

***Two-day FICCI-IIFA Global Business Forum to commence at  
Tampa Bay, Florida, USA on April 24***

**FICCI Vice President, Harshavaradhan Neotia to lead a 20-member CEOs delegation**

**NEW DELHI, April 22, 2014.** FICCI in partnership with Wizcraft and international business development agencies such as Enterprise Florida, Visit Tampa Bay and the Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation is organizing 'FICCI-IIFA Global Business Forum' (GBF) on April 24 and 25, 2014 at Tampa Bay, Florida.

**FICCI Vice President, Mr. Harshavaradhan Neotia,** will be leading a 20-member CEOs delegation to the US for the GBF, which has now become synonymous with the economic and intellectual component of the International Indian Film Academy Awards. The objective of the delegation is to focus on enhancing business between the two countries and pave way for resolution of trade and investment issues that have cropped up in the recent times.

The theme of the GBF is '**Indo-U.S. Partnership: A Catalyst for Economic Growth**'. The first day of the event will focus on Indo-US commercial relations, with panels deliberating on the challenges and opportunities in Indo-US Commerce, Resource Efficiency and India-US Collaboration in Life Sciences - Safe & Affordable Healthcare.

The second day of the event will comprise sessions focussing on Opportunities in Tourism, Education and Skills Development, US-India Collaboration in the Services Sector, Opportunities in Sports Management, Girl Rising Project, Women Leaders - Shaping Tomorrow, Media and Entertainment. Leading business leaders from India and the US, along with eminent Indian-Americans, have been invited to participate as speakers in various sessions.

Globally acclaimed visionaries such as **Dr. R K Pachauri**, who spearheads the Nobel prize winning UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; **Mr. N R Narayanmurthy**, Co-Founder and Executive Chairman of Infosys Ltd; **Mr. Ajit Kumar, Consul General of India**, Atlanta and **Congressman Mr. Gus Bilirakis**, will be addressing the GBF this year.

Some of the prominent women leaders such as **Ms. Nisha Desai Biswal**, US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs; **Ms. Priyanka Chopra**, leading Indian Actress; **Shabana Azmi**, Indian Actress and **Ms. Renu Khator**, President of University of Houston, will also address the Forum.

Business leaders from global multinational corporations such as Syntel, Accenture India, Microsoft IT India, TATA Motors Ltd and L&T InfoTech, will share their perspectives on India-US economic engagement. These discussions are expected to help in taking forward the business agenda between India and the US by adding depth to the existing areas of cooperation and defining new emerging opportunities.

The timing of this forum is apt as the new Indian government will be looking forward to greater cooperation with the US. The US-India strategic partnership has always been a priority for both the countries and FICCI has been playing its role in enhancing the engagement between the two nations with initiatives such as the GBF.

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