying. The number of assessors also increased by 50% from 10 to 15, highlighting the programme's expanding reach and impact.



Winners of CII FPO Excellence Awards with S Sivakumar, Chairman, CII National Council on Agriculture and Group Head, Agri & IT Business, ITC Ltd and Dr Kapil Bendre, Director, Agri Marketing, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare in New Delhi

CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR INNOVATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND STARTUPS

The CII Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups (CII CIES) remains at the forefront of fostering corporate-startup synergies. The Centre is positioned as a pivotal platform that bridges the gap between innovation and enterprises. Launched in 2020, CII CIES continues to empower corporates to embrace innovation through startup collaborations while enabling startups to scale and emerge as corporate leaders. CII CIES continued to drive India's innovation agenda, championing a startup driven growth model that addresses emerging opportunities and sectoral challenges.

ADVOCACY

CII CIES's policy efforts were focused on creating regulatory frameworks that are instrumental for the startup ecosystem. The engagement with policymakers and stakeholders during the year helped achieve significant milestones.

A total of 96 comprehensive recommendations were proposed to address critical policy areas. CII CIES's engagement with policy makers resulted in partial acceptance of reforms on angel tax and indexation benefits.

The CII Unicorn Forum submitted recommendations on the Social Security Code for gig workers to CPCF, urging the Government to consider creating a unified national framework to streamline implementation, reduce regulatory burden, and safeguard workers' rights.

Significant emphasis was placed on reforms to simplify and enhance employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs), empowering startups to attract and retain top talent.

In close collaboration with DPIIT, key inputs were submitted for refining the startup definition, including extending the age criteria from 10 to 15 years for R&D focused startups to accommodate their longer gestation periods.

Advocacy efforts continued to address the taxation of income from buybacks, pushing for it to be treated as dividends to ensure a fair and consistent taxation framework for startups and investors. CII CIES also proposed a dedicated venture capital fund to support and accelerate growth of space-tech startups, emphasizing India's leadership in the global space economy. The Centre advocated for the creation of a dedicated Fund of Funds, with a sectoral focus to promote future technologies in India and drive innovation.



(L-R): Rahul Garg, Co-Chairman, CII Unicorn Forum & Founder, Moglix; Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman, CII CIES Advisory Board and Past President, CII & Chairman, Axilor Ventures; Major General Ajay Misra, General Officer Commanding (GOC), Telangana and Andhra Sub Area (TASA), Secunderabad; Dr Sathesh Reddy, President, Aeronautical Society of India, Former Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and, Chairman, DRDO & former Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri and B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII CIES Social Tech Startup Platform, Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd at ICONN Summit in Hyderabad



(L-R): B. Thiagarajan; Praveena Yagnambhat, Co-Chair, CII CIES Social Tech Startup Platform, Chief of Staff and CSR Head, Boeing India & South Asia and Suchitra Ella, Managing Director, Bharat Biotech International Ltd at National Social Tech Startup Summit in New Delhi

ACTION

Market Access Programmes

This year, 76 focus areas were identified by corporates under the 'Market Access Programmes'. This led to the scouting of over 239 startups of which 125 startups pitched their solutions to participating corporates. Key sectors included deep technology, energy, clean technology, enterprise, industry and electric mobility, which saw the highest engagement.

ICONN

The flagship 'ICONN Summit 2024' was a platform to connect corporates, startups, investors, and enablers and drive innovation. The event featured 6 sectoral tracks of electric mobility and technologies for agriculture, defence, health, manufacturing, and society. The summit facilitated MoU exchanges and witnessed the launch of new reports. Over 40 startups exhibited their products and solutions and engaged with corporates and investor communities.

Global Linkages

The 'ICONN Ninja India Programme', held in collaboration with JICA and Deloitte Tohmatsu, advanced global startup engagements. This programme received 224 applications, connecting startups with Japanese corporates. Out of these 8 startups from healthcare, AI, agritech, and the gig economy were selected to showcase at the 'Demo Day', furthering global collaboration.

Delegations to UAE and USA provided enhanced opportunities for global engagement for 32 delegates representing startups and corporates. These delegations aimed to empower Indian startups by immersing in the global dynamic and experiencing influential startup ecosystems that offer unparalleled opportunities for innovation and growth. These engagements also fostered collaborations between established companies and emerging ventures.

Startup Affiliation Programme

The 'Startup Affiliation Programme' saw 55 startups receiving certifications. An expert panel comprising industry thought leaders and senior academicians ensured adherence to the eligibility criteria. This programme has proven instrumental in providing guidance and validation to startups. Affiliated startups get an opportunity to be part of CII's programmes and actively contribute to the broader innovation ecosystem by gaining access to industry connections, networking opportunities, and potential collaborations with corporates and investors.

Social Tech Startup Summit and Platform

The 'Social Tech Startup Summit' showcased innovations addressing societal challenges. A 'Social Tech Startup Compendium', released during the summit, provides a comprehensive overview of impactful startups in this domain. The initiative has set a strong foundation for continued focus on social innovation. Basis the recommendations of the steering committee a 'Southern Summit' was held under the aegis of the 'ICONN Summit'.

CII Startuppreneur Awards

The awards were redesigned with a startup-centric framework focusing on innovation, scalability, and sectoral impact. The award for 'Excellence in Products/Technology Innovation by Startup' recognized startups that demonstrated exceptional performance, quality, and innovation in technologies, products, or introduction of groundbreaking solutions. Best Social Impact Startup category honoured those that have made significant positive social or environmental impact while maintaining strong business operations through innovative approaches.

The Best Women-led Innovation category celebrated outstanding innovations by women entrepreneurs in products, technologies, or business processes that deliver substantial impact on their business, society, communities, and the environment. The 2nd edition of the 'Compendium of Women in Innovation' was also released during the year.

Capacity Building Masterclasses

A number of masterclasses were conducted to empower and equip diverse stakeholders in the startup ecosystem. These masterclasses were designed to build capacity, foster impactful connections, and enhance the overall ecosystem's ability to innovate, invest, and grow. The content tailored to the specific needs of each stakeholder group helped ensure that participants gain actionable insights, practical tools, and opportunities to connect with like minded peers and mentors.

The 'Family Offices Session' provided over 90 participants with insights into startup investment strategies, emerging opportunities, and ways to navigate risks effectively. The goal was to enable family offices to better evaluate and engage with innovative startups.

The 40 participants who attended the virtual masterclass on 'The Art of Pitching' learnt essential skills to craft compelling narratives. The masterclass trained participants on how to present ideas with confidence, and appeal to potential investors and partners.

The C-Suite Executives session brought together 25 corporate representatives to explore innovation trends, strategies for corporate-startup collaboration, and methods to integrate startups into corporate ecosystems for mutual benefit.

Other Initiatives

The 'CII CIES Investors Conference' addressed the complementary roles of CVC and VC in fostering innovation, offering a holistic approach to India's innovation ecosystem. Building on the conference's success, the CII CIES Investors' Forum will serve as an ongoing platform for deeper collaboration between corporates, venture capitalists, and startups.

The 'CII Corporate Governance Charter for Startups' outlines voluntary recommendations for corporate governance considering the various stages of a startup's lifecycle. The charter encourages them to embrace a sense of custodianship and fiduciary responsibility akin to that of a listed company as soon as non-founder equity is injected.

A new initiative was launched to support social enterprises that, despite their failures, provide valuable insights and societal contributions. This programme titled 'Funds for Failure' emphasizes learning from failure and fostering resilience in entrepreneurship.

Initiatives were undertaken to bridge the gap between academia and industry, including incubation cell establishment, bootcamps, and faculty-student entrepreneurial training. 'Academia Roundtables' were organized during the year. Key recommendations derived from these roundtables included faculty industry exposure, entrepreneurship training programmes, innovation policies in universities, funding for entrepreneurial training, joint testbeds and sandboxes.

The 'India-Saudi Arabia Startup Ecosystem Report', released during the year, while giving an overview of the landscape also highlights available opportunities. A publication titled 'Inspiration Entrepreneurs: The Legacies and Recipes' was also released.

CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON SKILLS

For over 4 decades, CII has been a bridge between youth and employment through on ground initiatives. Each year, CII's efforts touch the lives of over one million youth, enhancing industry competitiveness and workforce productivity. To rapidly expand and scale up impact, CII transitioned the skills work into the Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Skills. The CoE worked with the Government of India on skill development initiatives, supporting both industry and youth through result driven activities.

ADVOCACY

The 3 key skills initiatives announced under the Prime Minister's Package in the Union Budget 2024-25 include the PM's Internship Scheme, Upgradation of 1000 ITIs and Employment-Linked Incentive Scheme.

CII worked with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the industry to operationalize and implement the 'Prime Minister's Internship Scheme' (PMIS) by providing technical assistance. Mapping internship openings with industry, registering candidates on PMIS portal and rolling out offers were undertaken during the year. Roundtables and workshops were organized with stakeholders to help industry navigate the scheme.

CII is also working with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to roll out the 'Upgradation of 1000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)' scheme. During an 'Industry Interaction' at ITI Aundh, Pune, close to 50 Members assessed their present and future manpower demands and how they can support the scheme. A survey was also conducted to analyze the trends in industrial hiring in Pune.

Partnering with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E), CII is working on the 'Employment-Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme', with a focus on recognizing first time employees, job creation in the manufacturing sector and support to employers.

ACTION

The 11th 'CII Global Summit on Skill Development & Livelihood' focused on the theme 'Building a Resilient Skilled Talent Pool: Driving Industry Growth'. Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports; Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; and Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship addressed over 300 delegates.



(L-R): Sonya Janahi, Founder and CEO, Maya La Chocolaterie, Board Member, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Member, Governing Body, ILO, Vice President – Asia, IOE, Bahrain; Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII; R Dinesh, Immediate Past President CII and Executive Vice Chairman, TVS SCS Global Freight Solutions Ltd; N K Singh, Member, High Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections, Co-Convenor, G20 Expert Group on MDB Reforms, President, Institute of Economic Growth, and Chairman, 15th Finance Commission of India; Puneet Chhatwal, MD & CEO, Indian Hotels Co. Ltd.; Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, MSDE and Chairman, NCVET; Sanjiv Bajaj, Past President, CII and Chairman & MD, Bajaj Finserv Ltd; Pramod Agrawal, Non-Executive Independent Director, Tata Steel; Shyam Maniyar, Vice President, Engineering, CISCO; Nicole Scoble-Williams, Global Future of Work Leader, Deloitte Tohmatsu Consulting, Japan and Dr Marko Saravanja, Chairperson, Regenesys Business School, South Africa at the Annual Business Summit in New Delhi

The summit hosted the signing of an MoU with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to introduce industry based training programmes at AICTE approved technical institutions to meet current and future industry requirements.

The 'CII Wheebox India Skills Report (ISR) 2025' and 'CII-Taggd India Decoding Jobs (IDJ) 2025' were released at the summit. Reaching over 650,000 students across 5000 campuses and more than 150 corporates, ISR provides an in depth analysis of youth employability across India. The IDJ report maps the job landscape and captures insights from over 200 industry leaders across sectors.

CII is designated as an Awarding Body by the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET). Under this initiative, CII maps Industry's training needs and aligns them with the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF). This enables industry trained candidates to get nationally accredited credit based certificates (NCrF) under the National Education Policy 2020.

During the year 3 MCCs were set up in Churu, Vadodara, and Vijayawada. Since inception in 2016, CII MCCs have counselled over 12.8 lakh youth and placed more than 8.2 lakh youth. During a visit to the Gurgaon MCC, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya offered Government support to scale the programme and invited CII to partner with MoL&E to establish 100 additional MCCs.

In consultation with Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, CII operationalized the Kandivali Skill Centre in Mumbai which provides industry led skilling to Maharashtra's youth. It envisions counselling and placing 100,000 individuals annually through skill development, employment and entrepreneurship. CII is working with 10 industry partners to develop dedicated sector specific labs and classrooms for various sectors.

An MoU was signed with NASSCOM to equip non-IT youth with essential digital skills over the next 2 years. This initiative aims to bridge the digital divide by

equipping individuals from diverse backgrounds with knowledge and tools required to thrive in an increasingly technology driven era.

Under an MoU signed with Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Australia, work will be undertaken to introduce internationally benchmarked programmes and promote international mobility. CII has already facilitated placement of candidates in Australia, Finland, and Japan in electronic manufacturing, heavy vehicle mechanics, agriculture, aged care and ship spray painting. The initiative is being expanded to other countries such as Germany, the Middle East, and Scandinavian countries. The partnership with Educational Testing Service (ETS) will open international pathways for Indian talent through English language proficiency courses.

A CII delegation joined the global discussions on skill development, sustainability and education at the 47th edition of 'WorldSkills Competition' in Lyon, France. A visit to the advanced facilities of companies provided insights into ways to integrate sustainability innovations in India's skilling efforts.

CII expanded the 'VET by EHL Swiss Professional Diploma in Hospitality' to include Hyatt, alongside existing partnerships with ITC Hotels and IHCL. During the year, more than 800 hospitality students received industry led training in prestigious hotels across India.



(L-R): Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry at CII Kandivali Skill Centre, Mumbai, Maharashtra

CII CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD



Centre of Excellence on
Employment & Livelihood
Building competitiveness in micro and small enterprises

CII Centre of Excellence on Employment and Livelihood (CII CEL) is an industry intervention to empower micro entrepreneurs across India to thrive and scale. Launched by Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India in February 2024, the Centre stands as a testament to CII's commitment to India's socio economic development.

By creating a supportive ecosystem, the Centre seeks to impact 1 million microentrepreneurs over the next decade, and in turn, support livelihood of 10 million individuals. CII CEL, while facilitating strategic collaboration between Government, industry and key stakeholders, is also implementing projects and initiatives that will make a tangible impact on the ground.

Maiden Project Launch

A 'Multi Stakeholder Meeting' was organized to deliberate on the Centre's agenda and explore partnerships. CII CEL's first project emerged out of these deliberations.

'Puthiya Payanam, Valarchiyai Noki', which translates to 'New Journey, Towards Growth', was launched in Tamil Nadu with TVS Mobility's support. This initiative addresses India's micro entrepreneurs' skill gaps in financial literacy, business operations, sales and marketing, hiring, and building a long term vision for growth. Small groups of micro entrepreneurs undergo immersive learning modules, designed by professionals, to help build these skills.

In the 1st phase the project enabled over 281 micro entrepreneurs across 8 districts of Tamil Nadu. Following this success, CEL established projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Telangana supporting over 850 micro entrepreneurs in 12 districts.

Support for 50 micro entrepreneurs was announced in Kerala and the CII Kerala Entrepreneurs Development Forum was launched by Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala.

To support micro entrepreneurs and startups in Odisha, an MoU was signed with Startup Odisha, Government of Odisha in the presence of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Government of India, Shri Gokulananda Mallik, Minister of MSME, Government of Odisha and other senior ministers, Government officials and industry leaders.

CII Entrepreneurs Development Forum

The 'Entrepreneurs Development Forum', a special CEL initiative, was launched to train and support micro entrepreneurs. Eligible entrepreneurs are on boarded as forum members free of cost and mapped to the local industrial leadership and mentors. These forums provide a sense of belonging to micro entrepreneurs. They also act as platforms to gather inputs from the ground on issues, help design interventions and provide insights to take action at appropriate levels. The forums are set up in over 20 districts in 5 states and will be scaled up across the country.



Launch of the CII Kerala Entrepreneurs Development Forum in presence of Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister Kerala, Dr R Nandini, Chairperson, CII Southern Region and Managing Director, Chandra Group; Thomas John Muthoot, Deputy Chairman, CII Southern Region and Chairman and Managing Director, Muthoot Fincorp Ltd and Vinod Manjila, Chairman, CII Kerala and Chairman, Manjilas Food Tech Pvt Ltd at the CII Southern Region Council Meeting in Kochi

COMPETITIVENESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Since its inception, the Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing (VLFM) initiative has made remarkable progress. Each batch of participants has contributed to a growing repository of success stories, demonstrating innovative practices and leadership excellence.

The programme's modular approach, which includes a critical learning visit to Japan, has widened the global perspective of Indian managers, enabling them to adopt a holistic view of manufacturing.

With over 480 documented success stories, the impact of VLFM is evident in the transformation of 1150 plants, including those of original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and tier 1 and tier 2 suppliers.

Senior Managers' Programme

Batch 17 of the Senior Managers' Programme was inaugurated by Ms Kyoko Hokugo, Minister of Economic and Development, Embassy of Japan in India.

The programme welcomed over 90 participants from diverse industrial sectors such as auto components, healthcare, engineering, FMCG, agriculture, among others. VLFM continues to drive transformational

leadership, equipping Indian managers with tools to adopt a holistic and innovative approach to manufacturing. The ongoing batch has undergone 5 modules and is set to undertake the Japan learning visit in 2025.

Over 60 participants from 19 companies of batch 15 of the programme undertook the Japan learning visit during the year. The Japan module is tailored to enable Indian managers develop a global mindset through exposure to Japanese manufacturing practices & cultural insights. During the visit participants visit prominent sites including factories and museums of leading Japanese manufacturing companies, as well as a temple. They conduct self initiated research on aspects of Japanese society.

The module also aims to strengthen cultural and economic ties between Japan and India while enhancing the global leadership skills of participants.

The 15th edition of 'CII VLFM Learning Convention and Graduation Ceremony' featured a thought provoking panel discussion on 'Shaping India's Growth Agenda @100', with insightful contributions from distinguished leaders.



Graduation Ceremony celebrating graduates of Batch 15 and partial Batch 16 of VLFM in Mumbai



(L-R): B Thiagarajan, Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd; Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman, CII VLFM Initiative and Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd; R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and MD & CEO Tata Chemicals and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General CII at the 15th VLFM Learning Convention in Mumbai

The convention also hosted the convocation ceremony for the graduates of batch 16 of the programme which was witnessed by over 200 VLFM graduates and current participants. The dignitaries launched Q-FSDP Analyst User Manual and the VLFM Success Story Book 2024. The book titled 'Transformative Journeys of Visionary Leaders Creating Breakthrough Success' showcases experiences of alumni of the VLFM programme, celebrating their significant contributions to India's manufacturing excellence.

Visionary SME Programme

Launched in 2010, the VSME Programme has impacted more than 1132 manufacturing plants of OEMs, tier 1 and tier 2 companies. The programme has helped create a win-win relationship between

customers and suppliers. Participating companies benefitted from improvement of productivity delivery performance, inventory reduction, improvement in man and machine efficiency as well as enhanced leadership qualities.

The VSME project was successfully launched and commissioned at the Minda Corporation Ltd. Wiring Harness Division in Pillaipakkam, Chennai. This project has demonstrated remarkable results, delivering tangible benefits exceeding INR 40 crore within the first year of implementation. The successful execution of VSME in this company demonstrates the potential of focused process improvement and strategic alignment to deliver substantial business benefits. It reflects enhanced productivity and financial growth while setting a benchmark for operational excellence.



VLFM Graduation Ceremony celebrating VLFM graduates in Mumbai

CII CENTRE FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Committed to empowering a Digital First India, CII nurtures and catalyzes India Inc's digital transformation. As a champion of this drive, CII Centre for Digital Transformation (CDT) is powered by the responsibility to enrich and accelerate digital adoption by Indian industry. The Centre curates initiatives to handhold industry in the digital journey towards global competitiveness.

ADVOCACY

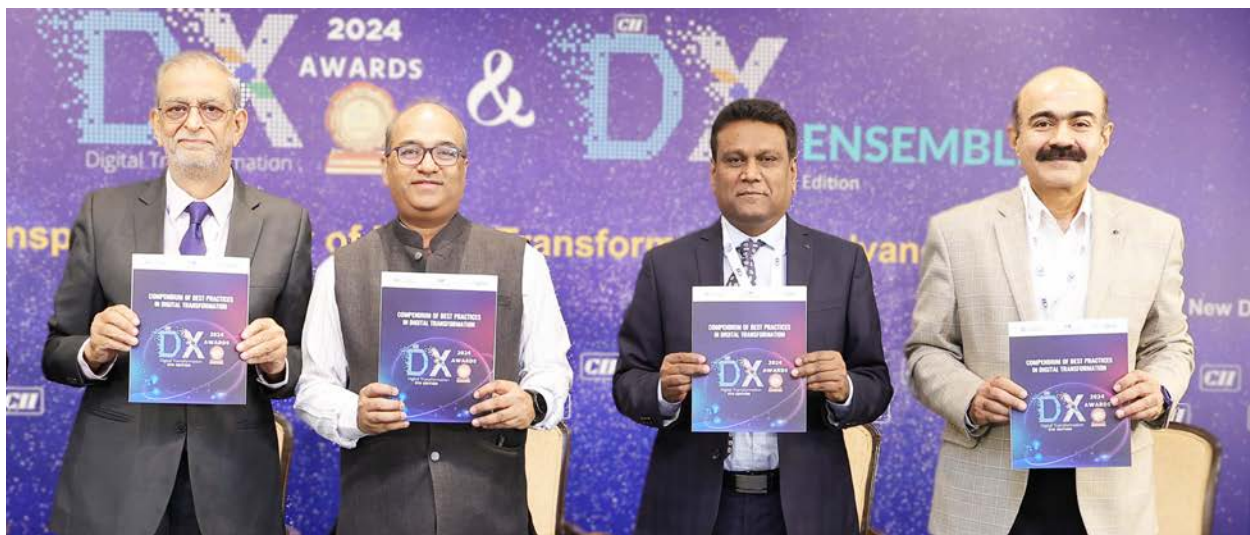
Assessment and Advisory

A series of masterclasses and webinars on 'Cyber Raksha Kavach' were organized to create awareness about challenges in implementing cyber security and industry best practices. The valuable insights shared will help participants navigate the digital ecosystem. Webinars were also organized in support of National Cyber Security Secretariat's (NSCS) initiative 'Cyber Surakshit Bharat'. This initiative provided practical guidance to attendees on protective measures to fight digital threats. Senior officials of the NSCS and CERT-IN joined the deliberations. A social media campaign with the hashtag satarkNagrik was also rolled out.

Awards and Recognition

The 'DX Awards' recognize excellence in digital transformation (DX) in India and facilitate sharing of information on best practices and technologies. The 6th edition of the 'Digital Transformation Best Practices Awards' was themed 'Inspiring Journeys of Digital Transformation and Advancements'. Some innovative digital transformation initiatives undertaken by companies were recognized through the awards. The programme also witnessed the release of the 'Compendium of Best Practices in Digital Transformation'.

The 'DX Ensemble' organized alongside the 'DX Awards' deliberated on topics such as leveraging technology for supply chain management and optimized operations and implementing digital strategies for production excellence and smart manufacturing. Several companies shared their experience of how they have leveraged innovative technologies to drive efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and achieve business growth.



(L-R): Vijay Thadani, Co-Chairman, Centre for Digital Transformation, Chairman, DX Awards and Vice Chairman & Managing Director, NIIT Ltd; Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, MeitY; Vinai Kumar Kanaujia, Joint Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat; Amit Sinha Roy, Co-Chair, IoT Working Group, CDT and Vice President, Global Head of Strategic Alliances, Tata Communications Ltd at DX Ensemble in New Delhi

CIO Awards & CIO Conclave

The 3rd edition of CII CDT's 'CIO Excellence Awards' was attended by more than 200 chief information officers. A significant highlight of the programme was the release of the 'CIO Insights Report – Leading Technology Trends; 2024 – 25'. This report, an essential resource, encapsulates insights to guide businesses through complexities and opportunities offered by the current technology driven era. The winners of the CIO award for 2024 represent a diverse set of enterprises which have displayed exemplary capabilities and achievements.

The 'CIO Conclave' featured plenary sessions on ways to harness AI and machine learning for strategic decision making and CIO's strategic influence on catalyzing change and enhancing productivity. Discussions were also held on building a culture of data protection in India with a focus on the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA). Companies that have successfully leveraged digital strategies shared their inspiring experiences and case studies.

Training and Development

A capacity building certification programme 'Utilizing AI to Empower Business Leaders in the Realm of Digital Transformation' was organized collaboratively with the National University of Singapore (NUS). The 3 days certification programme was combined with 2 days of B2B meetings. The programme equipped business leaders with the knowledge and practical skills to develop and implement AI strategies and explore the potential and challenges of generative AI.

Knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of digital transformation were imparted through the 'Certification Masterclass on Digital Business Leadership' held along with IIM Udaipur.



✓ *Survey Report on State of Data Privacy in India*

ACTION

The 5th edition of 'DX Summit' deliberated on the theme 'Empowering Digital India: Inclusivity, Trust, and MSME Transformation'. The summit provided insights into inclusive growth through digital literacy, MSME transformation with digital strategies, ensuring digital trust using cyber security, and leveraging emerging technologies for sustainability. The importance of human connection in the digital age, digital literacy, cyber security and addressing potential biases in AI systems were highlighted by thought leaders. Discussions focused on cyber security frameworks, capacity building and data privacy.

The need for building digital trust with consumers, role of privacy enhancing technologies for compliance and privacy by design are key challenges in data privacy. Eminent industry leaders deliberated on these challenges at the 'Conference on Data Privacy: Navigating the Future of Data Protection'. A survey report on 'State of Data Privacy in India' was released at the conference. The report includes experiences of companies in navigating the complex data privacy landscape and outlines successes and hurdles faced by them. It offers the guidance organizations need to align with best practices and regulatory requirements while maintaining stakeholder confidence.



✓ *Participants at the masterclass conducted by CII and IIM Udaipur*

FAMILY BUSINESS NETWORK

The CII Family Business Network (FBN) India Chapter has embarked on a transformative journey to reshape the family owned business ecosystem in India. With a primary goal of fostering growth, resilience, and long term prosperity for family enterprises across the country, CII FBN India organized and facilitated several key initiatives to address crucial challenges and opportunities facing family businesses, as well as provide a platform for family business leaders and next generation members to learn, connect, and share best practices.

ADVOCACY

An exclusive session focused on 'Leading Family Businesses' was held in collaboration with the IMD Business School, Lausanne, Switzerland. Mr Peter Vogel from IMD Global Family Business Centre engaged in discussions on effective leadership strategies, governance structures, and the unique dynamics of managing multi generational family businesses.

The 'Conference on Preserving and Transitioning Ownership in Family Run Businesses' with faculty from FBN Netherlands and FBN Sweden, explored three critical circles in the family business system and ways to leverage family capital, including emotional, social, financial, and intellectual assets. The discussions were aimed at strengthening the foundation of family businesses by focusing on ownership responsibility,

strategic planning, and succession management. Best practices from both local and global perspectives were shared throughout the event.

Two sessions were organized on 'Specialized Family Office Sessions on Wealth Preservation and Management'. The focus was on growing importance of family offices in managing family wealth, ensuring sustainable growth, and securing the legacy of family enterprises. Mr Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman & Managing Director of TVS Capital Funds Limited spoke about the evolving role of family offices in India.

'From Ownership to Stewardship' was the theme of the 23rd edition of 'CII-FBN India Annual Convention'. Mr Bob Kohli of LGA and Mr Paolo Morosetti of Bocconi University as the local faculty complemented each other in content and style. The evolving role of family businesses from ownership to responsible management, improving governance, ensuring long term sustainability and growth were discussed during the convention.

Thematic sessions held across India covered topics such as leadership transition, role of AI in family businesses and engaging constructively in sensitive and brave conversations. Members were also exposed to the competitive advantages of family ownership and challenges surrounding informal employment in India.



(L-R): Bharat Puri, CEO, Pidilite Industries Ltd; Farhad Forbes, Chairman, CII FBN India Chapter and Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall and Jayadev Galla, Co-Founder and Chairman, Amara Raja Group at the CII-FBN India Annual Convention From Ownership to Stewardship in Hyderabad

MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

MSMEs are the architects of India's economic strength, shaping opportunities and innovation in every corner of the nation. As the backbone of the country's entrepreneurial ecosystem, MSMEs foster decentralized development, bridging urban and rural economies while generating employment for millions. CII National MSME Council supports the growth of MSME sector through policy advocacy and capacity building initiatives.

ADVOCACY

During the year, CII advocated for transformative policies to bolster the MSME sector, focusing on financial access, technology adoption, and operational ease. Key successes included introduction of a new credit assessment model other than the existing model based on the MSME's digital footprint and enhanced credit guarantees for improved financial access. A new mechanism to facilitate continued bank credit for MSMEs during periods of stress was also rolled out. Efforts were made to onboard more players on TReDS platform and create e-commerce export hubs through PPP.



(L-R): Ashok Saigal, Co-Chairman, CII National MSME Council and Managing Director, Frontier Technologies Pvt Ltd; Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State for MSME; Jitan Ram Manjhi, Minister for MSME and Dr K Nandakumar, Chairman, Core Group on Policy & EoDB & Chairman, CII National MSME Council and Chairman & Managing Director, Chemtrols Industries Pvt Ltd at the MSME Leadership Summit in New Delhi

ACTION

CII spearheaded multiple initiatives to enhance MSME competitiveness and support India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat.' The 'Indian MSME Growth Summit', themed 'MSMEs: Fuelling Equitable Growth', focused on promoting growth through market linkages and global outreach. The 'CII MSME Leadership Summit', which focused on celebrating success of micro enterprises, was held alongside the summit.

The 21st edition of the 'Global MSME Business Summit' deliberated on the theme 'Global Trade Transformations: Pathways for Partnerships'. Thought leaders emphasized the need for resilient supply chains, sustainability, and enhanced access to finance.

'Project Digital Saksham', a partnership with Mastercard Centre for Inclusive Growth, has reached out to 302,303 micro enterprises across 13 states. Training 87,683 entrepreneurs in local languages the project has transformed 51,405 businesses through digital tool adoption. CII also supported entrepreneurs in registering on the Udyam Portal and Government e-Marketplace, enabling formalization and market access.

'MSME Clinics', a policy consultative series connecting MSMEs with Government officials, was launched during the year. The clinics address pain points, share best practices, and disseminate information on Government schemes and initiatives such as CGTMSE, NSIC Venture Capital Funds and GeM. Seven sessions conducted nationwide facilitated dialogue with the Central and State Government officials and triggered region specific initiatives. Call on meetings with State leaders in Odisha, Karnataka, Telangana and West Bengal further reinforced advocacy efforts.

PUBLIC SECTOR ENTERPRISES

The CII PSE Council focuses on enhancing PSE competitiveness to fulfil the Prime Minister of India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat' and India's transformation into a developed nation by 2047. Through policy advocacy, stakeholder collaboration, and alignment with other CII initiatives, the Council drives PSEs towards global leadership, scale, and competitiveness to support this national vision.

Several consultative platforms were created during the year to build capacity, create awareness, share knowledge, and provide opportunities for stakeholders to connect. The objective was to bring forward the PSE perspective on the country's development agenda.

ACTION

A 'Master Training Programme on Green Buildings and Net Zero Concepts' was organized in collaboration with the CII Indian Green Building Council (IGBC). The programme equipped green energy and sustainability practitioners with knowledge and skills to achieve net zero targets, focusing on energy efficient technologies and sustainable construction practices.

Recognizing the challenges posed by volatile input costs and intense competition, a workshop was organized on 'Total Cost Management for Competitiveness of PSEs'. This workshop introduced the TCM Maturity Model, the first of its kind model developed by CII under the Intellectual Property

Rights (IPR) initiative, providing a systematic framework for cost control, reduction, and elimination across the value chain to build sustainable businesses.

The workshop on 'Brand Salience for Public Sector Competitiveness' was aimed at fostering PSE brand strategies and management capabilities. The workshop emphasized leveraging the PSE brand as a growth accelerator and explored their financial and diverse value drivers.

The 12th edition of the 'PSE Summit' discussed the theme 'Viksit Bharat: Transforming PSEs into Engines of Sustainable Growth'. The summit explored the pivotal role of PSEs in achieving India@2047 goals, emphasizing innovation, technology adoption, sustainability, and global competitiveness. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas highlighted India's growth potential to exceed USD 20 trillion in two decades and urged industry players to consider greater public private collaboration.

Publications

'PSE Insights', a quarterly magazine offering key perspectives and actionable insights into the development agenda of PSEs, was published periodically during the year. This publication highlights the significant role of PSEs in driving India's economic growth and reiterates CII's commitment to supporting their advancement.



(L-R): Vartika Shukla, Co-Chair, CII PSE Council and Chairperson & Managing Director, Engineers India Ltd; Arun Kumar Singh, Chairman, CII PSE Council and Chairman & CEO, ONGC; Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the 12th PSE Summit in New Delhi

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

In 2024, the HR landscape matured significantly as generative AI transitioned from exploration to strategic application across industries. Building on this transformative momentum, CII intensified the efforts to enable Member organizations to turn AI driven insights into actionable outcomes. Efforts were directed at guiding businesses in reshaping workforce strategies, enhancing decision making, and driving innovation. This forward thinking approach equipped organizations to thrive in a rapidly evolving digital economy, reinforcing CII's commitment to empowering Members with tools and expertise needed for sustained success.

ADVOCACY

The CII National Committee on Leadership and HR spearheaded initiatives aimed at equipping organizations with knowledge and tools to adapt to technological shifts. By emphasizing innovation, continuous learning, and skill enhancement, these efforts were designed to help businesses transform HR functions and align with the demands of a future ready workforce.

ACTION

14th CII HR Conclave

The 14th edition of the CII HR Conclave delved into the evolving role of HR amidst the transformative wave of AI driven innovation. Held under the theme 'Decoding the New HR Mandate', the conclave addressed the dual imperative facing HR professionals today. While leveraging the power of AI to drive efficiency HR needs to safeguard the core principles of human centricity in the workplace.

The discussions centered around how organizations can navigate this complex interplay, balancing cutting edge technological advancements with empathy, inclusion, and the human touch that defines effective HR practices. By fostering dialogue on best practices, strategies, and future ready solutions, the conclave aimed to equip HR leaders to redefine their mandate in an era where technology and humanity converge. This edition discussed and deliberated on vital issues and themes in an evolving HR landscape.



Sanjay Behl, Chairman, CII National Committee on Leadership & HR and CEO & Co-Founder, Nextgore Pvt Ltd and Chairman, Smartwheels Inc, Palo Alto, USA and Ashank Desai, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Leadership & HR and Founder and Former Chairman, Mastek with other speakers at the 14th HR Conclave in Mumbai



Scott Cawood, Chief Executive Officer, WorldatWork at the 14th HR Conclave in Mumbai

THE CII HR EXCELLENCE MODEL

Paving the Way for Excellence in HR

Over the years, the CII National HR Excellence Framework has evolved into a proven People Practices Maturity Model. It measures the progress of organizations on their journey towards excellence in HR processes and practices. The model comprises 6 parameters of assessment i.e. leadership, learning and development, HR strategy, engagement, inclusion, people wellbeing and HRM processes, practices, and results.

In 2024, the HR Excellence Model was revamped to make it more contemporary and aligned with evolving industry needs. It has now transformed into a movement featuring 3 key elements or organizational assessments, building capacities and sharing best practices.

ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

15th CII National HR Excellence Award

The 15th CII National HR Excellence Award celebrated organizations that have consistently demonstrated outstanding HR performance and practices. Participating organizations were rigorously evaluated across various parameters, including integration of analytics and technology into HR processes, creation of a positive employee experience, and establishment of a distinctive leadership brand. Acknowledging the diverse strengths and accomplishments of the participating organizations, the award categories included 'Strong Commitment to HR Excellence', 'Significant Achievement in HR Excellence' and 'Prize for Leadership in HR Excellence'.

BUILDING CAPACITIES

Creating and Strengthening the Assessor Pool

The CII HR Excellence Award Process is the continuous creation of new assessors. Senior leaders from the industry underwent the 3 days 'Certified Assessor Training Workshop' on the HR Excellence Award Model. Four such workshops held during the year helped participants understand the award criteria and assessment processes.

SHARING BEST PRACTICES

CII National HR Excellence Award Confluence

The 'Annual HR Excellence Award Confluence' disseminates best practices emanating from the HR Excellence Award Assessment process. This year too, the confluence gave a thrust to moving organizations towards creating and sustaining a culture of excellence in HR.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The CII National Committee on Industrial Relations & Labour synergizes key stakeholders from the industrial relations ecosystem to address pertinent issues and develop best practices in labour and employment. CII partners with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E), and State Labour Departments to drive impactful change for India's workforce.

ADVOCACY

Several recommendations were submitted to the MoL&E to support improvement in labour and employment policies. CII opined that provisions of the Employment Linked Incentive scheme should facilitate Ease of Doing Business rather than enhance the employers' administrative and financial burden. Recommendations were made to roll out an amnesty scheme to encourage MSMEs to implement the ELI scheme.

Detailed recommendations concerning the Labour Codes and Ease of Doing Business provisions were submitted to better engage contractors and migrant workers. To enhance the coverage and accessibility of various social security schemes, CII submitted suggestions for formalizing gig and platform workers.

In collaboration with Members, industry stakeholders, and Government bodies, work was initiated on a compendium of best practices to address challenges faced by women to promote their growth.

ADVOCACY

Workshops on the new Labour Code were organized to enable smooth transition and adoption by MSMEs and key industry clusters. A workshop on 'Developing & Upgrading Skills in South Asia for Manufacturing & Industrial Sectors' was held jointly with Employers Federation of India (EFI), the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN), and the International Organization of Employers (IOE). The workshop fostered collaboration between industry stakeholders to enhance workforce skills, ensuring a more competent and sustainable labour force.

With the aim to achieve 50% women participation in the workforce, an event was hosted jointly with the Ministry of Women & Child Development. Titled 'Women in the Workforce for Viksit Bharat' the programme witnessed the release of an MoL&E advisory to employers, promoting gender equality in the workforce to drive women empowerment.

The 'CII National Conference on Industrial Relations & Awards' deliberated on the theme 'Creating Holistic Ecosystem for New Age Workforce'. The 3rd and 4th batches of 'Industrial Relations Certification Course', conducted jointly with EFI, were attended by more than 100 participants. The course aims to align industry and trade unions on Labour Codes, labour reforms and International Labour Standards.



(L-R): Kathryn Rowan, Executive Director, GAN Global; Jaideep Ahuja, Chairman, CII Delhi State and Managing Director & CEO, Ahuja Residency Pvt Ltd; Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skills Development & Entrepreneurship & Chairman, NCVET; Ravi Peiris, Senior Specialist, Employers' Activities, DWT - South Asia, ILO and Rita Yipm, Senior Legal and Policy Advisor, IOE at the Workshop on Developing & Upgrading Skills in South Asia for Manufacturing & Industrial Sectors in New Delhi

MARKETING LEADERSHIP

The CII National Committee on Marketing Leadership, comprising over 45 eminent CMOs and senior marketing functionaries, spearheaded key initiatives to drive marketing excellence across the Membership.

ADVOCACY

During 2024, the Committee focused on equipping marketers with advanced skills through targeted interventions. Groundwork was laid to enable marketers to devise effective strategies to navigate emerging regulations.

ACTION

Amidst rapid technological advancements and shifting consumer expectations, the marketing landscape is undergoing a seismic transformation. To help marketers navigate these changes, the 8th edition of the 'Marketing Leadership Summit' was themed 'Marketing: Shaping Today, Securing Tomorrow'. The summit explored ways for brands to thrive in the ongoing dynamic environment.

The sessions highlighted AI's role in hyper personalization, workflow automation, and customer engagement, along with the need for authenticity in influencer marketing and balancing legacy values with digital innovation. Inclusivity and equity were emphasized through impactful campaigns, while discussions on the experience economy focused on creating emotional brand journeys that drive loyalty. A workshop on AI in marketing offered actionable tools to leverage technology effectively.

The 3rd Batch of the 'CII Strategic Marketing Leadership Programme' (SMLP) equipped participants with advanced strategic marketing skills. With robust assessments and close progress monitoring, the programme attracted enthusiastic participation from B2B and B2C professionals.

Under the 'CII Marketing Leadership Series', 2 impactful virtual sessions explored key aspects of modern marketing. The first, 'Humanizing MarTech for Deeper Customer Connections' focused on balancing technological efficiency with human connections. It highlighted strategies to leverage MarTech while avoiding depersonalization and ensuring customer centric engagement in marketing efforts. The other, themed, 'DEI as Core DNA in Marketing for Brand Success', emphasized the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in crafting meaningful campaigns. It addressed challenges in navigating India's cultural diversity, shedding light on how inclusive marketing can dismantle stereotypes and resonate with broader audiences.

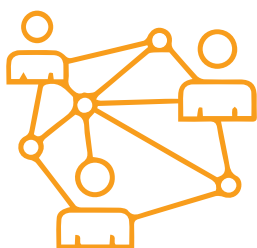
To spotlight emerging trends within the marketing function, the 'CII State of Marketing Podcast Series' was launched under the theme 'AI in Marketing: Shaping the Future Today'. This initiative aimed to explore cutting edge developments shaping the future of marketing. The inaugural episode featured an engaging conversation on how artificial intelligence is revolutionizing the marketing landscape, driving innovation, and enhancing consumer experiences.



(L-R): Anindita Das Veluri, Director Marketing, Adobe India; Alok Agarwal, Chief Marketing Officer, Orientbell Tiles; Rohit Bhasin, President and Chief Marketing Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Ahshad Jussawala, CEO, Jio Haptik at the Marketing Leadership Summit in Mumbai



CONNECTING WITH SOCIETY



- ▶ India@100
- ▶ Affirmative Action
- ▶ Rural Development and Migrant Workforce
- ▶ CII Foundation
- ▶ Development Initiatives
- ▶ Sports
- ▶ Youth Power
 - Young Indians
 - Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust
- ▶ CII Indian Women Network

INDIA@100

In 2008, CII initiated India@75, an industry led movement, to leverage the people's power in India's development journey. The movement sought to create an environment for moral, economic, and technological development and put India on the path to inclusive and holistic development by 2022, the 75th year of the country's independence. The 15 year journey was a testament to the power of multi stakeholder collaboration and made a strong case for enhanced industry participation in the development space.

India@75 has transitioned into India@100 Foundation shifting focus from a developmental agenda to a developed nation agenda. Building on the India@75 movement, India@100 has laid the groundwork for impactful collaborations and cohesive strategies to bridge national and state level aspirations. Extensive consultations with industry, academia, and civil society have helped identify key focus areas, including volunteerism, sustainability, and digital literacy ensuring alignment with India's broader developmental goals.

ADVOCACY

The 'National Vision Document on India@100: The People's Agenda' was created to ensure a seamless transition of the movement from India@75 to India@100. The vision document, which was shared with policymakers at the highest levels, encapsulates the collective aspirations of Indians for the nation's centenary year of independence in 2047. It comprises five pillars of AMRIT which are considered the overarching aspiration for India to secure global leadership in economic, cultural, social, and developmental dimensions: 'Ascend' to the peak of the new world order, by fulfilling potential in multiple areas such as 'Maximizing' economic progress, 'Revitalizing' India's soft power, 'Innovating' to stay ahead of the curve, and 'Transforming' India's development model holistically to unlock human potential. This multifaceted approach is expected to create a balanced and sustainable development trajectory.



(L-R): R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO, Tata Chemicals Limited in a conversation with Ajay Piramal, Chairman, India@100 Foundation and Chairman, Piramal Group on 'Charting a Course for India@100' at the CII Annual Business Summit 2024 in New Delhi

ACTION

The 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign continued to inspire unity and pride among citizens. The campaign witnessed extensive participation from over one million individuals, encompassing corporates, schools, and communities. Flag hoisting events, creative contests, and awareness drives celebrated the national flag as a symbol of patriotism and collective strength.

To further the goals of Swachh Bharat, the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' (SHS) campaign emphasized cleanliness, waste management, and responsible tourism. Multiple initiatives were undertaken by Members across India. The cleanliness drive organized at Carter Road Beach, Mumbai, mobilized over 500 volunteers, who cleared more than 2 tonnes of waste from the beachfront. Partnerships with NGOs, corporates, and Government bodies reinforced the collective commitment to a cleaner, greener India.



Winners of the 5th Edition of the IndiaWeWant: Debate Competition in Mumbai



(L-R): Rishi Kumar Bagla, Deputy Chairman, CII Western Region and Chairman & Managing Director, BG Li-In Electricals Ltd; B Thiagarajan, Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd; Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd, and Swati Salgaocar, Chairperson, CII Western Region and President, VM Salgaocar and Brother Pvt Ltd at the Conclave on India@100 in Mumbai

The spirit of active citizenship with the theme 'Act Today for an Equitable Tomorrow' was carried forward by the 12th edition of 'National Volunteering Week' (NVW) between 18-24 January. 135,356 volunteers contributed more than 10,93,161 hours of service, making a positive impact on over 32 million lives. Activities spanned across multiple areas, including art and culture, community development, education, environmental sustainability, healthcare, road safety, rural education, skill development, social inclusion, sports, and women empowerment. 'Institutionalizing Employee Volunteering,' a webinar conducted during the week, highlighted the transformative potential of collective action by corporates.

Conclaves held in Guwahati, Hyderabad, and Mumbai addressed region-specific challenges and opportunities impacting India's evolution as a developed nation by 2047. In Guwahati, discussions centered on the North East's role in national growth, emphasizing infrastructure, cross border trade, and sustainability. The conclave in Hyderabad focused on leveraging sectoral strengths in defence, aerospace, IT, and agriculture, with leaders calling for policy interventions to strengthen exports and support the service economy. Meanwhile, Mumbai's conclave explored themes of inclusivity, sustainability, and innovation,

with industry leaders stressing the importance of manufacturing, gender diversity, and green initiatives in achieving the vision of a developed India.

Digital inclusion, a cornerstone of India@100's agenda, is being driven through the Functional Literacy Programme (FLiP). Designed to empower marginalized communities with essential digital skills, FLiP benefitted over 6000 individuals. The FLiP-on-Wheels initiative will expand its reach to over 50 villages in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra bringing digital literacy to underserved populations and equipping them for a digitally connected future.

'ChangeSpeake,' a series of conversations featuring visionary individuals shaping the dialogue on change, showcased changemakers driving innovation and inclusivity across various fields. Through their determination and foresight, these changemakers play a crucial role in influencing the direction of India@100. The series brought together thought leaders, industry icons, and entrepreneurs who shared their vision for an inclusive and developed India by 2047.

Adhering to the overarching theme of AMRIT, the India@100 Foundation is committed to driving progress across its 5 focus areas of education and livelihoods, holistic health, leadership, technology, and volunteerism.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

CII's affirmative action is a voluntary initiative by Member companies aimed at promoting inclusion and equal opportunities for scheduled caste and scheduled tribe communities. The National Task Force on Affirmative Action drives efforts to integrate marginalized communities into the mainstream workforce. Led jointly with Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI), the initiative has adopted the 4E's approach of employability, entrepreneurship, education, and employment.

ADVOCACY

A proposal was submitted to the Indian Institutes of Management in Ahmedabad, Shillong, and Trichy to provide greater support to SC/ST entrepreneurs by expanding the ongoing 'CII Business Accelerator Programme' (CII BAP). This was discussed in a meeting with National SC/ST Hub.

Private sector's pivotal role in supporting SC/ST entrepreneurs was highlighted during an advisory meeting of the National SC/ST Hub Scheme. A key takeaway was the recommendation for CII Members to mentor at least one SC/ST entrepreneur each.

During a 'High-Powered Monitoring Committee Meeting' chaired by Shri Jiten Ram Manjhi, Minister of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, CII proposed initiatives such as setting up awards for best practices in affirmative action. The suggestion for establishing dedicated mentorship programmes for SC/ST entrepreneurs was also welcomed.

Continuing the focus on tribal entrepreneurship, a proposal was submitted to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) for the 'Tribal Collaborative Project'. It is an initiative designed to support tribal communities through mentorship, capacity building, and entrepreneurship programmes. CII also participated in MoTA's 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' celebrations.



Launch of Business Accelerator Program at IIM, Jammu

ACTION

As part of the ongoing commitment to support marginalized entrepreneurs, CII played an active role in the 'Tamil Nadu Beat Expo 2024'. A session focused on 'Affirmative Action for SC/ST Entrepreneurs' was hosted during the programme to provide technical guidance, business incubation support, and mentorship, further strengthening the ecosystem for these communities.

The 2nd batch of the CII BAP programme was launched in IIM Jammu, in partnership with Ministry of MSME, National SC-ST Hub, and DICCI. This programme will support SC/ST entrepreneurs.

In a significant move to enhance financial inclusion, a tripartite MoU was signed to improve credit access for SC/ST entrepreneurs, integrate them into larger businesses, and create more opportunities for sourcing projects from these communities. Two webinars were organized in collaboration with IFCI VCF Ltd and DICCI to raise awareness among SC/ST entrepreneurs about financing schemes and resources available to them.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MIGRANT WORKFORCE

Rural India is a significant driver of consumption and economic expansion. The environment conducive for innovation has enabled startups and traditional businesses to develop transformative models tailored to specific needs of the rural communities. The synergy between rural development and industrial growth is essential for the nation's overall progress.

ADVOCACY

The CII National Task Force on Rural Development and Migrant Workforce works as a forum for policy advocacy in pursuit of the vision of India's global competitiveness and growth. The Task Force aims to create a strong ecosystem by uniting stakeholders to develop scalable and replicable enterprise models that drive comprehensive rural economic and social development.

During the year, focus was on promoting rural entrepreneurship, fostering skill development and employability, integrating ESG principles into rural initiatives, and building a strong support ecosystem for migrant workforce inclusion.



(L-R): Meenesh Shah, Managing Director and Chairman National Dairy Development Board; Charanjit Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development; Shankar Vanavarayar, Chairman, CII National Task Force on Rural Development & Migrant Workforce and President, Kumaraguru Institutions & Executive Director, ABT at the National Conference on Rural Development in New Delhi

ACTION

The 'CII Industry-Led Cluster Mentorship Programme for Rural Entrepreneurs' being delivered along with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) empowered 200 rural entrepreneurs in Assam and Jammu & Kashmir. It fostered sustainable livelihoods and enhanced their capacity to create long term economic impact in their communities. The programme bridged the gap between rural entrepreneurial potential and resources necessary for sustainable growth.

Career counselling initiatives of the programme connected academia with industry, enhancing skills and employability of over 1000 students across Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. Given the strong focus on skill development and employability, over 1000 youth were trained and 300 secured employment in Himachal Pradesh, thereby strengthening the rural workforce.

The 2nd edition of the 'National Conference on Rural Development' showcased innovative strategies and collaborations. Policymakers, industry leaders, and NGOs deliberated on the theme 'Towards Sustainable Rural Growth'. The 'Rural Development Compendium' was launched as a key resource featuring initiatives, success stories, and sustainable growth strategies for rural India.

An ESG focused workshop was conducted at IIT Delhi in alignment with the efforts to integrate sustainable practices into development initiatives. This workshop served as a platform to explore actionable strategies for embedding environmental, social, and governance principles into rural economic development.

CII FOUNDATION

The CII Foundation (CIIF) was set up in 2011 to foster India's inclusive development through a collaborative, multi stakeholder approach, which engages Government, industry, academia and local communities. In 2024-25, the Foundation strengthened the efforts in thematic areas such as climate change resilience, women empowerment, early childhood education, health and skilling to drive social transformation.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Crop Residue Management Initiative

To address the issue of farm stubble burning, a significant aggravator of air pollution at the onset of winter in parts of Northern India, CIIF has launched a multi stakeholder initiative in Punjab and Haryana.

Several new donors supported the initiative during the year, taking the total number of villages to 793 from 432 in the previous year. The project is being implemented with the support of grassroots organizations, youth volunteers, and Nigrani Committees. Technical and training support are provided by Haryana Agricultural University and Punjab Agricultural University. In 2024, on field farm stubble management practices were further strengthened. Off field straw management was promoted by providing 324 farm machines to farmers. To accelerate the efforts to promote sustainable agriculture, 2 bio-gas plants, 1 bio-compost plant and 3 bio-palletization plants were installed.



▼ Promoting sustainable agriculture through the Crop Residue Management Initiative.

Project interventions resulted in 87% reduction in stubble burning across 8.84 lakh acres of farmland, supporting 1.47 lakh farmers. At the end of season 2024 20 lakh tonnes of biomass was saved from burning.

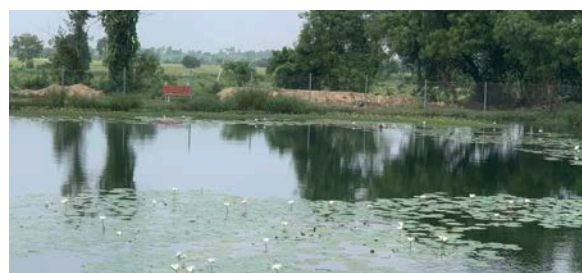
A delegation of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Commission for Air Quality Management visited Jatana village, Punjab. Adopted in 2023, Jatana has emerged as a model village with no reported cases of stubble burning in 2024.

Urban Climate Resilience

To combat air pollution, promote carbon sequestration and support local wildlife and biodiversity, a community tree plantation drive was undertaken in Farrukhnagar, district Gurugram. Over 7000 saplings were sown, with the goal to plant 100,000 saplings over the next 2 years. A new project to restore 10 water bodies was also launched in rural Gurugram, Haryana.

Community Waste Management Initiative

Inefficient waste management causes significant harm to the environment and human health. Community waste management projects were launched in Haryana, Kerala, and Ladakh to complement the local Government's efforts.



▼ Reviving water bodies to address water shortages, enhance climate resilience, and protect biodiversity.



Promoting sustainable waste management through a cleanliness drive in Chellanam, Kerala.

The project activities included cleanliness drives, engagement with school children, promoting waste segregation, and recycling and distribution of dustbins to 10,000 households. Three solid resource management centres were set up in Chuchot and Kharu Block, Leh, and Kerala to strengthen the waste management infrastructure in the region. At the 3 material recovery facilities (MRF) set up under the project, daily waste processing, sorting, shredding, and baling were started. In addition, 4 e-carts were distributed for waste collection from local institutions including monasteries to improve waste management practices. Waste worker capacity building, including training on the use of PPEs, was undertaken by 2 SHG groups formed for the purpose.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The 'Woman Exemplar Programme' identifies and recognizes grassroots women leaders through the 'Woman Exemplar Award' in areas of health, education, and microenterprise. A new 'Peer Learning

Exchange Programme' replaced the earlier 'Mentorship Programme' with a view to introducing peer-to-peer learning, drawing on shared challenges and experiences. This innovative programme identifies host organizations led by woman exemplars, who curate and facilitate immersive learning exchanges for their peers.

The 'Woman Exemplar Award 2024' was presented by Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs at the 'CII Annual Business Summit 2024'. Each winner received a trophy, a certificate, and a cash prize of INR 3 lakh. The 3 winners were selected from over 400 nominations by an eminent jury drawn from industry, civil society, media, and the social development sector. The awardees join a powerful network of over 120 woman exemplars, together impacting 3 million lives annually to drive social transformation across India.

During the year, the programme provided several platforms to woman exemplars to showcase their work and potential. They also interacted with women from Indian and international corporates. Woman exemplars shared their inspiring journeys of change and transformation at the 9th edition of the 'WomeNation Summit' organized by CII WR Indian Women Network.

The CII Foundation has taken this national level programme to various states with the 'Empowering Champions of Change Programme' in Assam. The 15 visionary women recognized under this initiative are being supported through training sessions and mentoring to catalyze change in the region.



The CII Foundation Woman Exemplars with Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, at the CII Annual Business Summit 2024, held in New Delhi

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

In India, Early Childhood Education (ECE) is delivered to children up to age 6 through Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) under the Government's 'Integrated Child Development Scheme' (ICDS). The CII Foundation works to strengthen these centres by partnering with State Governments, industry and local NGOs in Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal.

In J&K the focus during the year was on developing teaching learning materials (TLM) and capacity building of Anganwadi workers and helpers on ECE, nutrition and monitoring growth. TLM was developed through a 6 day workshop which brought up the need for play way learning methods. The TLM was tested through a pilot project, refined and then launched, along with the 'Nutrition Awareness Package' in Hindi, Urdu and English in collaboration with the State. Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Melas were organized for the first time under the 'Fulvun Lokchaar / Khilta Bachpan' initiative to raise awareness and engagement.

'Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Supervising Committees' (ALMSCs) were formed with key community stakeholders to ensure continued ownership of ICDS services. In recognition of their contribution the State announced the replication and roll out of these ALMSCs across all of J&K. Under the 'Anganwadi Strengthening Programme' in Tamil Nadu, 3 Anganwadi Centres were revitalized through essential upgrades making them accessible and inclusive for Children with Disabilities (CwDs). The Centres were inaugurated in Gummidipoondi, Thiruvallur district, in the presence of local Government dignitaries.



Strengthening early childhood education by building capacity of Anganwadi workers in Hoskote, Karnataka

This initiative is also being implemented in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, with an endeavour to create a healthy and holistic learning environment for children at Anganwadis.

STRENGTHENING HEALTH DELIVERY

A pilot project to create a model maternity ward was initiated in the Government General Hospital, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. Interventions during the year focused on improving infrastructure and building capacity through workshops on infection control, fire safety, and disaster management, among others.

These efforts resulted in an improved healing environment, reduced stress and hospital stays, better informed patients and attendants, and the delivery of high quality care, benefiting 4500 mothers and newborns annually.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A scoping exercise was undertaken to design interventions and pilot integrated village development projects with a focus on education, health, and livelihood. This was conducted in Barabanki and Chandauli (Uttar Pradesh), Gumla (Jharkhand), the Sundarbans (West Bengal), and Gummidipoondi (Tamil Nadu).

Pilot interventions included a health awareness and system strengthening programme, rural women livelihood initiatives, soft skills training for youth, and an eco-restoration initiative in the identified villages.

SKILLING

To promote economic inclusion and self reliance for underserved communities, CIIF works closely with CII through its Skill Training Centre and Model Career Centres (MCCs). Key activities centre around outreach and youth connects through educational institutes and local communities, career guidance and training. The project is being implemented in Assam, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim, and Tripura, benefiting over 135,000 people by enhancing their skills and employability, and providing them with livelihood opportunities.

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

CII remains committed to fostering inclusive and sustainable growth by collaborating with the Government, industry, and civil society organizations. Members' efforts to seamlessly integrate businesses with impactful social development initiatives are supported through a series of initiatives as well as policy advocacy.

Over the last decade, the corporate social responsibility (CSR) legislation and CSR Rules issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) have provided a guiding framework for companies to design and deliver impactful CSR interventions. In response to the CSR amendments in 2021, CII remained at the forefront, advocating for strategic shifts, including encouraging CSR support to priority states and districts.

ADVOCACY

In the pursuit to transform CSR into a tangible business agenda for inclusive and sustainable growth, CII continued to collaborate with the Government and corporate entities on policy issues.

The budget announcement requiring top companies to partner on an internship scheme for youth through CSR funding was a key budget announcement last year.

To ensure seamless rollout of the scheme, CII led a consultation with the MCA and industry to share insights, learnings, and suggestions for the internship scheme. Suggestions included making the eligibility criteria and duration of internship flexible; operationalizing the scheme through an online platform that could map suitable interns with company requirements; creating a feedback mechanism; revising the monthly allowance band and eligibility criteria to attract quality interns.

As part of CSR advocacy efforts with industry, a consultation was held with Members of CII Uttar Pradesh to understand CSR priorities and identify issues that could be effectively addressed through CSR. Based on the interest expressed, a livelihood and skilling pilot intervention will be rolled out through CII Foundation.

To further strengthen and enable the development ecosystem, especially in the North East, a capacity building programme for NGOs was launched. The objective is to educate and strengthen them on organizational and governance aspects as well as provide opportunities for CSR engagement with industry. Over 50 grassroots NGOs from Nagaland participated in the programme which was delivered by experts and senior industry representatives.



(L-R): Aishwarya Aggarwal, Lead, Centre for Inclusive Mobility, OMI Foundation; Anushree Mathur, Head of Assistive Technology-India, JP Morgan; Shilpi Kapoor, Founder & CEO, BarrierBreak Solutions Pvt Ltd; Navreet Anand, Head-Policy & Advice, NatWest Group; Prof Madhusudan Rao, Professor, IIT Delhi and Justin Jesudas, Chief Operating Officer, IIT Madras and Para-athlete at the National Conference on Accelerating Disability Inclusion in New Delhi



✓ *Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities interacting with exhibitors during the National Conference on Accelerating Disability Inclusion in New Delhi*

Consultative conversations on regional and state level priorities continued with CII engaging with Members of Southern Region, especially Karnataka. Discussions were held on the role of CSR in addressing water challenges, a critical issue in Karnataka.

A workshop was held with CSR leaders to bring focus on applying design thinking and systems innovation approach in development programmes to amplify impact. A brainstorming session with CSR Heads of corporates identified key priority areas for CSR activities. The forum emphasized cross learnings, collaborations and alignment of CSR with SDGs as key aspects which can lead to impactful CSR and position industry as integral contributors to development.

ACTION

To ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and uphold their dignity, thereby improving their quality of life, the Government of India passed the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act

in 2016. While the Act recognizes 21 categories of disabilities, social stigma and lack of accessible infrastructure continue to impede progress.

CII is a leading advocate for disability inclusion through the India Business and Disability Network (IBDN) since 2019. The network aims to promote inclusive, accessible, and barrier free workplaces in the corporate sector. IBDN emphasizes the importance of embedding disability inclusion into corporate culture rather than treating it as a mere compliance exercise.

The 6th edition of the 'Annual National Conference on Accelerating Disability Inclusion' was organized to discuss disability inclusion and assistive technologies. The conference deliberated on the theme 'Future-Proofing Industry: Enabling Accessibility for All'. The conference featured engaging sessions on promoting inclusive workplaces, and technology's role in providing effective accessibility solutions.

Entrepreneurs with disabilities showcased innovative ideas and products during the 'Pitch Marathons'. An exhibition, held alongside the conference, featured cutting edge assistive technologies and products developed by startups and organizations dedicated to accessibility and disability inclusion. The conference also marked the launch of the 'CII Awards for Excellence in Disability Inclusion' (AEDI). By recognizing and celebrating companies championing disability inclusion, the award aims to inspire other organizations to adopt and advance inclusive practices.



✓ *(L-R): Chitra Shyam, Vice President – Head of D&I, APAC, Barclays shared Service Pvt Ltd; Shilpi Kapoor, Founder & CEO, BarrierBreak Solutions Pvt Ltd; Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment; Prabhakar Varadarajan, Founding Member, CII-India Business & Disability Network and acting Managing Director & COO, ANZ Group Capability Centre, Bengaluru launching the 'Blueprint for Disability Inclusion: Ten-Fold Path to Accessibility @ Workplace' at the CII-IBDN National Conference on Accelerating Disability Inclusion held in New Delhi*



CSR leaders with Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman, CII Foundation and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce at Consultation on Leveraging Design & System Thinking to Amplify CSR Development Impact

Thirty two participants joined the 5th cohort of the 'Annual Certificate Programme on Creating Disability Inclusive Leaders at the Workplace'. Over the past 4 years, this programme has certified 117 participants and involved over 30 experts and organizations. This course equips workplace executives with the knowledge and skills needed for effective hiring, management, retention, development, and advancement of employees with disabilities, fostering an inclusive workplace culture. Participants benefit from a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical experience, gaining insights into strategies for increasing employability of people with disabilities and creating an environment where employees can reach their full potential.

To assist companies in strengthening accessibility knowledge for holistic inclusion, a certificate programme on 'Accessibility – Towards Enabling Inclusion' was introduced. This programme aims to develop accessibility and inclusion awareness. It assists companies in adopting and achieving accessibility parameters and creating an empowering culture for employees with disabilities to reach their full potential at work.

The 'Roundtable on Advancing Disability Inclusion & Assistive Technology' was held in partnership with the Global Disability Innovation Hub (GDI Hub), University College London (UCL), IIT Delhi, and IIT Madras. CSR, DEI and HR leaders exchanged ideas and discussed ways to collectively support assistive technology in transforming the lives of persons with disabilities.

The session offered an opportunity to share, and explore collaborative pathways to scale impactful AT ventures.

CII-IBDN in collaboration with DEOC organized 4 city level workshops to promote employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in the private sector. Targeting SMEs, industry associations and chambers, the workshops aimed to foster inclusive workplaces by raising awareness and equipping participants with practical skills to implement disability inclusive practices.

To help build knowhow on building accessible and barrier free companies, a 'CII-IBDN Accessibility Guidance Document' titled 'Blueprint for Disability Inclusion: Ten-Fold Path to Accessibility@Workplace' was developed. This guide offers practical strategies for businesses, especially for diversity and inclusion professionals, human resources teams, facility managers and IT departments to create an accessible and inclusive work environment.

Monthly online sessions, 'Inclusive Thursdays', were hosted during the year with companies championing disability inclusion sharing their practices and approaches to developing inclusive workplaces. The initiative fostered peer to peer exchange and conversations on workplace inclusion for PwDs within the industry. This platform empowers participants to make meaningful strides in their inclusion efforts, ensuring that every workplace is accessible, supportive, and welcoming to PwDs.

ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY



SPORTS

CII continued to deliver on the commitment to advancing India's sports ecosystem through a series of impactful initiatives. The vision to promote inclusivity, innovation, and excellence in sports was pursued through a series of activities. Stakeholders were provided platforms to encourage collaboration, foster grassroots development, and celebrate achievements across the sector. These activities addressed critical areas such as awareness of anti doping, corporate wellness through sports, grassroots talent development, and the integration of technology and sustainability in sports. CII brought together stakeholders from industry, Government, and the sports domain to drive meaningful discussions, inspire action, and recognize outstanding contributions.

ACTION

The 9th edition of 'SCORECARD 2024' revolved around the theme 'Empowering Change: Innovating Towards a Sustainable and Inclusive Sporting Future in India'. The event saw the launch of the report 'Sports Cities in India 2.0', developed with Grant Thornton Bharat as well as the 2nd edition of 'CII Sports Business Awards'. The awards recognized excellence across 13 categories including Best Sports Franchise, Sports League, Sports Brand, Sports Media and Sports Management Institute in India. Sports Business Leaders of the Year in the male and female categories were also felicitated for

their contributions. The 'Sports Manufacturing and Technology Expo' showcased cutting edge innovations.

The sensitization session on anti doping regulations for nutritional supplement manufacturers was organized in collaboration with the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA). The need for compliant supplement production to safeguard athletes' health and maintain sports integrity was emphasized during the session.

The 'CII-GBC Corporate Badminton Tournament' brought together 65 participants from 16 companies. The event fostered camaraderie and wellness among corporate professionals while showcasing their sporting talents.

North East India's sporting potential was highlighted at the 'Grassroots to Gold Conference' organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Sports Authority of India. The conference explored topics such as infrastructure development, major event hosting, and nurturing grassroots talent.

National finals of 'ICCL Season 2' were held after state level matches were hosted in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, and Maharashtra. The championship is held in the T10 format.



(L-R): Sanjay Bhan, Head Sports, Hero Moto Corp; Manisha Malhotra, Head - Sports Excellence and Scouting, JSW Sports; Vita Dani, Founder, Dani Foundation and Co-Promoter, ELMS Sports Foundation; Chanakya Chaudhary, Chairman, CII National Committee on Sports and Vice President, Corporate Services, Tata Steel; Parth Jindal, Founder JSW Sports along with members of the Haryana State Sports Department at the Sports Business Awards 2024 in New Delhi

SPORTSCOM

CII incubated SPORTSCOM Industry Confederation to create an enabling ecosystem for the sports sector and help build India into a sports focused nation.

ADVOCACY

Innovation in sports technology, talent development, and industry collaboration were emphasized during various discussions and consultations. Key themes included promoting emerging sports technologies and encouraging entrepreneurship through startup initiatives. The need for engaging stakeholders across the sports and technology ecosystems to drive growth and innovation in India's sports sector was also highlighted.

ACTION

The 6th edition of the 'Annual General Meeting (AGM)' was addressed by senior officials of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, proposed a 'One Corporate One Sports' initiative at a discussion attended by over 50 corporates.



(L-R): Vidushpat Singhania, Treasurer, SPORTSCOM Industry Confederation and Managing Partner, Krida Legal; Vivek Singh, Senior Vice President, SPORTSCOM Industry Confederation and Managing Partner, Procam International; Sujata Chaturvedi, Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; Jalaj Dani, Founding President, SPORTSCOM Industry Confederation and Co Promoter Asian Paints Ltd at the 6th Annual General Meeting of SPORTSCOM Industry Confederation in New Delhi

A blueprint mechanism was proposed to help corporates ensure tangible impact while aligning with their CSR goals.

A partnership was forged with 'I AM GAME Conclave' to foster collaboration among industry leaders, sports professionals, and sports talent. SPORTSCOM supported the 'IIT Madras Sports Tech Startup Conclave' to highlight innovation and emerging opportunities in sports technology, strengthening the commitment to shaping India's sports ecosystem.



(L-R): Neeraj Jain, Vice President, SPORTSCOM and Director, COSCO India Ltd; Harsh Jain, CEO, Dream11; Parth Jindal, Managing Director, JSW Sports; Jalaj Dani, Founding President, SPORTSCOM and Co-Promoter, Asian Paints Ltd; Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports; Udit Sheth, Senior Vice President, SPORTSCOM and Managing Director, SE TransStadia Pvt Ltd, Rishikesh Joshi, Secretary, SPORTSCOM and Co-Founder Sports For All Sporting Services; Vita Dani; Rajesh Rajagopalan, CEO, Dani Sports Foundation and Vidushpat Singhania at CSR for Sports Development Round Table Meeting 2025 in New Delhi

YOUNG INDIANS

The year 2024 marked 22 years of fostering excellence and collaboration through the Young Indians (Yi) initiative. A major milestone achieved during the year was reaching a membership of 7179, a 14% increase over the previous year. This growth was driven by the establishment of 4 new chapters in Hosur, Jabalpur, Varanasi, and Vellore, increasing the chapter count to 70 and solidifying presence across the country. Notably, 5 regions achieved the milestone of crossing 1100 members each.

Throughout the year, Yi organized a diverse range of impactful events. The 'National Climate Change Summit' and the 'Masoom Summit' highlighted Yi's commitment to pressing social issues, while initiatives such as 'Road Safety' and 'Masoom Week' engaged millions of youth across India. The 'Thalir Innovation Fest' celebrated grassroots innovation in education and agriculture, while the 'Future 4.0 National Conclave' and the 'Employability Summit' brought together students and stakeholders to discuss future ready skills and opportunities.

Entrepreneurship remained a core focus, with the 'YIFI Entrepreneurship Summit' and 'Bharat Entrepreneurship Week' showcasing India's entrepreneurial spirit and driving collaboration. A 2 day 'Startup Mentorship Programme' in collaboration with the Indian Army, provided a unique platform for aspiring entrepreneurs to gain mentorship and insights.

Yi continued to innovate with the launch of 'SKILLBuild', a programme under Yi Learning aimed at promoting skill development and addressing societal taboos around vocational education. The Unified Entrepreneurship Portal was developed and launched in collaboration with NITI Aayog and the Ministry of MSME.

Over 1000 young minds received the opportunity to engage with Members of Parliament, MLAs, and leaders under the Young Indians Parliament (YIP) initiative. They interacted with Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Former Vice President of India, and Shri Kiren Rijiju, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

On the global stage, Yi represented India at the 'G20 Young Entrepreneur Alliance Summit' in Brazil, furthering the commitment to youth empowerment and entrepreneurship. Business delegations to Russia and Turkey opened global opportunities for Members, while a learning mission to Harvard provided valuable insights into leadership and innovation. The launch of Yi's first international chapter in Singapore was a landmark achievement.

'Take Pride 2024', the annual summit featured 29 speakers, including Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New & Renewable Energy and Consumer Affairs, Shri Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu, Minister of Civil Aviation, and senior Government officials. Ms Saina Nehwal, Indian badminton player, and Mr Sourav Ganguly, Former President, BCCI also addressed over 1000 Members who attended the summit. The event showcased 25 young innovators, celebrating their remarkable contributions to innovation.



Kiren Rijiju, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs along with dignitaries at the Young Indians Parliament in New Delhi

BHARATIYA YUVA SHAKTI TRUST

Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST) helps underprivileged youth transform business ideas into successful ventures with mentor support, aiming to turn job seekers into job creators. BYST's unique 'Guru-Shishya Model' provides guidance, training, and networking, empowering entrepreneurs to build ethical, self-sustaining businesses that contribute to wealth creation and employment generation in their communities.

Over the last 32 years, BYST supported entrepreneurs have created over 525,000 jobs across 48 districts (including 12 aspirational districts) in 16 states of India. BYST has empowered grassroots entrepreneurs by reaching out to and counselling 2.2 million youth and training nearly 125,000 in entrepreneurship. Nearly 20,000 mentors, trained and certified by City & Guilds, have mentored 50,000 Grampreneurs®. Up to September 2024, the Grampreneurs® had received cumulative financial aid worth INR 754 crores (INR 7.54 billion) from 8 partner nationalized banks.

ACTION

BYST partnered JK Cement, Tata Chemicals, and ITC Ltd to implement the 'Young Grampreneur® Development Programmes'. The programmes were rolled out to create a supportive ecosystem for underprivileged youth in Mithapur (Gujarat), Panna (Madhya Pradesh), and Pudukkottai (Tamil Nadu). Together, these programmes aim to develop 500 entrepreneurs and train 325 mentors by March 2028.

A 'Business Idea Contest' was rolled out in Dharashiv (Osmanabad), Maharashtra, under the 'BYST-IndusInd Bank Inclusive Grampreneur® Development Programme'.

Ms Vangapally Keerthana, a BYST supported entrepreneur, received the prestigious 'Youth Business International (YBI) Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024' for her enterprise 9nutz Millets Pvt Ltd. The award was presented at an event in Nairobi, Kenya that was attended by entrepreneurs and delegates from over 40 countries. She was given a USD 5000 grant, a trophy, business coaching, and a place in the YBI Hall of Fame.

BYST won the 'Mahatma Award for Social Good and Impact 2024', an award that celebrates Mahatma Gandhi's timeless legacy. Every year, this award recognizes global leaders and change makers driving social impact, honouring individuals and organizations dedicated to building a just, sustainable and compassionate future.

An event was organized to celebrate the transformative role of mentors in fostering a successful entrepreneurial ecosystem. The event featured a panel discussion between institutional leaders and BYST mentors. An MOU was exchanged with TN-RISE to conduct a pilot to support 25-30 women entrepreneurs in 7 districts by March 2025. An award ceremony for BYST mentors was held to recognize their dedication and exceptional work.



Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, BYST with mentors and special invitees in Chennai

CII CENTRE FOR WOMEN LEADERSHIP

The Centre for Women Leadership (CII-CWL) was launched in 2023 to build upon the ongoing CII initiatives around driving inclusion. The Center works with women, industry and Government to co-create ecosystems to enable women to participate, grow and lead within the economy. Pursuing the commitment to break barriers to entry, improve retention, and growth of women as leaders, CII-CWL is focusing on agriculture, healthcare, STEM, and energy sectors to start with.

ACTION

Interactions with Women in Leadership

CII - CWL in collaboration with the US Department of State hosted a roundtable discussion to explore innovative solutions to address gender biases in AI and promote strategies to build a more inclusive and equitable tech industry. The participants interacted with Ms Mercedes Soria, a Mentor at the Department's TechWomen initiative.

The 'Roundtable on Women Led Development in India's Energy Sector' was aimed at boosting female representation in this industry. The roundtable deliberated on ways to integrate women into emerging sectors and upskill them to avoid challenges faced by traditional energy sectors.

The insights were converted into an action plan to enhance women's contribution to the sector.

To gain organizational perspectives on advancing women's leadership in healthcare, the Centre organized a series of roundtables in collaboration with Dasra and the Gates Foundation. The dialogue also highlighted pressing gaps in gender equality within the healthcare industry.

Promoting Best Practices on Inclusion

A session on 'Women in Sustainability' was held during the 19th edition of the 'CII Sustainability Summit'. Successful women from various fields gathered to explore the challenges and opportunities in the realm of sustainability. The session concluded with the launch of the 'Community of Practice for Women in

Sustainability', aimed at sharing knowledge and fostering collaboration for sustainable development. The 1st edition of 'CII Gender Parity Business Awards' was announced to recognize companies that incorporate gender perspectives into their governance, strategy, and business processes.

Building Alliances

The Alliance for Global Good: Gender Equity & Equality in partnership with the Gates Foundation made significant global strides by announcing two major collaborations aimed at expanding its global footprint: partnership with Commonwealth Secretariat and the SAWIE. These collaborations to drive collective action towards gender equity and economic inclusion were announced at the World Economic Forum 2025 at Davos.

The WeLead Lounge at Davos hosted discussions on the potential of gender smart investments to shape the future of women in leadership. Apart from 8 sessions, featuring 50 global speakers, an accredited session was also chaired and moderated by Smt Smriti Irani, Founder & Chairperson Alliance for Global Good Gender Equity and Equality.

The Indian Women Network (IWN), through its 27 regional chapters, continued to provide a supportive ecosystem and initiatives for women to become better professionals and achievers.



Smriti Irani, Founder & Chairperson Alliance for Global Good Gender Equity and Equality with panellists at the WeLead Lounge at World Economic Forum 2025 in Davos



CII IN THE REGIONS



- ▶ Eastern Region
- ▶ North Eastern Region
- ▶ Northern Region
- ▶ Southern Region
- ▶ Western Region

EASTERN REGION

In 2024-25, CII Eastern Region (CII-ER) dovetailed its work with the national theme 'Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth'. The priority was to enhance competitiveness, promote sustainability and growth, advance livelihood and inclusion, and strengthen globalization and trust. Continuing with the focus on policy advocacy, CII-ER worked towards building capacities, creating interventions to drive economic growth, and fostering stronger connections between the region and the national and global economies.

ADVOCACY

CII-ER continued to collaborate with State Governments to promote sustainable and inclusive growth. This involved interactions with State Ministers and Secretaries to propose recommendations for improving the overall business landscape in the region.

BIHAR

- Proposals were submitted to enhance infrastructure, simplify regulatory structures, increase market access, focus on skill development, provide financial support, and promote sustainability and innovation in food processing
- CII advocated for implementation of outreach programmes at the district level to encourage tourism
- A recommendation was made for a comprehensive survey of industrial areas to understand policy interventions for manufacturing units
- It was also suggested that data on imports into Bihar be collected, to identify potential industries that could be developed
- Promotion of a robust subsidy disbursement system to encourage greater business investment was advocated for
- A proposal was submitted for the State Government to organize a 'Global Investors' Summit'.

CHHATTISGARH

- A proposal for the New Industry Policy 2024-29 was presented to the State Government to boost industrial growth, create jobs, and establish a competitive and sustainable economy
- The State Government was requested to establish a policy to encourage ethanol production aligning both economic and environmental goals
- A proposal was made for inclusion of strategically significant local coal resources in the commercial coal block auctions, through which the State can sustain industrial activity and attract new investments
- To help MSMEs achieve sustained growth, recommendations were made to keep tenders separate for supply and application of refractories for steel ladles and for slide gate refractories, instead of combining them in one tender for ladle management.

JHARKHAND

- Recommendations were made to abolish transmission fees for the conveyance of electricity derived from renewable energy sources (RE) within the State, aiming to incentivize the use of green energy
- A proposal was submitted for energy banking being permitted up to 100% at a specified maximum MW level agreed upon by the DISCOM and captive consumers through the financial year
- A suggestion was made requesting to exempt grid connected solar projects with storage systems from transmission and wheeling charges for a duration of 10 years starting from the project's commissioning date
- It was recommended that a clear explanation of financial resources required to assess the SSWLCPs (Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plans) based on their merits be provided.



Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII presenting the vision document 'Bengal means Business - Vision for Economic Growth and Inclusivity' to Mamata Banerjee, Chief Minister of West Bengal at the Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata

ODISHA

- A proposal was submitted for an Amnesty Scheme for settlement of disputed commercial tax cases
- Recommendations were made to normalize coal rake supplies from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited to meet the requirement of local captive power plants
- CII made suggestions for augmenting export of agricultural products by expanding business horizon to the Middle East and Southeast Asia
- The proposal to help increase supply of iron ore from Odisha suggested an increase in despatch time to ease shortage of ore for mini steel plants active in the State.

WEST BENGAL

- A request was made to promote and incentivize motorcycle based transport in the logistics sector which has the potential to catalyse economic growth across multiple interconnected sectors
- Recommendations were submitted to provide financial and time based support to nurses to pursue continuing education and professional development opportunities
- Unlocking new avenues for quality education in West Bengal and adoption of a PPP approach for school development were proposed
- Enhancing teacher training by investing in comprehensive teacher training programmes to elevate the quality of teaching and create a skilled and motivated teaching workforce was discussed with the State Government.

ACTION

Investor Focus

For the 'Utkarsh Odisha – Make in Odisha Conclave 2025', the 'Global Investment Summit', CII organized plenary sessions, sectoral discussions, and thought leadership exchanges. The conclave focused on driving economic growth and promoting Odisha as a globally competitive investment destination. The conclave was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India in the presence of Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, Chief Minister of Odisha. Mr Sanjiv Puri, President, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited and Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, attended the inaugural session.

Mr Sanjiv Puri led the CII business leaders delegation at the summit which hosted sectoral sessions and country sessions with partner countries. Mr Chandrajit Banerjee presented a vision document titled 'Bengal Means Business - Vision for Economic Growth and Inclusivity' to Mamta Banerjee, Chief Minister of West Bengal. The document was presented at the 'Bengal Global Business Summit' (BGBS), the flagship summit of the Government of West Bengal, for which CII was the industry partner.

CII partnered the Government of Bihar for the 'Global Investors Summit - Bihar Business Connect', ensuring collaboration between key stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. The summit facilitated engagement with national and international investors and highlighted Bihar's strategic advantages such as resources, policy framework, and growing infrastructure. Investor roadshows and pre-summit engagements were held in Delhi, Mumbai, and international locations to encourage participation and enhance visibility.

Sector Focus

BFSI

During the 'Banking Colloquium' stakeholders explored BFSI sector's potential to enhance economic growth by financing infrastructure development, promoting financial inclusion, and supporting MSMEs. The opportunity for MSMEs to raise funds through IPOs and expand businesses was the focus of discussions at the 'Capital Market Conclave'.

The 'Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code Conclave' gathered perspectives on the evolving nature of the IBC and its potential to reshape corporate restructuring, facilitate credit availability, and encourage entrepreneurial ventures. Based on the deliberations, recommendations were submitted to the Government.

Economic Affairs & Taxation

Insights on the significance of insurance gained during the 'InsureInd Conference' enabled MSMEs to make informed decisions and better protect their businesses. An analysis of the Union Budget 2025 unpacked the intricacies of the Central Government's budget. The session also provided insights on the initiation of inclusive growth through talent development, MSME support, middleclass wellbeing, regulatory reforms, and regional and infrastructure investments.

Manufacturing

Thought leaders deliberated on strategies to foster advancements and envision a brighter future for Indian manufacturing during the 'Manufacturing

Conclave'. Key drivers of progress identified included digital transformation, data analytics, and robotics.

Startups & MSMEs

At the 'Innovation Conference' startups, entrepreneurs, corporates and other stakeholders emphasized the importance of driving innovation for sustainable growth. The role of each stakeholder in nurturing innovation and enhancing growth emerged as being critical.

The challenges encountered by entrepreneurs in establishing and managing businesses were addressed through the 'Synergy' initiative. With participation from over 1000 entrepreneurs at the clinics and helpdesks, the initiative facilitated one on one interactions with various Government departments and financial institutions linked to MSMEs.

Sustainability

With an emphasis on competitiveness, inclusiveness, and environmental stewardship, the 'Green Conclave' established a roadmap for a greener and more resilient future. Leaders from automobiles, steel, mining, and agriculture and food processing sectors deliberated on the ability of innovative green technologies to enhance sustainability and examined ESG's role in maximizing the advantages of green industry practices.

Different aspects of sustainability were driven forward with the 'Green Steel Summit', the 'Energy Conclave' and the 'Safety Symposium & Exposition'.



(L-R): Sanjay Jain, Vice Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council and Managing Director, RSV Exim Pvt Ltd; Siddharth Agrawal, Chairman, Metals & Mining Sub Committee, CII-ER and Director, Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd; Vishnu Deo Sai, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh; Kamal Sarda, Past Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council and Chief Managing Director, Sarda Energy & Minerals Ltd; Suvendra Kumar Behera, Chairman, CII-ER and Vice Chairman & Managing Director, RSB Transmissions (I) Ltd and Ashish Saraf, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council and President, Manorama Industries Ltd at the Green Steel Summit in Raipur

Healthcare

Expansion of telemedicine to rural areas has immense potential to enhance healthcare delivery and widen access to health insurance. Deliberations at the 'Healthcare East Conference' highlighted this potential. The 'Nursing Conclave' accentuated the necessity to grasp new technologies, state of the art equipment, telemedicine requirements, and the latest developments in healthcare.

Education

Thought leaders delved into the contemporary teacher's role, focusing on wellbeing, professional development, mental health, student centred learning, and cultural competency during the 'Educators Conclave'. The 'Education East Summit' discussed the need for an innovative and adaptable education framework that is closely aligned with the challenges and opportunities posed by the 21st century.

Food & Agri Processing

Key initiatives on product diversification through value addition, scope of improvement in logistics and the ways to facilitate development of trade infrastructure in Odisha were explored during the 'Farm2Fork' conclave. The initiative promoted entrepreneurship for products with higher export potential along with skill development and capacity building to improve competitiveness in the global market.

'Agro Bihar', jointly initiated by CII and Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar, tapped into the potential of Bihar's agricultural wealth. While farmers got exposure to various products, manufacturers explored the market, connected with end users, and built business opportunities.



Babul Supriyo, Minister of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal at the ICT East in Kolkata

Information and Communications Technology

Partnerships between technology companies and users were facilitated at 'ICT East', which also hosted discussions on the possibilities of integrating ESG practices into new technologies. It was a platform for delegates to gain an understanding of market trends, regulatory changes, and available growth opportunities.

Family Business

Managing family business and handling family conflicts were the focus of discussions at the 'Family Business Conclave'. Family business owners also shared how they are grooming their next generation to take over and sustain their legacies and brand.

Competitiveness

A number of workshops were organized to provide Members a platform to enhance competitiveness in specific areas. Some of these included health and occupational safety, machine safety, cybersecurity, cloud computing, GST, climate literacy, climate change related corrective actions. Preparedness of entrepreneurs for export business, enhancing quality and productivity through statistical methodologies were also focused upon during workshops.

Beyond Boundaries

The 'EXIM Conference' provided a platform to address critical strategies necessary to elevate eastern India's economic and export potential. It emphasized the importance of leveraging regional initiatives, enhancing infrastructure, and fostering international collaborations.

A business delegation to Katowice, Poland, was organized to understand business and investment opportunities available. During interactions, the delegation identified prospects for collaboration and expand market access for products from India. Interactions were organized with the Consul General of Republic of Singapore; the Indonesian Trade Promotion Council and Deputy Director of Industry, Ministry of Government of Indonesia; the British and



(L-R): Debashis Dutta, Vice Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council and Director, BGS Group; Tin Moe, Consul General, Consulate General of Myanmar; Shashwat Goenka, Deputy Chairman, CII Eastern Region and Vice Chairman, RP Sanjiv Goenka Group; Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education; Suvendra Kumar Behera, Chairman, CII Eastern Region and Vice Chairman and MD, RSB Transmissions (I) Ltd; Hugh Boylan, Consul General, Consulate General of Australia and Nakagawa Koichi, Consul General, Consulate General of Japan at the CII EXIM Conference 2024 in Kolkata

Australian Deputy High Commissioners and the US Consul General in Kolkata. Members also interacted with officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Chief Commissioner of Customs and the GST Commissioner in Kolkata.

Recognizing Excellence

The past 35 editions of the 'Workskills Competition', and 24 editions of 'Supervisory Skills Competition' were organized to promote a culture of skill enhancement, motivation, and success among professionals. These initiatives have consistently aimed to cultivate a competitive atmosphere in the industry, while improving workforce skills.

The 'Safety, Health & Environment (SHE) Awards' highlighted the efforts of the companies in East India towards promoting sustainable development and addressing occupational health and safety issues. Organizations making innovative and systematic efforts towards efficient energy use and environmentally beneficial initiatives were recognized through the 'Energy Conservation (ENCON) Awards'. The invaluable contributions of teachers and educators in fostering societal growth was recognized by conferring the 'Acharya Samman'. Joyee honoured over 400 professional caregivers with 'Recognition of Excellence' to help enhance their emotional wellbeing.

Publications

CII-ER released several reports and whitepapers in 2024-25:

- Comprehensive Framework of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Integrating Sustainability in Supply Chain
- Compendium of Good Practices on OHS 2024
- Compendium of Best Practices in Energy Efficiency
- Reimagining Banking for India@2047
- SME IPO Report
- The IBC Code 2016: Balancing Fairness and Equity
- Unlocking Electricity Generation Through Solar Power Potential
- Whitepaper on the Overview of Steel Sector
- Whitepaper on Tackling Climate Crisis
- Whitepaper on Role of Nursing – Striking Balance between Clinical Efficiency & Empathetic Caring

Membership Engagement

CII-ER facilitated 8 Members meetings, 13 roadshows, and 9 induction sessions. These gatherings were held at the facilities of Members in 5 States, leading to a 16% increase in membership.

NORTH EASTERN REGION

The year 2024 was significant for CII North Eastern Region (CII-NER). The region explored new areas such as corporate social responsibility, technology, safety and environment aligned with the CII theme for 2024-25. Over the last two decades, CII's initiatives revolved around investment promotion; infrastructure development; market linkages; skill development and capacity building of MSMEs in the North East. This year too, the activities were aligned with and complemented the development agenda of the State Governments in the North East with enhanced focus on Viksit Bharat@100.

ADVOCACY

Policy inputs were submitted during meetings with Government officials of the States of Assam, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura. Recommendations were made to the respective Governments for improving logistics in Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura. Recommendations were submitted to the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on the 'Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme (UNNATI) 2024' for the NE Region.

CII-NER Members met the Members of Parliament representing the North East and Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).

The 'CII North East Social Development Compendium' was released during the 'CII CSR Connect Conclave'.

The formation of a Joint Consultative Forum for Mizoram was suggested during a meeting with Shri Lalduhoma, Chief Minister of Mizoram to chart out a roadmap for the State's development. The need for sustainable tourism; improving air, road and railway connectivity; and having a holistic education system were discussed with the Governor of Sikkim.

The Chief Secretary of Assam was apprised of various CII initiatives in the State. Policy recommendations were submitted to the Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission for improving energy efficiency of the State. CII Assam also submitted recommendations on Direct and Indirect Taxes to the State Finance Commission in Guwahati.

A knowledge paper on 'Harnessing the Growth Potential of the Cycle Tyre Tube Industry in Tripura' was unveiled by Prof (Dr) Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Tripura. Based on a CII recommendation the Ministry of DoNER set up a Task Force on Agarwood comprising Government and industry stakeholders to fast track investments and reduce compliance burden on agarwood.



(L-R): Inder Deep Singh Dhariwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs; Pradeep Bagla, Chairman, CII North East Council, CII and Managing Director, Amrit Cements Ltd; Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; Dr Sukanta Majumdar, Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region; R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO of Tata Chemicals launching the NE Social Development Compendium at CSR Connect in New Delhi



✓ *Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles visiting the Exhibition at CSR Connect in New Delhi*

ACTION

BUILDING COMPETIVENESS OF MSMEs

CII-NER conducted MSME conclaves and outreach programmes in Agartala, Guwahati, and Gangtok for building MSME competitiveness. These initiatives emphasized the need for nurturing an enabling ecosystem for MSME to grow.

The 'CII North East Rural Conclave' emphasized the need for creating market linkages for farm and non-farm products to foster MSME growth in rural areas. The 'Conference on Enhancing Consumer Satisfaction Through Product Certification and Customer Services' discussed the need for MSMEs to become competitive.

INVESTMENT PROMOTION

CII promoted investments in rubber by inviting 40 investors from outside to the 'Tripura Rubber Conclave 2024'. The 4th edition of 'International Agarwood

Conclave and Buyer-Seller Meet 2024' was organized in partnership with the Government of Tripura. The meet hosted 75 domestic and international buyers and 40 local sellers.

'TechNE 2024', the 1st edition of a technology conference, explored the transformative potential of emerging technologies in driving business innovation and social impact in the North East. Key outcomes included the announcement of a new women led KPO unit in Guwahati and the establishment of a Joint Consultative Forum with the Government of Assam to accelerate development in IT and E&C sectors.

VIKSIT BHARAT @100

The 'Conclave on Viksit Bharat@100' deliberated on the theme 'Progressing Through Reforms'. The conference highlighted the contribution of women and youth to make India a developed nation by 2047.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The 1st edition of the two day 'CII NE CSR Connect Conclave' was inaugurated by Dr Sukanta Majumdar, Minister of State for DoNER. The event was also graced by Shri Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles and Mr Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, DoNER. NGOs from the North East, corporates and State Governments came together on this platform for matchmaking and sharing success stories.



✓ *Prof (Dr) Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Tripura and other dignitaries unveiling the Knowledge Paper on 'Prospects of Cycle Tyre Tube Industries in Tripura' at the Tripura Rubber Conclave in Agartala*

NORTHERN REGION

Guided by the CII national theme and vision, CII-Northern Region (CII-NR) adopted a multi pronged approach that prioritized fostering robust partnerships among Government, industry, and academic institutions. By creating collaborative frameworks, the region amplified India's global competitiveness through innovation, policy alignment, and capacity building.

ADVOCACY

CII-NR remained at the forefront of shaping policies that nurture industrial growth, catalyse economic development, and drive sustainable practices. Guided by the mission to create an enabling business ecosystem, CII-NR submitted more than 80 recommendations across diverse sectors, influencing regulatory frameworks, addressing business challenges, and championing reforms tailored to regional priorities.

- A recommendation was made for undertaking tourism policy reforms in Delhi by forming a committee of representatives of Ministry of Tourism, Department of Tourism GNCTD, and Online Service Providers (OSPs). This committee could address issues related to lack of coordination and extending the license renewal timelines from 3 to 5 years, among others

- Government of Haryana accepted CII's recommendation to exempt MSMEs from paying Earnest Money Deposit under the Draft Solar Policy 2023, suggestions on the Draft Green Hydrogen Policy 2024, and the proposal for establishing the Gig Workers Welfare Board
- Government of Himachal Pradesh was requested to reconsider electricity tariff hikes and revise the taxation framework to remove additional taxes on goods such as cement, clinker, and plastic granules aligning with GST
- Government of Jammu & Kashmir was urged to ensure uninterrupted healthcare services under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, especially for the golden card patients
- Suggestions for enhancing ease of doing business in Punjab included relaxing layout requirements under the Factories Act; reducing overtime wages to 125%; and standardizing compounding charges for unauthorized constructions across industrial locations
- CII recommendations on new Rajasthan policies, including MSME, ODOP, M Sand clean energy, cluster development, export promotion, AVGC-XR, mineral, and Tourism Unit Policies were accepted by the State Government



CII Leadership with Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh; Jan-Kees Goet, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security & Nature, Kingdom of Netherlands; dignitaries from Government of Uttar Pradesh and Kingdom of Netherlands at AgroTech India – Krishi Bharat 2024 in Lucknow



L-R: Bhavdeep Sardana, Past Chairman, CII Punjab and Senior VP & CEO, Sukhjit Starch & Chemicals Ltd; Sougata Ray, Professor of Strategy & Entrepreneurship, Thomas Schmidheiny Chair, ISB Hyderabad; Sunil Kant Munjal, Past President, CII and Chairman, Hero Enterprise and Dr Amit Mittal, Vice President, Lovely Professional University at the Family Business Summit in Chandigarh

- CII-NR engaged with the Government of Uttar Pradesh on ways to strengthen the logistics sector under the Warehousing Policy, 2018. Suggestions were also made to integrate fiscal incentives such as subsidized land, and adopt fast-track clearances
- Inputs were given to the Government of Uttarakhand on the New Tourism Policy. These included renewable energy subsidies, rationalized tariffs, infrastructure upgrades, eco-tourism incentives, and skilling programmes for sustainable growth
- It was suggested that a world class convention centre, modelled after the National Centre for Performing Arts, be developed in Chandigarh.

ACTION

Commitment to sectoral growth was pursued through events such as 'CII AgroTech India – Krishi Bharat

2024', aimed at fostering knowledge exchange and innovation. Organized with support of the Government of Uttar Pradesh and The Netherlands as a partner country, the event engaged over 70,000 farmers, and 400 business visitors.

CII was industry partner to the Government of Rajasthan for the 'Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit'. Domestic and international roadshows, B2B and B2G meetings, and key sectoral sessions were facilitated for this summit. These initiatives culminated in MoUs worth INR 35 lakh crores (INR 3.5 billion).

From MSME Summits to Cloud Conferences, CII-NR delivered platforms that ignited ideas and fostered collaborations. Notable events that took centrestage this year included sectoral conferences such as 'Automotive Industry 4.0 Summit', 'Apple Conclave', 'Advanced Manufacturing Summit', 'Conference on Consumer Credit & Finance', 'Logistics & Warehousing Conclave', and the 'Healthcare Summit', among others.



Bhajan Lal Sharma, Chief Minister of Rajasthan along with dignitaries at the Rising Rajasthan Investors Summit Roadshow in Mumbai



(L-R): Monojit Mazumdar, Partner, Deloitte India; Sandeep Bhambure, Co-Chairman, CII Cloud Summit and MD, India & SAARC, Veeam Software; Sunil Gupta, Chairman, CII Cloud Summit and Co-Founder & CEO, Yotta Data Service; G Narendra Nath, Joint Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat, Madhav Singhania, Chairman, CII-NR and Jt MD & CEO, JK Cement Ltd and Himani Agrawal, Country Head – Azure, Microsoft India at the 4th Cloud Summit in New Delhi

BUILDING COMPETITIVENESS

To remain competitive in a global economy, companies need to adapt and innovate continuously. CII-NR organized several initiatives including quality enhancement programmes and manufacturing excellence tours enabling participants to navigate a highly competitive global market. These programmes, certifications, and trainings provided participants with an understanding of global benchmark practices. The 37th edition of 'Quality Circle Competition' inspired companies to embrace innovation, nurture teamwork, and ensure operational efficiency and competitiveness.

SUSTAINABILITY AT THE CORE

This year, sustainability was in the spotlight with initiatives such as the 'Environment Summit', 'Conference on Climate Challenge', and 'Green Practices Awards'. Stakeholders discussed actionable strategies for a sustainable future during a series of workshops. Deliberations extended beyond industry, advocating for green schools, resilient communities, and climate action.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Through 11 Yi chapters and 3 IWN chapters, CII-NR advanced leadership, financial literacy, and entrepreneurial skills among youth and women, creating a ripple effect of social and economic transformation. Major initiatives such as 'SheLeads', 'Roundtable on Technology and Talent', 'Yi Farishtey', women entrepreneurship, education awareness campaigns, and tree plantation drives created opportunities, and inspired leaders of tomorrow.

Social outreach initiatives undertaken during the year included blood donation camps, rural employment drives, mental health awareness programmes, and educational camps. These initiatives highlighted the resolve to create an inclusive and empowered society and the focus on holistic development.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

CII-NR welcomed 384 new Members this year, bolstering the network to over 1586 stakeholders. A special focus on tier 2 and tier 3 cities ensured that the organization remained inclusive, representing diverse industries. Through 41 interactive Member meets and 13 induction meetings, the region built a vibrant platform for dialogue, capacity-building, and collaboration.



Sunjay Kapur, Deputy Chairman, CII Northern Region and Chairman, Sona Comstar interacting with Members in Chandigarh

SOUTHERN REGION

South India plays a pivotal role in India's economic growth, contributing significantly to the nation's GDP and global stature. With the vision of transforming India into a USD 30 trillion economy by 2047, CII Southern Region's (CII-SR) initiatives were aligned under the theme: 'Globally Competitive South India - Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth'.

The southern states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana excel in industrial growth, human development, and governance. Through continuous collaboration with State Governments, CII-SR fosters innovation, enhances the business climate, and shapes policies that promote sustainable and inclusive growth through constructive industry-government dialogues.

ADVOCACY

Significant progress was achieved in advancing priorities through sectoral initiatives, policy advocacy, and Member engagement. This included sector specific roundtables and consultations to promote collaboration between industry leaders, Government, and other stakeholders.

Key accomplishments during the year include:

- 150 representations made to State and Central Governments, of which 15 were accepted and implemented
- 123 committees, task forces, and panels addressing industry concerns and offering solutions
- 123 representations made to State and Central Governments, of which 23 were accepted and implemented
- 50 sector specific roundtables and discussions bringing together industry leaders, Government officials, and stakeholders
- Announcement of key infrastructure and connectivity improvements, particularly in logistics, industrial zones, and transportation networks
- Specific sectoral policy recommendations focusing on manufacturing, MSME development, energy, agriculture, and tourism.

ANDHRA PRADESH

- A CII Consultative Forum formed with the State Government was chaired by Shri Nara Lokesh, Minister for Human Resources Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh to focus on boosting investment and industrial growth
- Policy recommendations were submitted covering sectors such as auto and EV, chemical and petrochemicals, electronics and ESDM, food processing, green energy, industrial parks, logistics, MSME, tourism, pharma, biotech, lifesciences, AYUSH, ship building, textiles, aerospace, and defence
- Electric Vehicle (EV) recommendations were accepted by the Department of Industries & Commerce and incorporated in the GO issued.

KARNATAKA

- Key recommendations made to the Government included accelerating development in Hubballi-Dharwad and Belagavi districts within the Bengaluru-Mumbai Industrial Corridor, strengthening air connectivity for Belagavi, Hubli, and Mysuru districts, and catalyzing MSME growth by addressing challenges related to the GeM Portal
- Recommendations were also submitted on the Draft Karnataka Platform Based Gig Workers Bill, the Job Reservation Bill, energy transition for MSMEs, and revisions to the Karnataka Industrial Policy 2020-2025
- Based on CII's submissions to the Government of Karnataka to reconsider the proposal of job reservations in the industry, the State Government clarified that this proposal would not be pursued
- CII's representation on improving connectivity in Uttara and Dakshina Karnataka led to necessary actions by the authorities.

KERALA

- A total of 26 policy representations were submitted to the Government of Kerala through the Government CII Consultative Forum (GCCF)
- In response to CII's representations, a circular was issued by the Local Self Government Department (LSGD) halting local bodies from taxing units in industrial estates
- Approval of the Unified Land Allotment Policy for industrial lands under KSIDC and KINFRA was expedited by the State Government
- CII was the Summit Partner for the 'Invest Kerala Global Summit 2025'.

PUDUCHERRY

- The CII Consultative Forum formed with the State Government worked on enhancing the ease of doing business and attracting investment to the State
- Following the interventions made by the Forum, Government of Puducherry withdrew the proposal to increase minimum wages.

TAMIL NADU

- CII's advocacy led to the announcement of the International Airport in Hosur, a strategic hub for industries such as electronics, EVs, and heavy vehicles

- CII proposal for creation of an Integrated Moringa Park in Tamil Nadu's Moringa cultivation belt in Karur was approved by the State Government. This park, which is now under development, will mark a significant step in boosting the State's agricultural and industrial growth.

TELANGANA

- Out of the 17 policy recommendations submitted to the State Government 4 were considered
- CII's recommendations on credit support schemes, technology upgradation, and production acceleration were incorporated into the newly announced MSME Policy of the Government of Telangana
- Recommendations for setting up a skill university for the infrastructure, construction and healthcare sectors were largely considered
- Three reports and 4 white papers focusing on key sectors of the State were released during the year.

ACTION

COMPETITIVENESS

Efforts to enhance the regional competitiveness were driven through 625 events, including workshops, training programmes, and expos. Key sector specific expos such as 'FoodPro 2024', 'SeAIro Expo', 'Edu-Tech Expo', 'INDeX' and 'AGRI Connect Expo' enabled collaboration and innovation, benefiting approximately 167,000 delegates.



B Thiagarajan, Chairman, CII Foodpro Expo 2024 and Managing Director, Blue Star Ltd; P Rajeeve, Minister for Law, Industries and Coir, Government of Kerala; Dr R Nandini, Chairperson, CII Southern Region and Managing Director, Chandra Textiles, among other dignitaries at the launch of the 15th Edition of FoodPro in Chennai



(L-R): Srivats Ram, Chairman, CII, Tamil Nadu State Council and Managing Director, Wheels India Ltd; Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII; Dr T R B Rajaa, Minister for Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu; R Dinesh, Immediate Past President, CII & Chairman, CII Centre of Excellence on Employment and Livelihood and Executive Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions; Archana Patnaik, Secretary, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of Tamil Nadu and Dr R Nandini at the launch of the CII Centre of Excellence on Employment & Livelihood in Chennai

Cross industry partnerships in aerospace, defence, and sustainable mobility were fostered by events including 'CII AeroDef Tech Summit' and 'the Emerging Technologies Summit'. The 'Regional Digital Health Summit' explored the transformative role of technology in healthcare, while the 'Automotive Innovation Summit' highlighted advancements in mobility solutions.

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability remains a cornerstone of CII-SR's initiatives, aimed at addressing environmental challenges and creating positive social impacts. The region advocates for sustainable and inclusive growth, working closely with State Governments on renewable energy, wastewater management, agriculture, and green job creation.

The 'CII-SR EHS Excellence Awards' set a new benchmark in environmental, health, and safety standards, while key events including the 'Aqua South Summit' and the 'ESG Summit' highlighted the importance of businesses in driving environmental stewardship. Corporate leaders deliberated on the imperatives achieving net zero goals at the 'Carbon Neutrality Conference'.

The adoption of green practices across the region was accelerated in partnership with the CII Indian Green Building Council (IGBC). Tiruppur became the first city in Tamil Nadu to adopt CII-IGBC's 'Green City Framework'.

The 2nd edition of 'Nilgiris Economic Dialogue' saw thought leaders across South India discuss the sustainable future of India and South India in particular.

MSME ENGAGEMENT

Approximately 150 events engaged over 3000 Members in MSME focused initiatives. The 1st ever 'MSME Clinic' in the Southern Region provided a platform for policy advocacy. Government officials, CII MSME Members, banks, and fintech companies addressed sector specific challenges during the deliberations.

The 'Puthiya Payanam Programme' was launched in collaboration with the CII Centre of Excellence for Entrepreneurship & Livelihoods to support micro entrepreneurs. The 'Micro Entrepreneurs Forum' also aimed at fostering micro entrepreneurship development.

Actionable recommendations to improve dispute resolution and expedite legal processes for MSMEs were discussed at the 1st edition of 'Commercial Dispute Resolution (CDR) Conference'.

Key policy changes to support MSMEs, particularly in credit access, technology upgrades, and market expansion, were recommended during the year. Specific focus was on development of Telangana's new MSME Policy.



(L-R): Jean Fares, Senior Advisor to the UAE Minister of Economy and CEO, Investopia; Dr T R B Rajaa, Minister for Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu; Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, UAE Minister of Economy and Chairman, Investopia; Alia bint Abdulla Al Mazrouei, UAE, Minister of State for Entrepreneurship and SMEs; R Dinesh and Dr R Nandini, CII Southern Region Chairperson and Managing Director, Chandra Textiles at Investopia in Chennai

INTERNATIONALIZATION

CII Southern Region continued to work towards strengthening international ties and fostering economic collaboration by showcasing the region's potential as a dynamic hub for global business partnerships.

Government of Andhra Pradesh in partnership with CII created a 'Task Force on Economic Development for a Swarna Andhra Pradesh by 2047' under the Chairmanship of Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. This task force is working on developmental projects and policies to connect the State of Andhra Pradesh with global institutions and think tanks. The 'Global Centre for Leadership in Competitiveness' was launched during the World Economic Forum (WEF), Davos, 2025 as an outcome of this task force's work.

These and other global engagement efforts, including high level delegations to the WEF, highlighted South India's investment potential. The delegations from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were led by their respective Chief Ministers, Shri N Chandrababu Naidu and Shri Revanth Reddy Anumula. The Ministers of Industry, Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Kerala joined the delegation.

The 'Investopia Global Summit' fostered real time business partnerships between companies from India and the UAE. The 'Mystic South Global Linkages Summit 2025' deliberated on the theme '2047: The Southern Odyssey – Powering Ahead to a USD 10 Trillion Economy'.



Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India; Ahmed Gasim, Minister of State for Health, Republic of Maldives; Dr P M Varier, Convenor, CII Kerala Ayurveda Panel and Chief Physician & Managing Trustee, Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal, among other dignitaries at the Kerala Health Tourism: International Conference & Exhibition at Ernakulam

Members discussed the scope for global business partnerships in tourism, ayurveda and healthcare sector during the 'Global Ayurveda Summit'. It helped position Kerala on the global healthcare and alternate healthcare map.

B2B roundtables and industrial missions, such as the 'India-Korea Economic Cooperation Forum' and collaborations with Austrade, explored opportunities for market access between India and Australia. Interactions were organized with Cuban and Indonesian officials to strengthen trade ties, while partnerships with Dominican and German business leaders opened new avenues for bilateral trade.

Key sessions were hosted with ambassadors from the Dominican Republic and Germany and led delegations to Oman, Taiwan, Bangladesh, and the UK. These initiatives promoted sectors such as healthcare, textiles, and higher education. Diplomatic engagements with representatives from Singapore, the USA, and other nations further solidified South India's global economic standing.

SOCIETY CONNECT

Commitment to societal welfare was demonstrated through disaster relief efforts and community focused initiatives. CII Members provided rehabilitation support to those affected by the landslides in Wayanad and floods in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.

A 'Prison Skilling and Livelihood' initiative empowered 90 women inmates of the Coimbatore prison. Three Anganwadis located in Tamil Nadu were restored under the 'Anganwadi Restoration Initiative' benefiting 90 children and indirectly supporting 500 women. The CII Southern Region Water Alliance's restoration of lakes in Tamil Nadu positively impacted over 2000 families, showcasing the tangible benefits of community focused initiatives. The Indian Women Network (IWN) organized 158 activities, benefiting over 7100 women through mentorship, leadership conclaves, and skill development programmes.

CII Young Indians (Yi) engaged with 66,000 youth through initiatives such as the 'Yi Inspiration Summit' and the 'Thalir Innovation Fest', nurturing leadership and innovation. These programmes have over the years expanded to include collaborations with academia and Government agencies, fostering a holistic approach to capacity building. Yi's mosaic of the Swachh Bharat logo, created using compressed plastic bales, was entered in the India Book of Records. This initiative delivered a powerful message about the urgency to address ocean plastics.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Membership engagement continued to be at the center of CII-SR's initiatives. President, CII, President Designate CII, Regional Chairperson and Regional Deputy Chairman joined the State leadership for Members' Meets. A total of 43 Members' Meets and 7 New Member Induction Sessions were hosted during the year.

As of December 2024, CII-SR had 3346 Members, including 469 new Members inducted during the year. A total of 774 'Member Outreach Meetings' were conducted across the region to gather feedback and understand expectations.

To strengthen engagement in tier II towns, new offices were inaugurated in Karur and Tirupati. CII-SR also expanded the value added services, particularly through collaboration with CII Centres of Excellence.



Under the CII CSR initiative, restoration of three Anganwadis was undertaken benefiting 90 children in Tamil Nadu.

WESTERN REGION

India's western region contributes over 25% to the GDP. It comprises industrial giants such as Gujarat and Maharashtra, the agrarian state of Madhya Pradesh, and the tourism hub, Goa. Abundant natural resources, industrial strengths, sound infrastructure, investor friendly ambience and availability of skilled manpower make this region a significant contributor to the growth story of India.

ADVOCACY

CII Western Region (CII-WR) collaborated with the Governments of Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra, conducting over 70 discussions with the policymakers. CII participated in 53 Government committees and task forces across the region.

Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Vice President of India; Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, and Union Ministers including Shri Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation; Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways; Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development; Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs; Shri Manohar Lal, Minister of Housing, Urban Affairs and Power and Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of

Commerce and Industry; Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New and Renewable Energy; Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region encouraged Members to invest through various initiatives. The Chief Ministers of the States in the region, as well as those of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Rajasthan participated in CII events. Investment interests upwards of INR 45 lakh cr were facilitated by CII Western Region in 2024-25.

Nearly 300 recommendations concerning the 4 states pursued by CII WR included issue based representations and inputs for policy formulation.

Goa

- A new crane at the Mormugao Port for handling cargo was installed following a CII recommendation
- The proposal to improve internet connectivity in industrial zones by installing high quality cables was approved and a pilot project will be rolled out in partnership with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and the Goa Industrial Development Corporation (Goa-IDC) to showcase its practicality and advantages



(L-R): Swati Salgaocar; Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa; Mauvin Godinho, Minister for Transport, Government of Goa and Shivanand Salgaocar, Chairman and Managing Director, V M Salgaocar & Brother Pvt Ltd at the CII National Council held in Goa



(L-R): Swati Salgaocar, Chairperson, CII Western Region and President, V M Salgaocar & Brother Pvt Ltd; Rajiv Memani, President Designate, CII and Chairman and CEO - EY India and Chair – EY Growth Markets Council; Baba Kalyani, Managing Director, Bharat Forge; Anurag Jain, Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh; Dr Mohan Yadav Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh; Sanjiv Puri and Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit in Bhopal

- To provide a boost to the tourism sector, representations were made to the State Tourism Department with a focus on enhancing environmental sustainability. At the 10th edition of the 'Logistics Conference' a tripartite Letter of Intent was signed between CII, Government of Goa and Goa Institute of Management for effective implementation of the logistics policy by establishing a 'Goa Logistics Centre of Excellence.'

Gujarat

- Representation for a 3 year review/permission process instead of an annual re-application for a permit for women working in night shifts in factories/establishments was accepted
- Following recommendations, made through a white paper on streamlining regulatory processes, were accepted to enhance the EoDB:

- Expedite Government processes by utilizing digital tools
- Fast track operations of establishments that have signed MoUs
- Build a comprehensive employee ecosystem for Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC)
- CII inputs on Science, Technology, Innovation (STI) Policy and the Textile Policy were incorporated by the Government
- A representation for strengthening technical expertise of the aviation sector was accepted
- CII reviewed and provided inputs on the R&D, Industries and Atmanirbhar scheme
- Suggestion to extend and continue the amnesty scheme for exporters under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) was accepted
- The report 'CII SheLeads, Leading Today, Shaping Tomorrow, Women Leaders' Vision for India@100', was released to highlight the need to increase women's participation in the workforce, particularly in leadership roles, and to ensure gender parity.



Bhupendra Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat with Swati Salgaocar at CII Gujarat Annual Meeting 2025 in Ahmedabad

Madhya Pradesh

- An interaction with the Members of Parliament pushed for advanced training, skill development, new employment opportunities, and promotion of agriculture, tourism, and industry. The discussion also emphasized expanding healthcare, and empowering local groups for sustainable development.



Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road, Transport and Highways at the Industry Academia Conclave in Nagpur

- A recommendation was made to allow operations beyond 11 pm under the Shops & Establishments Act to promote late night economy in major cities
- A representation aimed at boosting oilseed production and processing included introducing high yield varieties, providing financial and technological support and crop advisory services. The suggestions also advocated for skill development programmes, minimum price assurance, and Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) reforms for export promotion.
- A representation was submitted for incentivizing non leather footwear sector by way of capital subsidy, export promotion and stamp duty exemptions. The need for a separate incentive package for footwear, in line with the textile sector, was also highlighted.

Maharashtra

- An interaction with the Members of Parliament from Maharashtra highlighted development imperatives with a focus on creating better synergy between industry and policymakers
- After acceptance of recommendations submitted to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), MSMEs were given flexibility to opt for



Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra with Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII at the Maharashtra Lounge at the Annual Meeting of World Economic Forum at Davos

- retrofitting of emission control devices instead of scrapping, subject to compliance with emission standards
- Based on a representation the electricity duty exemption for industrial units in Marathwada and Vidarbha region was extended till 31 March 2029
- Recommendations for the New Industrial Policy of Maharashtra focused on:
 - Simplifying regulations around technology transfer, e-waste management, and data privacy laws
 - Prioritizing food processing and agriculture sectors by reducing input costs
 - Strengthening infrastructure by establishing smart manufacturing setups and clusters for consumer durables and cold chains
 - Enhancing efficiency and accountability at airports and ports
 - Promoting industry-academia partnerships for skill development, and research and development
 - Other recommendations emphasized affordable power and land, streamlined approvals for the pharmaceutical sector, and targeted incentives for automotive and renewable energy sector.



Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, at the inauguration of state-of-the-art CII Skill Centre in Mumbai

SECTOR FOCUS

Several platforms were curated to support the growth of sectors such as clean energy, next gen mobility, textiles, financial services, mining, healthcare, skilling, and information technology, among others. These initiatives were aimed at promoting global competitiveness, while nurturing the values of sustainability and diversity.

CII was the industry partner for the 'Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit' (MPGIS), which evinced an intention to invest of over INR 30 lakh crore. To promote balanced regional development in the State, 6 regional industry conclaves were held in the run up to the MPGIS.

To further the skilling agenda, a Skill Centre was launched in Kandivali, Mumbai along with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and in partnership with Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). The Centre will impact over 50,000 youth and micro entrepreneurs in the next 3 years.

With sustainability taking centre stage, latest innovations in automobile components, electronics, and subsystems were showcased at the 2nd edition of 'CII NexGen Expo'. Based on the theme 'Integrating Indian Mobility' the expo featured a comprehensive range of vehicles and technologies, from internal

combustion engines (ICE) to electric, hybrid, hydrogen, CNG/LNG, and ethanol/biofuel powertrains.

The 10th edition of the 'MSME Summit and Exhibition' and the 'CII Industry – Academia Conclave 2024' were graced by Shri Nitin Gadkari. The 'Global Trade Scenario Conference' stressed on the importance of formulating an integrated trade, investment, and industrial policy. Key recommendations made to boost trade included harmonization of quality standards and certification processes for manufacturing.

Launch of a National Mission on Advanced Manufacturing was proposed along with setting up of a trade promotion organization with offices in key industrial cities.

Latest developments in direct, indirect tax, customs, and other pertinent areas were focused upon at the 'Annual Conference on Taxation'. Deliberations revolved around the importance of documentation, technical interpretation, tax disputes, faceless assessment appeals and risk management strategies.

SOCIETY CONNECT

The 15 chapters of Yi in the western region continued to focus on developing youth leadership for nation building through cleanliness drives, accident response training sessions, awareness on road safety, drug awareness, nutrition and empowering women through skill development. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) will help pursue the agenda of enhancing industry academia collaboration.

While continuing to mentor and empower women professionals, CII Indian Women Network (IWN) launched SPARK. This initiative aims to encourage and support women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

The 2nd cohort of the residential 'Emerging Women Leaders Programme' offered participants a well rounded exposure by way of workshops, mentorship, and networking opportunities.

MEMBERSHIP CONNECT

Membership connect was strengthened through both virtual and in person meetings with 1470 Members. A total of 57 meetings were held with local associations in the region. Members were apprised of CII services through 62 Member meets, 20 induction sessions and 7 roadshows.

The 15 sub committees and 5 task forces engaged with Members on multiple sectors and functional areas. The 3 forums continued to provide networking and learning opportunities for CFOs, CDIOs and tax leaders. Mr Sanjiv Puri, President, CII and Mr R Mukundan, Vice President, CII shared with Members insights on CII's vision and policy interventions.

Maiden initiatives curated to address underserved areas included 'Breakfast with Champions', 'Chemicals Summit', 'Conference on Wellbeing at Work & Life' among others. Platforms such as 'Leveraging Artificial Intelligence', and 'Finance Leaders' Symposium' evinced Members' interest. The CII Marathwada zonal office was inaugurated to enhance growth and development in the region.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

International alliance was fostered by facilitating engagements with over 50 Heads of State, Ministers, diplomats and other key personnel from 24 countries: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Maldives, Norway, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, UAE, UK, and USA.

Notable dignitaries hosted included His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi; Mr Mohamed Muizzu, President of the Maldives, and Mr Pedro Sanchez, Prime Minister of Spain.

CII-WR played a pivotal role in supporting the Government of Maharashtra's participation at the 'Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum' (WEF) 2025 in Davos, Switzerland. The Government of Maharashtra signed 61 MoUs valued at INR 15.71 lakh crore with the potential to create over 4 lakh jobs.

A learning mission to Melbourne and Sydney in Australia, aimed at augmenting research capacity in institutions, interacted with officials from the Department of Education (Government of Victoria / Study Melbourne). The delegation also visited the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Swinburne University, Deakin University and Monash University.

The CII Mumbai International Week 2024 brought together over 5000 participants from 12 countries, celebrating global trade, innovation, sustainability, and culture. The event featured sector specific discussions on Industry 4.0, sustainable infrastructure, and fintech, alongside industry visits and workshops. Highlights included the 'India Japan Business Dialogue' and Argentina's wine tasting session, plus vibrant cultural performances, showcasing Mumbai's growing role as a global hub for connectivity, culture, and commerce.



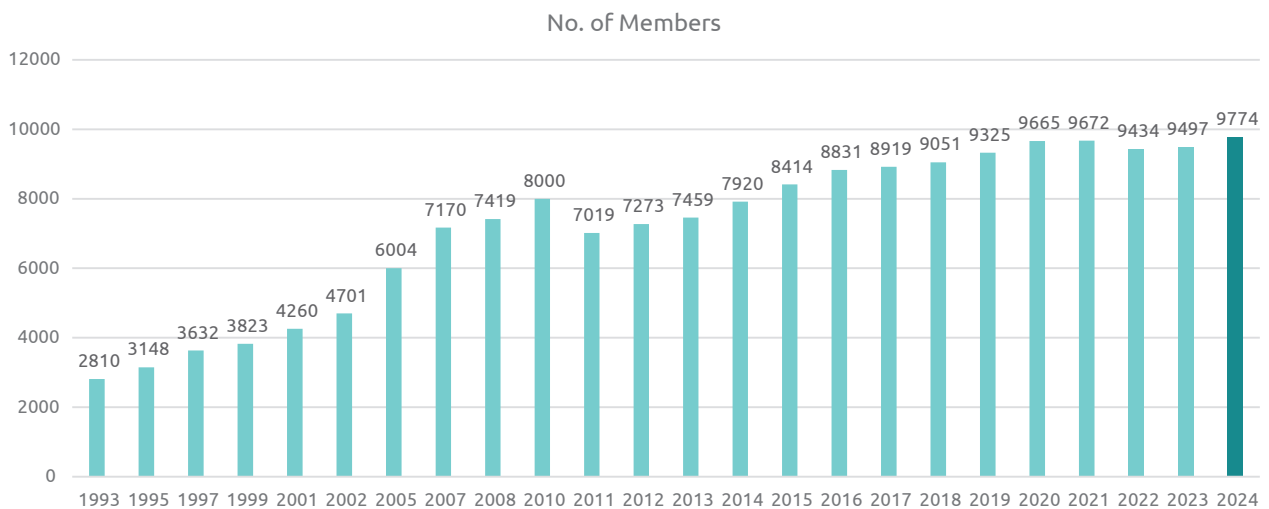
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES



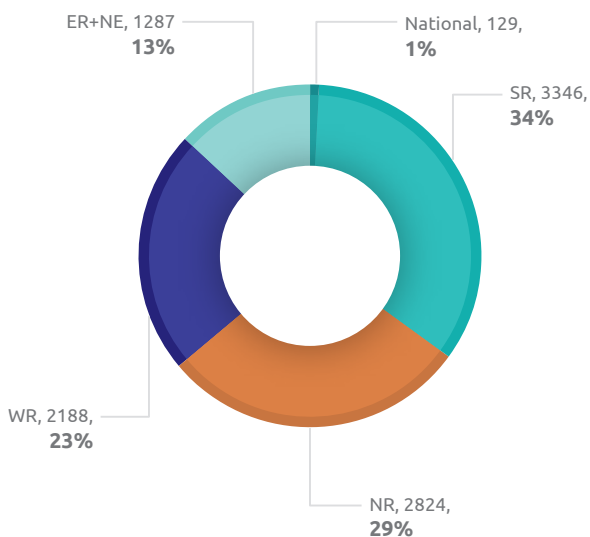
- ▶ Membership Engagement
- ▶ CII Online Services
- ▶ Social Media Outreach
- ▶ Team CII
- ▶ CII Network

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

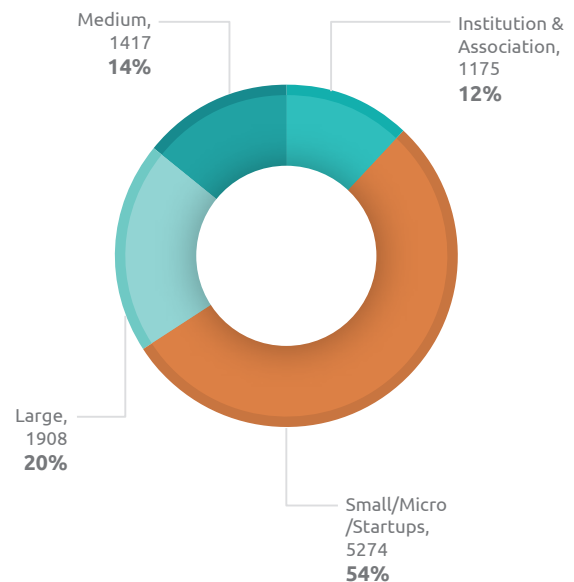
Membership Growth Over the Years



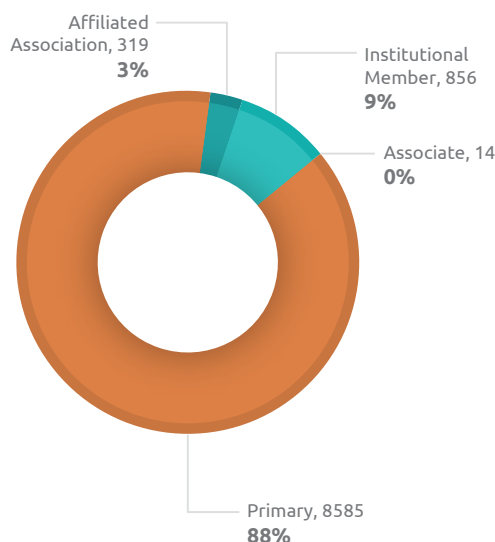
Regional Distribution



Distribution by Enterprise Size



Distribution by Type of Membership

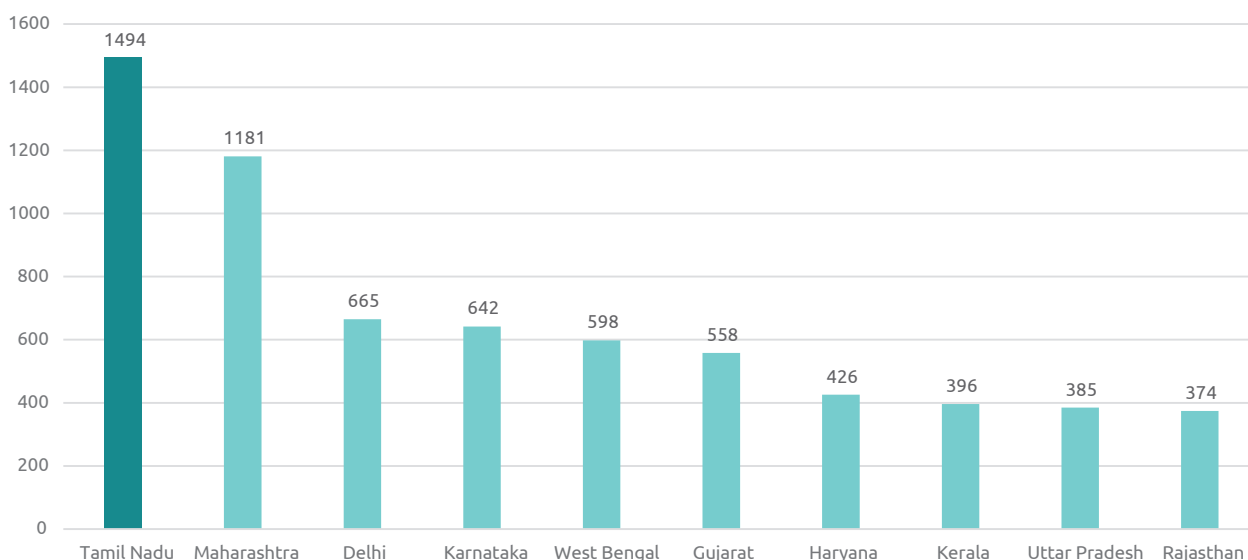


Membership Services

CII's membership services are based on dialogue and feedback received over the years. The services are tailored to Member needs expressed through various forums.

- CII met 4130 Members either virtually or at their premises to drive the 'Outreach Initiative'
- Membership outreach and engagement was enhanced with 153 Member Meets held at 61 locations attended by 7041 participants from Member companies
- The 49 Member Induction Session held at 22 locations facilitated better understanding and utilization of CII services by 768 Members who attended
- With 1886 participants attending 38 Road Shows in 28 locations, CII membership registered strong growth
- In 2024, 1401 new Members joined CII
- New Members were counselled, guided and advised about CII services and activities by 191 senior Members, including Past Presidents, Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the 4 Regions
- 'Write to CII Module' and 'CII Help Desk' which is a ticket based query resolution system, helped address 5147 queries during the year.

Top 10 States



CII DIGITAL SERVICES

MYCII

MyCII, one of India's largest online business resource platforms, offers CII stakeholders timely business intelligence and information services. By aggregating valuable knowledge resources, MyCII tracks essential industry information and supports networking among Members through online communities, the CII Market Place, and a Member directory.

With over 80,000 knowledge resources, including research reports, publications, online videos, podcasts, industry presentations, masterclasses, webinars, articles, and Government notifications, MyCII meets the diverse needs of the industry. CII provides access to 750,000 active global tenders in over 150 countries and more than 100 industries.

During the year, monthly webinars were organized for Members to create awareness about online Membership services. More than 1200 participants from 900 Member companies benefited from the orientation sessions.

B2B Meetings

B2B meetings provide Members with valuable opportunities for business networking and fostering meaningful connections that help take their businesses to new heights. Throughout 2024-25, CII facilitated over 10,000 business meetings with participation from around 10,000 companies across sectors and 2000 CEOs, both domestic and international.

CII also connected Members with international delegations to create opportunities for global partnerships. Key international B2B meetings included those with companies from Africa, BIMSTEC, Europe, Japan, Korea, Latin America, and Spain. The 'India-Japan CEOs Business Meeting' facilitated over 300 business meetings between 40 Indian companies and 180 Japanese companies, while the 'India-Korea Industry Expo' saw more than 1700 business meetings. Indian businesses engaged with representatives from over 1500 international companies, forging valuable partnerships.

CII Market Place

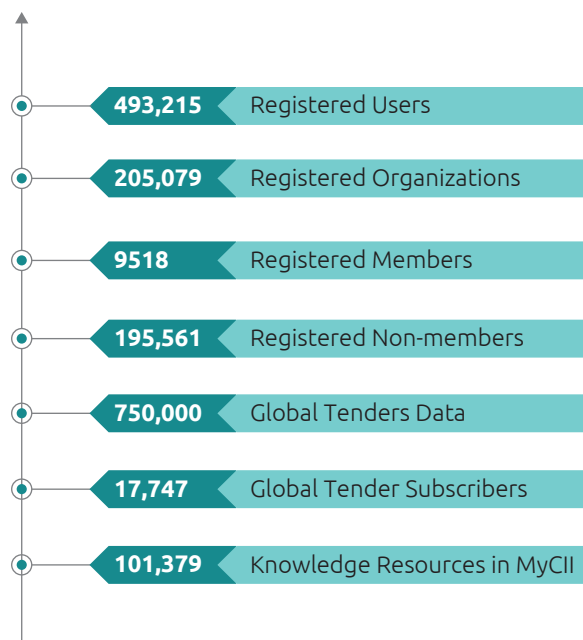
CII Market Place is a premier B2B platform that connects buyers and sellers across the globe. In the past year, the platform welcomed 1820 new companies and 2468 new products. To assist users, CII developed a comprehensive user manual outlining the platform's features and providing guidance on how to navigate the portal. The year also saw a variety of promotional efforts, including social media campaigns, to increase visibility and engagement.

Policy Dashboard

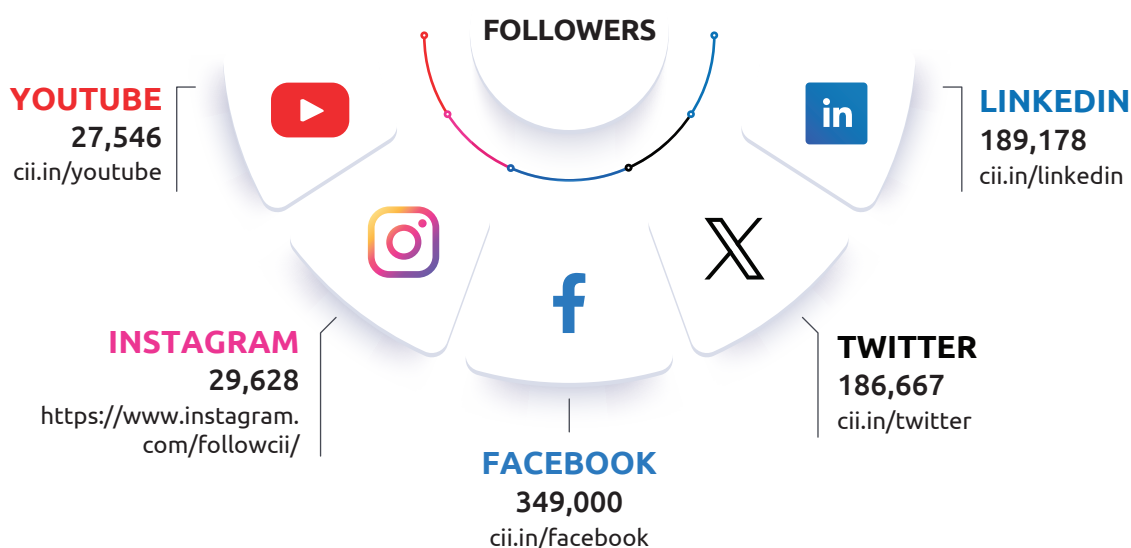
A policy dashboard was developed to track, aggregate and monitor real time status of various policy recommendations submitted to the Government - both at the Central and State levels.

Since January 2023, CII submitted 4016 policy recommendations, of which 2754 were submitted to the Central Government, 1118 were submitted to the State Governments and 144 to autonomous bodies.

Key Statistics of MyCII



CII SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH



Key Highlights/Initiatives (2024-25)

Total Followership on all CII Social Media platforms
1.4 million +

Estimated
36 million+ impressions

Earned
8.6 million+ engagement

40 podcast episodes with top industry leaders were released in 2024

CII YouTube channel earned

2 million+ impressions

252.5K views

Gained 2K subscribers in 2024

New Social Media handles

CII Infrastructure

B20 Global Institute

CII Space

CII Waste to Worth Transformation

CII Industry Academia Partnership

CII Centre of Excellence on Employment and Livelihood

CII NETWORK

CII HEADQUARTERS

The Mantosh Sondhi Centre
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New Delhi

India Habitat Centre, 4th Floor,
Core 4A, Lodi Road
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Tel: 011-24682230-35/41504514-19

New Delhi

Thapar House
2nd Floor, 124, Janpath
New Delhi-110001
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New Delhi

Ground Floor, Tej Building
8B, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi - 110002.

Gurugram

249-F, Sector 18
Udyog Vihar, Phase IV
Gurugram-122015
Tel: 0124-4014060-67

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

CII Institute of Logistics

Phase-2, B Block, 9th Floor
IIT Madras Research Park

Kanagam Road, Taramani
Chennai-600113
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Email: cil@cii.in
Website: www.ciilogistics.com

CII Institute of Quality

Bharat Nagara, 2nd Stage
Magadi Main Road, Vishwaneedam Post
Bengaluru-560091
Tel: 080-23289391/23286085
Email: cii-iq@cii.in
Website: www.cii-iq.in

CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

3rd Floor, Andhra Association Building
24-25 Institutional Area, Lodi Road
New Delhi-110003
Tel: 011-40028856
Email: ciisustainabledevelopment@gmail.com
Website: www.sustainabledevelopment.in

CII Centre of Excellence for Competitiveness for SMEs

Block No 3, Dakshin Marg, Sector-31-A
Chandigarh-160030
Tel: 0172-2607228/2605868
Email: ciicfc@cii.in
Website: www.cii-competitiveness.in

CII Centre of Manufacturing Excellence

Opposite Railway Station, Vikhroli (East)
Mumbai - 400079
Tel: 022-25745146/5148
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Website: <https://cme.cii.in>

CII Green Business Centre

Survey No 64, Kothaguda Post, RR District
Hyderabad-500084
Tel: 040-44185111
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Website: www.greenbusinesscentre.com

CII Centre of Excellence for Leadership

DC-36, Sector-I, Salt Lake
Kolkata-700064
Tel: 033-66140100
Email: cii-leadership@cii.in
Website: www.cii-leadership.in

CII Water Institute

5th Floor, IETE Building, 2 Institutional Area,
Lodi Road, New Delhi -110003
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CII Food and Agriculture Centre of Excellence

4th Floor, Andhra Association Building
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CII Centre of Excellence for Innovation,

Entrepreneurship & Startups
6th Floor, T-Hub 2.0, 20, Inorbit Mall Road,
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CII Centre, Indore

G 3, Brilliant Solitaire Building,
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CII Centre, Bhubaneswar

HIG-22, Jaydev Vihar
Bhubaneswar-751013

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249-F, Sector 18, Udyog Vihar, Phase IV
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Uttar Pradesh

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NORTH EASTERN REGION**Assam/ Arunachal Pradesh/ Manipur/ Meghalaya / Sikkim**

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Dimapur - 797115
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Maradu PO, Kochi-682304
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Email: cii.kerala@cii.in

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Email: cii.puducherry@cii.in

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Email: cii.hyderabad@cii.in

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Amritsar - 143001
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Email: cii.punjab@cii.in

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FU02, Upper Ground Floor, SRS Tower
Near Metro Station Mewla Maharajpur
Sector-31
Faridabad-121003
Tel: 0129-4198907
Email: cii.faridabad@cii.in

Gurgaon

249-F, Sector 18
Udyog Vihar, Phase IV
Gurugram-122015
Tel: 0124-4014060-67
Email: cii.haryana@cii.in

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2nd floor, My SOHO building
Urban Estate, Phase -2,
Jalandhar-144022
Tel: 0855-8090721
Email: cii.punjab@cii.in

Kanpur

602 -6th Floor
UPSIDA Complex, A-1/4 Lakhanpur
Kanpur-208024
Tel: 0522-4060041-42
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Confederation of Indian Industry

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering Industry, Government and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, with around 9,000 members from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 365,000 enterprises from 294 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

For more than 125 years, CII has been engaged in shaping India's development journey and works proactively on transforming Indian Industry's engagement in national development. CII charts change by working closely with Government on policy issues, interfacing with thought leaders, and enhancing efficiency, competitiveness, and business opportunities for industry through a range of specialized services and strategic global linkages. It also provides a platform for consensus-building and networking on key issues.

Through its dedicated Centres of Excellence and Industry competitiveness initiatives, promotion of innovation and technology adoption, and partnerships for sustainability, CII plays a transformative part in shaping the future of the nation. Extending its agenda beyond business, CII assists industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programmes across diverse domains including affirmative action, livelihoods, diversity management, skill development, empowerment of women, and sustainable development, to name a few.

For 2024-25, CII has identified "Globally Competitive India: Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" as its Theme, prioritizing 5 key pillars. During the year, it would align its initiatives and activities to facilitate strategic actions for driving India's global competitiveness and growth through a robust and resilient Indian industry.

With 70 offices, including 12 Centres of Excellence, in India, and 8 overseas offices in Australia, Egypt, Germany, Indonesia, Singapore, UAE, UK, and USA, as well as institutional partnerships with about 300 counterpart organizations in almost 100 countries, CII serves as a reference point for Indian industry and the international business community.

Confederation of Indian Industry

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