



75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav

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India will become  
a magnificent cruise  
destination



# BUSINESS

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‘**HEAL**  
by India  
**HEAL**  
in India’



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FICCI is the voice of India's business and industry, reaching out to over 2,50,000 companies. Established in 1927, it is India's oldest and largest apex business organisation. FICCI serves its members from large (domestic and global companies) and MSME sectors as well as the public sector, drawing its strength from diverse regional chambers of commerce and industry.

## EDITORIAL

# From The Director General



India's fight against COVID has been exemplary, one that is being hailed globally now. It has been baptism by fire for the healthcare sector in this process. Both the Indian government and the industry rose to the occasion and delivered hand in hand a robust healthcare and pharmaceuticals sector, one which we can be proud of today.

Taking this vision of the pharmaceuticals sector ahead in the days to come, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya, who joined us for the 7th edition of India Pharma

and India Medical Device, laid bare the government's roadmap for Amrit Kaal, or the next twenty-five years. It was indeed encouraging to note that the government intends to build the capacity to serve the nation and the world. In addition, the minister shared some encouraging updates on the number of doctors, medical institutions, and health infrastructure, including hospitals, tertiary care centres, and health and wellness centres in the country.

Thanks to the relentless fight against COVID, green shoots of recovery are visible in many other sectors too. The Cruise sector is also a beneficiary. FICCI believes that India will become the fastest-growing cruise market in the next five years. Recently, FICCI organised an international conference to bring together the stakeholders in the cruise sector to formulate an action plan to position India on the global cruise tourism map. Some policy actions on this front can lead to the creation of at least two lakh jobs and many other multiplier benefits. Further, the synergies between the sea cruise and the inland waterways sector can open multiple economic opportunities in the form of heritage, ayurvedic & medical tourism, pilgrimage tourism and the northeast circuit.

Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar also joined us to share his views on increasing Maize production in the country. At FICCI, we consistently believe that Maize has immense potential for the nation's food and nutritional security and is the right choice for crop diversification. The union minister invited the industry and farmers to join hands and collectively address the challenges and generate employment in the sector.

On the international front, Union Minister Piyush Goyal graced the 10th joint business council meeting of India and Oman and shared his vision for strengthening the economic engagement between the two nations.

Overall, it has been an eventful month for FICCI with interesting policy discussions on several sectors covering Industry 4.0, IPR, and the internet, to name a few. You will read about these in the pages ahead. FICCI believes India's growth story is going from strength to strength, and it is just the beginning. We are hopeful of a robust future despite some internal and external headwinds at present.

  
Arun Chawla