

## **FICCI US Desk**

The FICCI US Desk is actively engaged in a variety of business and academic activities with the overall objective of strengthening the US-India commercial linkages. It endeavours to achieve this by:

- Providing private sector inputs to policy making exercises through Private Sector Advisory Group (which provides private sector inputs to the US-India Trade Policy Forum), India-US High Technology Group, Defense Procurement & Production Group, India-US ICT Working Group etc.
- Providing networking opportunities to members
- Presenting the right Indian Industry perspective on various issues to the two Governments, US Congress, Think tanks, Indian American Associations and businesses
- Creating better awareness about the contributions of Indian companies to the US economy
- Forging newer linkages and strengthening existing networks with important and influential US Organizations

The division recently spearheaded the “Investing in America: The Indian Story” campaign that highlighted the positive contributions made by Indian investments to the US economy, including creation and retention of jobs in America. A special publication was brought out highlighting case studies of major Indian investments in the US.

As part of its constant engagement with US States, it regularly organizes interactions with visiting Official and Business Missions from the US to India. ‘Opportunity India’ seminars are organized in various US States, in collaboration with DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GoI, with special focus on SMEs. FICCI has MOUs with Virginia, Illinois, Maryland and Iowa for economic cooperation and the State of Illinois has an office at Federation House, New Delhi.

Linkages with US businesses are encouraged through Chambers including USIBC of the US Chamber of Commerce, with which FICCI has a MoU.

The division works closely with important US think-tanks including The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, The Heritage Foundation, Council on Foreign Relations, Pacific Council on International Policy, Business Council on

International Understanding and Center for Strategic and International Studies towards.

FICCI has tie-ups with various Universities in the US including the IC2 Institute at the University of Texas for commercialization of technology, Center for International Trade and Security at University of Georgia for capacity building workshops for the Indian dual use industry, Columbia Business School and Yale University.

The division builds on existing relationships and forges new ones with organizations in the US, organizing joint events with them and engaging them for participation at major FICCI events.

### India-US Policy Group

The India-US Policy Group has been established under the chairmanship of Ambassador Lalit Mansingh, Former Foreign Secretary and Former Indian Ambassador to USA and High Commissioner to UK. The objective is to create a better understanding of Indian perspective on important issues among US Administration/ Congress/ Think tanks and vice-versa.