

The *vision* of the Division is to facilitate international mobility of people and the portability of skills in a manner that would best meet the needs of Industry and Business and maximize welfare for all. The *mission* of the Division is to partner with governments, intergovernmental and international organisations, think tanks, and other Industry bodies to build strong coalitions; exchange knowledge; and develop capacities for demand driven international mobility of skills.

We believe freer economic migration is good for business; catalyzing innovation, investment and entrepreneurship - the building blocks of sustainable development. There is evidence that these are a direct result of the mobility of people. International migration also spurs investment rate, saving rate and the consumption rate which further serves to expand business and trade. Despite these obvious gains, an irony peculiar to our globalizing world is the noticeable absence of industry at the Migration High Table. The 'new thinking' in migration which is making its appearance in some policy circles advocates this change - a more persuasive and perhaps persistent voice for the private sector. Advisedly responding to this urgent need, in policy-making for issues concerning mobility of economic migrants, FICCI has started work in this area.

Besides, the Indian Diaspora is the most successful in the world. In 2014, India received USD 70 Billion as remittances- the top recipient of officially recorded incomes. Yet the costs of remitting remain high. The Indian industry must find modes of engagement with the Diaspora that take advantage of the success they have achieved and use it as a *force for development*.

We are moving away from the 'brain drain', 'brain gain' paradigm towards a more positive 'brain circulation' phenomenon. To encourage this and to define the Industry's role in facilitating this is an important item on our agenda. The big issues though are that India has to earnestly work towards building an image of a welcoming country; providing equal opportunities irrespective of race, gender, nationality etc. The solutions to these will necessitate the involvement of the Indian Industry.

The Division works in the following areas:

- Understanding Concerns of Industry about Migration through Surveys and Studies
- Meaningful Engagement with the Diaspora: Diaspora and Business Connect
- Skill Development for Overseas Employment
- Fostering Circular Migration
- Harmonisation of Mutual Recognition of Skills and Certification through Partnerships
- Return Migration
- Promotion of Transnational Ethical Recruitment Practices
- Contributing towards Involvement of Private Sector in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

To achieve these goals, the International Migration and Diaspora Division has partnerships, understandings and joint projects with:

- a. International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- b. International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- c. The World Bank (Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development-KNOMAD)
- d. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology