AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL

BRUNEI
2021
AIBC Report to AEM-India Consultation



Content

No.	Contents	Pages
1	Message from Mr. Uday Shankar (Co-Chair) AIBC, (President) FICCI	2
2	Message from Dato' Ramesh Kodammal (Co-Chair ASEAN) AIBC, Chairman AIBC Malaysia	3
3	List of AIBC Members ASEAN and India	4
4	AIBC Overview and Recommendations	9
5	AIBC India Recommendations	19
6	Annex 1 : AIBC & ASEAN Activities	35
7	Annex 2 : AIBC India & FICCI Activities	49

Federation of
Indian Chambers
of Commerce and Industry
Federation House
Tansen Marg
New Delhi 110001
T : +91 11 2335 7364
F : +91 11 2332 9369
E : president@ficci.com
W: www.ficci.in
CIN : U99999DL1956NPL002635
ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified

OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT - INDIA

Uday Shankar
President



Mr Uday Shankar, Co-Chair (India), ASEAN- India Business Council and President, FICCI

MESSAGE

The economic relations between India and ASEAN, especially in the areas of trade and investment, have taken big strides over the years. Today, India and ASEAN share a dynamic relationship that goes well beyond economics, but easy movement of goods, services, and capital across borders remains the foremost concern for both. It is thus necessary to review the entire business value chain and enable greater economic cooperation with enhanced digital & infrastructure connectivity.

The pandemic has created new opportunities for collaboration between two regions in this direction. We need to prioritise areas such as strengthening long-term supply chain resilience and sustainability for mutual economic benefits. The increasing role of technology, artificial intelligence, data analytics and digitisation across sectors, present a huge opportunity for collaboration between India and ASEAN countries. We need to make concerted efforts towards building Infrastructure and Connectivity, integrating Logistics, establishing seamless Digital Connect, collaboration in Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals among others.

ASEAN – India Business Council (AIBC) has been making continuous efforts towards strengthening co-operation in priority sectors, lobbying on non-tariff barriers, strengthen Rules of Origin provisions and market access issues to facilitate seamless movement of goods across the two regions. Indian Industry welcomes the ASEAN's positive response to re-examine the scope of India-ASEAN FTA and has proposed its suggestions for the review process.

We are committed to take forward the cooperation between India and ASEAN countries through AIBC engagements and policy recommendations. We hope that the industry recommendations in this AIBC Report to AEM- India Consultations 2021, will pave the way for further strengthening the trade between Indiaand ASEAN countries.

August 31, 2021
Delhi

Uday Shankar



Dato' Ramesh Kodammal
Co-Chair ASEAN AIBC

MESSAGE

On behalf of AIBC, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Economic Ministers of ASEAN and India for giving us this opportunity to present the views of the private sector on further strengthening economic engagement between our two regions.

We are still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and with many uncertainties that are posing tremendous challenges for the businesses. Micro, Small and Medium (MSMEs) businesses are most impacted in ASEAN region with many resorting to cease their business operations. We also express our appreciation to the Governments for their continued support and assistance rendered to businesses during this period of uncertainties that are both difficult and challenging.

As we look forward to celebrating 30 years of dialogue relations and 25 years of high-level Summit engagement, it is important for both regions to continue with efforts to increase engagements and interactions that could bring mutual benefits and improve the well-being of our people including equipping the youth in the region with opportunities to become innovators and entrepreneurs.

AIBC members had a very useful meeting recently to deliberate on trade and investment related matters. New ideas were generated for consideration of economic ministers. A proposal that could be considered is to have a framework on ASEAN-India digital connectivity. We have a chapter on e-commerce in RCEP and perhaps similar consideration could be given as both ASEAN and India are emerging as important players in the digital economy.

There are country specific issues on trade and investments highlighted by ASEAN and India, and we hope that these issues could be openly discussed and addressed in a mutually beneficial way.

Kuala Lumpur
August 2021

Thank You

Dato Ramesh Kodammal
Co-Chair AIBC (ASEAN)

AIBC MEMBERS FROM ASEAN 2021

NO	NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATION
		MALAYSIA	
1	Dato Ramesh Kodammal	Co-Chair AIBC, Chairman	Goldtex Group of Companies
2	Datuk P. Ravidran Palaniappan	Senior Advisor	White Rook Advisory
3	Mr. Sharan Valiram	Executive Director	Valiram Group
4	Mr. Mohan Kodivel	Director	Adastra Wellness Sdn Bhd
5	Dato Dr. C. Baskaran	CEO	GMS Holdings Sdn Bhd
6	Datuk Nabhesh Khanna	Director	Adam Primus
7	Datuk Tan Teow Choon	Managing Director	Viva Global Sdn Bhd
		SINGAPORE	
8	Mr. Karan Singh Thakral	Executive Director	Thakral Group of Companies
9	Mr. Gautam Banerjee	Senior Managing Director & Chairman	Blackstone Singapore
10	Mr. Anuj Kagalwala	Partner	PWC Singapore
		THAILAND	
11	Mr. Phairush Burapachaisri	Chairman & CEO	Pin Sim Co Ltd
12	Ms. Prim Jitcharoongphom	Director	Allied Metals Co Ltd
		LAOS	
13	Mr. Habib Mohammad Chowdhury	Chairman	HSMM Group of Companies
14	Mr. Haider Mohammad Chowdhury	General Manager	HSMM Group of Companies
15	Mr. Khampeng Vongkhanty	Managing Director	LAO Freight Forwarder
16	Mr. Xaybandith Rasphone	President	Garments & Textile Association
17	Mr. Bounleuth Luangpaseuth	Director	Luangpaseuth Construction Soe Co Ltd
18	Mr. Inthy Deuansavan	Founder & MD	Green Discovery Lt Co
19	Mr. Indronil Sengupta	Co-Founder & CEO	Invesify Company Ltd
20	Ms. Nguyen Quynh Hoa	Chairwoman	E&D Vietnam

21	Mr. Viet Tran	Chief Operating Officer	Big Capital
PHILIPPINES			
22	Mr. Johnny Chotrani	Chairman	Philippines India Business Council
23	Mr. Shashank Pareek	Director	Textile Producers Association of Philippines
24	Mr. Rafael Alunan	President & Director	Lopez Group Foundation
25	Mr. Robert Young	President	Foreign Buyers Association
26	Mrs. Anupam Ahuja	Chairman	Atlantic, Gulf & Pacific Co
27	Mr. Jason Bogovich		
INDONESIA			
28	Ms. Shanti Shamdasani	Founder & CEO	S. ASEAN International Advocacy & Consultancy
29	Ms. Chrisma Albanjdar	Independent Commissioner	
30	Mr. Ardi Sutedia	IT Expert	
31	Mr. Thomas Hartono		ASEAN-Bac Indonesia / Omega Group / India Indonesia Business Association
CAMBODIA			
32	H.E. Naek Oknha Kith Meng	Director General /Chairman	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce /Royal Group of Companies
33.	H.E. Meng Nimol	Deputy Director General	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
34	Dr. Tan Monivann	Vice President	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
35	Mr. Hun Monivann	Vice President	Siem Reap-Oddor Meanchey Chamber of Commerce
36	Ms. Chhin Chhorwathana	Manager of International Relations	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
37	Ms. Chou Vipanharith	Deputy Manager of International Relations	Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
BRUNEI			
38	Mr. Nazeer Ahmad Zakaria	President	Indian Chamber of Commerce

39	Mr. Manish Punjab	TBA	TBA
40	Mr. Shaik Dawood	TBA	TBA
MYANMAR			
41	Dr. Myo Thant	Managing Director	Zar Zar Co Ltd
42	Mr. Tun Agung	Vice President	Myanmar Beans Exporter Association
43	Mr. Hla Maung	President	Border Trade Association (Myanmar India Border)

List of ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) Members

Members from India

S. NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATION
1.	Mr Uday Shankar	Co-Chair, AIBC (India), President, FICCI	FICCI
2.	Mr T V Narendran	CEO & Managing Director; President, Indian Steel Association (CII President)	Tata Steel Limited
3.	Mr Vineet Agarwal	Managing Director; Chairman of Transystem Logistics International Pvt. Ltd. (ASSOCHAM President)	Transport Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL)
4.	Mr H P Singhania	Past President – FICCI and Vice Chairman & Managing Director	J K Paper Ltd
5.	Ms Naina Lal Kidwai	Past President – FICCI and Chairman India Advisory Board, Advent Private Equity	Advent Private Equity
6.	Mr Dilip Gaur	Managing Director, Grasim Industries; Head - Global Pulp and Fibre Business	Aditya Birla Group
7.	Mr Afzal Aziz	President (International Business Development)	Allanasons
8.	Mr Anil Pant	Managing Director& CEO	Aptech Ltd
9.	Mr Nitin Seth	Chief Operating Officer	Ashok Leyland Limited
10.	Dr Nalin Shinghal	Chairman & Managing Director	BHEL
11.	Mr Puneet Dalmia	Managing Director	Dalmia Bharat Group
12.	Mr G V Prasad	Co-Chairman & Managing Director	Dr Reddy's laboratories
13.	Mr Rajiv Wahi	Head International Business	Escorts Ltd
14.	Mr N Ramesh	Deputy Managing Director	EXIM Bank

S. NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATION
15.	Mr G M Rao	Group Chairman	GMR Group
16.	Mr O P Lohia	Chairman & Managing Director	Indo Rama Synthetics (I) Ltd
17.	Mr. S.K. Chaudhary	Chairman & Managing Director	Ircon International Limited
18.	Mr Jayant Patil	Whole-time Director & Sr. Executive Vice President (Defence & Smart Technologies)	Larsen & Toubro Limited
19.	Mr Ramesh Mutha	Managing Director	Mohan Mutha Exports Pvt Ltd
20.	Mr Rajendra Pawar	Chairman & Co-Founder, NIIT Ltd & Founder, NIIT University	NIIT Group
21.	Mr Guruprasad Sankaranarayanan	Chief Strategy Officer-India, Indonesia and Malaysia	OYO Rooms
22.	Mr Alok Kumar Gupta	Managing Director & Chairman Addition Charge of Director (Operations) and Director (Exploration)	ONGC Videsh Limited
23.	Mr Anish Gandhi	President & CEO	Primemedia Group of Companies
24.	Mr Sushant Naik	Global Head, Government and Public Affairs	Tata Motors Limited

ASEAN – India Business Council

Submission of Recommendations by ASEAN India Business Council to 18th ASEAN Economic Ministers – India Consultations Meeting

September 2021



AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL

ASEAN India Business Council (Malaysia)
No. 12, Jalan 15/48A, Sentul Raya Boulevard, 51000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Email: info.asean.aibc@gmail.com | www.aibcasean.com

18th ASEAN Economic Ministers – India Consultation

Overview/Current Status

Globally, the last 18 months have been very challenging to businesses as governments imposed several COVID-19 pandemic containment measures. The impact of such measures varies from region to region and from countries to countries. These lockdown measures are unavoidable as countries are trying their best to protect their people from the pandemic. The closure of manufacturing activities, restriction of large-scale events, shutdowns of malls, restaurants, and leisure and travel as well as schools have led countries to revise their growth rates.

Signs of recovery are still far from the horizon as countries in the region race to vaccinate their citizens and non-citizens. Huge sum of relief funds has been authorised by governments to assist the people and businesses.

Relations have remained on strong footing and cooperation broadened to cover a wide range of activities from political, security, social, cultural and other areas of mutual interest. Next year we are set to celebrate 30 years of ASEAN India Dialogue Relations and 20 years of Summit level engagement.

The two-way trade has remained stable around **USD80 billion.**

Recognising the economic potentials, the governments of both ASEAN and India moved to sign the ASEAN India Free Trade Agreement in 2009, and subsequently the ASEAN India Agreement on Trade in Services and the ASEAN India Investment Agreement. There have been gains from the FTA. Businesses from both ASEAN and India are benefitting from this facilitated economic engagement.

Today, ASEAN exports to India involves a range of products such as vegetable oils (crude, refined palm oil and palm oil products), petroleum, electrical and electronics products, boilers, engines, printing, air conditioning and other machinery and parts and components, coal, iron and copper ores, iron and steel products, copper tubes, wires, and rods vehicles parts and components and rubber.

India is also a supplier of many products required by ASEAN and our businesses are buying chemicals, plastics, tanning and dyeing extracts, jewellery, gems and precious and semi-precious metals, electrical and electronics products, machinery and parts and components, vehicles parts and components, fish, meat and beef products, coal, iron and copper ores, iron and steel products, cereals(maize and rice) and dried vegetable products and cotton. These are also India's top export products.

Businesses in ASEAN especially the small and medium size companies are very keen in exploring business opportunities in India. More efforts are being exerted by the Council to create awareness of the rules and regulations and benefits of using the ASEAN India FTA.

AIBC has been organising webinars and dialogues almost weekly as physical meetings are not feasible at this juncture. AIBC with its counterpart FICCI from India will continue to play its role in getting businesses to take advantage of the FTA agreement.

The number of Indian companies investing in the region is encouraging. AIBC has been reaching out to these companies to participate and highlight the potentials that are available for Indian companies in the region. AIBC hopes that in the next 5 years both trade and FDIs could be doubled and raise the level of trade and investment flows. Some ASEAN countries are also major investors in India and are involved in many infrastructures related projects.

ASEAN India Trade 2010-2019

Year	Total Trade (USD Billion)	ASEAN's Exports to India (USD Billion)	ASEAN's Imports from India (USD Billion)
2019	77.10	48.3	28.8
2018	81.0	50.7	30.3
2017	73.7	45.7	28.3
2016	58.6	37.8	20.8
2015	60.2	40.6	19.8
2014	67.2	43.7	24.2
2013	68.2	42.4	25.9
2012	71.3	43.6	27.7
2011	74.2	46.0	28.2
2010	56.7	37.1	27.7

Source: ASEAN Secretariat

FDI flows to ASEAN

Year	2019 USD Billion	2018 USD Billion	2017 USD Billion	2016 USD Billion	2015 USD Billion
Total FDI flows to ASEAN	158.86	153.12	155.01	114.59	118.67
FDIs from India to ASEAN	**1.89**	**1.02**	**1.99**	**227.8 million**	**1.47**
% Of FDI Flows from India to ASEAN	1.18%	0.66%	1.3%	0.20%	1.23%
Intra-ASEAN FDI	22.07	24.25	25.89	24.99	20.82

Source: ASEAN Secretariat

ASEAN remains an attractive place for Indian companies to invest and do business. As a group, ASEAN is a member of 7 key regional FTAs, namely the ASEAN-China, ASEAN-India, ASEAN-Korea, ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand, ASEAN-Hong Kong and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

In addition, individual ASEAN countries are also a party to as many as 40 FTAs. These FTAs have provided an opportunity to ASEAN businesses to expand their market globally. AIBC is also taking the initiative to highlight to businesses in the region and Indian companies that they can avail themselves of the benefits of these FTAs.

AIBC commends the Ministers for concluding the RCEP which is a comprehensive agreement. The early implementation of the RCEP can benefit businesses in the region.

AIBC notes that all ASEAN countries and its partners are committed to implementing the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation chapter where the obligations are far more than the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. This is an area that businesses welcome and could lead to reducing unnecessary delays at ports in clearance of goods. Provisions such as advance ruling, pre-arrival clearance and submission of documents electronically provide for a facilitated clearance of goods.

The streamlining of the Rules of Origin is also an added benefit, and companies have an option of using the ASEAN Plus 1 FTAs or the RCEP.

Recommendations from ASEAN and India

AIBC Council (ASEAN and India) had its meeting on 17 August 2021 to discuss the recommendations to be submitted to the Ministers for consideration. As in previous years, the recommendations are submitted in two parts, AIBC ASEAN recommendations and AIBC India recommendations. These recommendations also include specific issues faced by ASEAN in trade with India, and Indian companies face in exports to ASEAN. It also contains proposals that highlight areas for cooperation and potentials that could be considered to increase economic engagement.

Recommendations from AIBC ASEAN

AIBC has submitted several recommendations to the AEM-India Consultations over the last few years. These recommendations are still relevant and can be grouped into **3 main areas**.

Issues related to FTA, facilitation, SMEs and empowerment of women and youth. A summary of the recommendations is listed below.

FTAs

1. Comprehensive Review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement with further liberalisation of goods, excluded from tariff concessions and simplification of rules of origin (ROO).
2. Support India's participation in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement.
3. Possibility of joint study to chart the future direction of ASEAN India economic relations, and recommendations.

Facilitation

4. Addressing Non-Tariff Measures which impede trade and investment through an established AIFTA committee that allows for technical consultation, and resolution of the NTMs.
5. Facilitation of business travel and streamlining visa fees for travel between ASEAN and India.
6. Establishing a focal point among the 11 countries to address private sector queries on trade and investments and specific issues that companies face in importation and exportation of goods such as authenticity and acceptance of preferential forms submitted by companies for tariff concessions.

SMEs and Empowerment of Women and Youth

7. Providing support to small and medium enterprises to utilise ASEAN India FTA and encourage imports and exports with AIFTA region.
8. Participation of women and youth in AIFTA trade and investment activities.
9. Digital connectivity
10. Collaboration of start-ups and innovation.

Review of the ASEAN India Free Trade Agreement on Goods

ASEAN is mindful that ASEAN has a small trade surplus of around US$20 billion in trade with India. It is concerning to read in the media and in our discussions with our counterparts that the FTA has been one of the contributing factors for the deficit that India is having with ASEAN. This issue needs to be addressed in an objective manner. An analysis of the products traded shows that a sizeable part of ASEAN's exports is related to two important commodities, namely petroleum and vegetable oils. The exports of other products are limited, and ASEAN is still finding it hard to penetrate the Indian market for a number of reasons which include the reliance of its domestic industries on sourcing supply from within India.

Top 10 items imported from India

HS	Description	Value (US$ Million)	% Share
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	6,994.4	24.3
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	2,531.9	8.8
29	Organic chemicals	2,211.8	7.7
71	Natural, cultured pearls; precious, semi-precious stones; precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	1,785.9	6.2
72	Iron and steel	1,559.1	5.4
76	Aluminium and articles thereof	938.9	3.3
87	Vehicles; other than railway or tramway rolling stock, and parts and accessories thereof	1,420.3	4.9
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers; television image and sound recorders and reproducers, parts and accessories of such articles	1,217.7	4.2
30	Pharmaceutical products	1,052.3	3.7
02	Meat and edible meat offal	944.5	3.3
	Top Ten Commodities	20,656.9	71.7
	Others	8,141.2	28.3
	Total	28,798.1	100

Top 10 items exported from ASEAN

HS	Description	Value (US$ Million)	% Share
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers; television image and sound recorders and reproducers, parts and accessories of such articles	8,452.9	17.5
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	8,420.9	17.4
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	4,534.1	9.4
15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared animal fats; animal or vegetable waxes	4,463.1	9.2
39	Plastics and articles thereof	2,256.4	4.7
29	Organic chemicals	1,968.9	4.1
72	Iron and steel	1,562.1	3.2
74	Copper and articles thereof	1,475.4	3.1
71	Natural, cultured pearls; precious, semi-precious stones; precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	1,443.6	3.0
40	Rubber and articles thereof	1,217.0	2.5
	Others	35,794.2	74.1
	Total	48,299.7	26.9

Source: ASEAN Secretariat

These are the top 10 items imported from and exported to India by ASEAN. Most of these products are products of big companies while SMEs share is rather small.

The review of the ASEAN India Trade in Goods Chapter should look at the following:

1. Further liberalisation of tariffs on products that have been on the sensitive or highly sensitive list or excluded from FTA for the last ten years. Many of these are products of export interest to SMEs.
2. The Rules of Origin be reviewed and streamlined as in other ASEAN FTAs and there should not be a review to make it more restrictive.
3. There should be no rolling back on tariff commitments based on selected industry's request.
4. Propose that a full chapter on Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation be included in order to smoothen and facilitate trade under the FTA as in the RCEP agreement.

ASEAN, with its regional FTAs and bilateral FTAs signed by individual ASEAN countries, is relatively an open market, and any attempts to roll-back on commitments will jeopardise efforts to attract investments.

New Proposals in Post COVID-19 Environment

COVID-19 has opened a new dimension for the growth of ASEAN India trade and investment. Things have taken a drastic turn at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, where globally, countries and governments have shifted focus and made healthcare as part of the prime national agenda. There are new possibilities that could be considered as follows:

Medical and Pharmaceutical Products

Possibility of ASEAN and India exploring signing an MoU or special arrangements to develop cooperation in the health care sector covering manufacturing, tele-medicine, establishing mutual recognition arrangements on medical devices, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and other healthcare products that could lead to enhancement of trade in medical and pharmaceutical products.

Second is the possibility of establishment of research and development centres and collaboration in vaccine production.

Digital and e-Commerce

The rapid rise in the digital economy and its importance to many economies require ASEAN and India to explore having a special agreement to promote e-commerce and digital trade. There are many examples within the region of countries creating a special and dedicated agreement to cover e-commerce and digital trade.

Given the relative strengths of ASEAN and India, a dedicated agreement to facilitate e-commerce could lead to vibrant SMEs, and innovative entrepreneurs to take advantage of promoting e- commerce to the region with over 2 billion people. A new form of framework that addresses the growth of online business activities and supports businesses engaging in cross-border digital trade ande-commerce by lowering operational costs and improving market access.

Individual ASEAN Country Issues

A. Indonesia

1. Fee for Exports Ban to Third Country

India imposes a fee for vehicle tire producers that have received certification of IS (Indian Standards) Mark that is mandated for exports to other countries, besides India. This fee is imposed to cover the distribution costs and the rest is withheld to cover for any complaints from the Indian side. This regulation is imposed on domestic and imported products (national treatment). Indonesia never imposes such marking fee on their SNI certifications.

2. Limitation of Tire Importations Based on Size

India changed the import category for 9 products that are connected to HS code 4011 from "free" to "restricted" since July – August 2020 hence export ban to India will now require import licensing documents. India also restricted imports for other vehicle tire products with a particular size that matches the vehicle tire produced within India. This is not mentioned in the legal documents but mentioned in the addendum documents stated in an email from the Importers Authority of India during the confirmation of import licensing. This regulation has hindered Indonesia's export opportunities to India, which is almost totally banned for majority of products that are locally produced in India.

3. Quality Control Regulations Order 2020 for Plain Copier Paper

Latest regulations on Quality Control Order implemented by the Indian government since December 2020 mandated copier paper products to abide by the Indian standard. Technically, the parameters set in the Quality Control Order can be fulfilled by Indonesia, but due to the Covdi-19 pandemics, it has imposed challenges for exporters to obtain the license due to the requirement of a physical/ on-site inspections. Indonesia has pushed India to ease the certifications regulations by providing a solution for a remote assessment / inspection during the pandemic. This has caused a loss of exports from January – May 2021 to reduce by 40%, from USD 27.5 million to USD 16.5 million.

4. Import Restriction on Automotive Products

The Indian government has imposed new regulations on the Automobile Wheel Rims (Quality Control Order 2020) on October 2020 that mandated the holders of Indian Standards (IS) and BIS certifications for automobile wheel rims (HS code 870870). Before these restrictions, the Indian government was using ICAT (International Center for Automotive Technology). Indonesia has requested for India to facilitate remote assessment during the pandemic as a replacement for factory inspections imposed on automotive wheels rims, safety glass, helmet.

5. Agriculture Products Access (Broom, Vanilla seeds and Tropical Fruits)

Exports of broomstick from Indonesia to India have been facing challenges since 2019 because India only allows such products to enter from Myanmar and Nepal. The Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia has requested for exports of some of Indonesia's exotic tropical fruits to India and to explain the technicality of the corporations. Indonesia has not heard back from India.

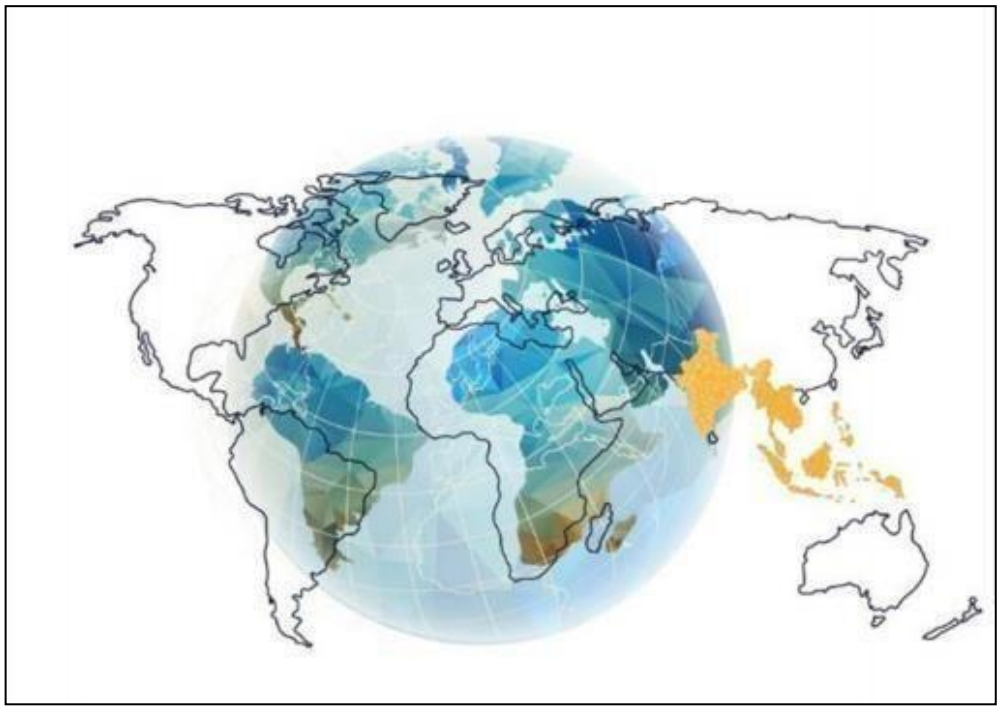
B. Myanmar

Myanmar business community has requested for consideration the following:

a. To allow the use of Indian Rupee as Currency for doing Trade between India & Myanmar, either border trade or Normal Trade, which was ever done before.
b. To allow Barter Trade, for both Normal Trade & Border Trade, which was allowed before.
c. The last point, No.3, which is inputs from our India suppliers, in order to enhance India Myanmar Border Trade.
   - Export at India Border, from India to Myanmar to consider as Official Export and, allow GST refund to India Exporter.
   - To send the goods by Road, from Production places like Ahmadabad, Mumbai, Chennai to Moreh it takes about 5-7days. If India Express Railway can carry CONTAINER Carriages, it will save the transit time and can carry more goods.

ASEAN – India Business Council

Submission of Recommendations by Indian Industry to
18th ASEAN Economic Ministers- India Consultations Meeting
September 2021



Report

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Secretariat for
ASEAN- India Business Council (India)
Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi, India

AIBC India Recommendations

1. Employment Pass in ASEAN

- **Singapore** – A Class of Employment Pass (EP)that allows short term expat resource employment without going through full EP process
- **Indonesia**
  a) If regulatory conditions can be relaxed to allow expats to change employer locally inside Indonesia.
  b) Re-instate Indonesian Embassy, New Delhi as location for work visa stamping.
  c) Reduce work visa approval process to minimal as possible
- **Malaysia**
  a) Provision/Introduction of short term (90 days-183 days) permits to allow executed short term projects.
  b) Flexibility to remunerate under "allowance model" while people are on short term (90 days - 183 days).
  c) Longer Business Visa validity (1 year & above)
- **Philippines**
  a) Scan copy of the Notarized invitation letter be acceptable to file for business visa.
  b) Re- instate the fast-tracking processing services.
  c) Reduce AEP/9G/9G downgrade processing timelines
- **Thailand**
  a) Ease process for work permit application by waiving quota conditions.
  b) Introduce FastTrack process (if needed with additional processing fees).
  c) Issue long term multiple entry business visa (1-2 years)
- **Vietnam**
  a) Ease process for work permit application by waiving off Legalization Conditions.
  b) Introduce **FastTrack** process (if needed with additional processing fees).
  c) Issue long term multiple entry business visa (1-2 years)
- **Cambodia**
  a) Clear regulatory on work permit exempt policy.
  b) Relaxation in rule to secure work permit for expats.
- **Myanmar**
  a) Relaxation in rule to secure work permit for expats.
  b) Reduce processing time to minimal as possible

2. **Recommendations for AITIGA:** The long-term interest of industry in India is to get well integrated in global value chains, and beneficial trade agreements could play important roles in realizing this interest. India and ASEAN have not been able to harness the full trade potential, for various reasons. The time has come to open matrix for expansion of trade and address the concerns of businesses. Indian Industry has recommended to strengthen the Rules of Origin provisions, removal of non-tariff barriers and provide better market access and make the AITIGA more balanced and equitable.

a. Customs Procedures

Article 14 Customs Procedures in AITIGA has three brief sub-clauses and does not capture the depth and coverage of the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement which mandates Simplified Customs Procedures, Risk Management, Transparency, Advance Rulings, timely consultations with the trade on legislative procedures and general procedures.

It is suggested that a detailed coverage of the various aspects such as those mentioned above may be suitably incorporated in the Revised AITIGA.

As a guidance, Articles 4.1 to 4.16 of Chapter 4 (Customs and Trade Facilitation) of the recent EU-Viet Nam FTA (March 2020) may be considered and applied mutatis mutandis, as deemed necessary.

b. Technical Barriers to Trade

There is an urgent need to clearly define, align and harmonize the various Technical barriers to Trade as well as Conformity Assessment Procedures. In the absence of these in the extant AITIGA, disputes and delays occur in import clearances. Moreover, these Technical barriers to Trade are required to conform to relevant international standards and specifications based on those developed by International bodies such as International Organization for Standardisation, ITU, International Electrotechnical Commission, etc. and need regular updating. It is also to be ensured that these Technical barriers to Trade are in complete adherence to WTO guidelines such as Decisions and Recommendations adopted by the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade.

As a guidance, Articles 5.1 to of Chapter 5 (Technical Barriers to Trade) of the EU-Viet Nam FTA may be considered and applied mutatis mutandis, as deemed necessary. Likewise, SPS measures need to be re-defined and harmonised in conformity with international standards.

c. Rules of Origin

- Definitions - Various words and phrases have been in use to determine the origin criteria. However, these have not been adequately defined or spelt out in the FTA. In order to give greater clarity, it is good to define these terms with great care and caution, so that all stakeholders can benefit from simplicity, clarity and certainty in the provisions.
- Cumulation/ Value addition - Stricter provisions may be ensured in the rules pertaining to Originating Status/ Cumulation/Value Addition to prevent non-party originating goods being passed off as originating goods.
- Split Consignments/ Import by Instalments - At times, dismantled or non-assembled products, especially machinery, are imported by instalments due to the commercial and logistical requirements. In such cases, there must be provision to accept a single proof of origin upon the importation of the first instalment.
- Coherence in Rules of Origin - A Joint Working Group OF Customs of the Contracting Parties may be constituted to endeavour to study and make proposals to ensure coherence between the respective rules of origin of the Contracting parties as well as in the administration of the same, especially with regard to Tariff Classification, Customs Valuation and allied procedures.

d. Confidentiality

With the insertion of Section 28DA of the Customs Act, 1962 and the Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020, there is a requirement to produce certain sensitive data on value addition from the exporters. These are very confidential and trade-sensitive information. Hence, it may be ensured that suitable provisions are made in the AITIGA so that the confidentiality of the information and data collected by the competent authorities in the process of verification of the Origin Criteria is maintained as per law prevailing in each Country and that disclosure that could prejudice the competitive position of the entity providing such information or data shall be treated as confidential and safeguards for data protection be adequately taken as per law.

For ease of guidance, Article 33 -Confidentiality (reproduced below) in “Protocol 1- Concerning the Definition of The Concept Of ‘Originating Products’ and Methods of Administrative

e. digit HS classification

Also, as we know the ITC(HS) codes are harmonized at 6-digit level. India’s trade data is collected at the 8-digit level. At the 8-digit level codes may be different from other countries. HS system has also evolved over the years and new codes even added at the 6-digit level. It is important to understand that we are updating the 6 digit HS classification as well.

Other Recommendations

- Customs authorities in certain countries insists hard copies of Certificate of Origin as it is a requirement from customers' countries. Currently, apart from soft copy, hard copy of COO is also being used which unnecessarily delays the customs process. As dispatching of hard copy documents take much longer time, parties often encounter demurrage and detention. So, going ahead only e-certificate should be kept as the only requirement. The scope of review should include this.

- India faced huge surge of imports from ASEAN countries post signing AIFTA as the tariffs were reduced to zero for large number of products by India, due to which our domestic industries has been suffering a lot. Also, there are cases where tariffs on certain products were reduced to zero by India, but the same products attract very high duty (of around 25-30%) in country like Malaysia.

  Hence, the scope of review should include the issues on Tariff and possibility of restoration of MFN duty as well as prevention of further reduction in certain tariff lines.

- Though there is a safeguard measure mentioned in AITIGA, Article 10(2) of the Framework Agreement stipulates that a party has the right to initiate a safeguard measure on a good within the transition period which starts from the date of entry into force of the Agreement and end 5 years from the date of completion of tariff reduction/elimination. In most of the cases the transition period is already over by 2018.

  Hence, it is suggested that the scope of review should include the introduction of an auto-trigger mechanism to impose safeguard duty on products, import of which may face sudden and/or considerable increase of import in India from ASEAN countries. This was suggested by India's domestic industries during RCEP negotiation. There should be a Review mechanism of every FTA after 3 years with the objective of correction in duty structure basis changes in domestic industry's production capabilities.

- Due to laxity in norms while issuing Certificate of Origin in some ASEAN countries, often non-partner countries export their products through ASEAN countries to India. Hence, it is suggested to include a mutually agreed mechanism to verify value addition norms (just to avoid any flouting of value addition limit) in the scope of this review.
- Definite focus on Rules of Origin (ROO): It has been shown that Rules of Origin (ROO) norms can easily be circumvented by simple accounting manipulation to flood Indian markets therefore determining the origin or national source of a product becomes even more difficult. Circumvention of rules of origin should be strictly dealt with by the authorities.

Considering the fact that India's trade deficit since signing AITIGA has increased, there needs to be more focus on increasing India's exports and less on imports.

3. Sector wise Inputs

Aluminium Alloy Ingots: Indian Industry face unfair competition due to ASEAN FTA under which Aluminium Alloy Ingots are imported duty-free from countries like Malaysia/Thailand. The raw material for these ingots is in turn Aluminium scrap, which is imported duty free into these countriesfrom destinations like US/Europe/Australia/etc. But in India this scrap is imported with a levy of BCDof 2.5%. This puts Indian manufacturers at a 2.5% unfair disadvantage. Actually there is a minimum value addition clause for such product export from FTA countries (I think at 35%), but the actual value addition from Aluminium scrap to Aluminium Alloy Ingot is not more than 15-20%. This rule isflouted by exporters of Aluminium Alloy Ingot from ASEAN countries. As a result, these imported ingots take up 15-20% ingot market share in Indian Automotive Aluminium Secondary Alloy market,which is detrimental for domestic producers and Mr. Modi's Make in India campaign.

Tea: It is desired that to fix appropriate non-tariff norms (similar to FSSAI and MRLs etc.) and robust **"place of origin"** norm for Tea imports into India to protect the interest of Tea Industry in India. Black Tea falls under Special products as per ASEAN India FTA and applied MFN tariff rates for the Special Products is being reduced in accordance with the following tariff reduction schedules:

Tariff Rate	Base Rate	AIFTA Preferential Tariffs										
		Not Later than 1st January										31-12-19
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Black Tea	100	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45

This Association urge to the Government of India should take cognizance of the Industry's imminent threat to its very existence and adopt measures stated above to protect the interests of the Tea Industry.

Palm Products

Bilateral Safeguard Duty: In earlier ASEAN agreement, there is no provision for Bilateral Safeguard Duty. We suggest, in revised agreement, the provision of "Bilateral Safeguard Duty" be provided so that as and when excessive imports take place harming the domestic industry, automatically additional duty maybe imposed without going through the cumbersome process of filing papers for "Safeguard Duty". Last year, we had a tough time to pursue for safeguard duty on RBD Palmolein to check the excessive export by Malaysia into India, which was severely hurting the domestic refiners.

Export Duty / Levy by exporting countries: Secondly, whether in ASEAN or MCECA agreements, there is always bound rate for imposing highest duty on Palm Products imported by India. However, exporting countries, seem to be free to impose export duty and levy as agreements are silent on this issue. Currently Indonesia has imposed US$33 as export duty plus US$ 180 as a Biodiesel levy making Crude palm oil expensive and India is compelled to pay high price for the same .To support their local industry Export duty and Levy is kept low on finished goods like Palmolien. Indirectly, India is subsidising their export duty and levy. Malaysia is likely to impose 8% export duty on export of CPO with effect from 1st Jan 2021. It is therefore necessary that proper proviso be included in ASEAN agreement to restrict/regulate the imposition of export duty/ levy by the exporting country to have level playing field from both the sides.

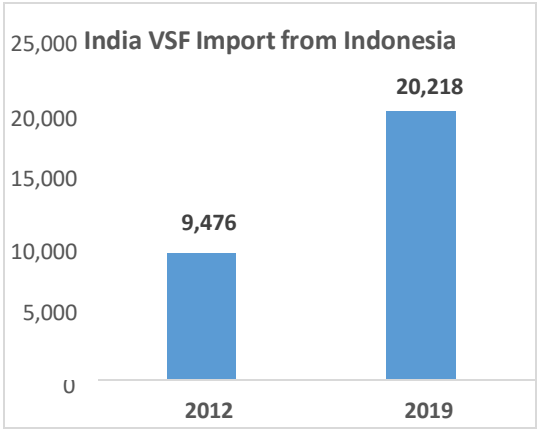
Flexible Packaging Industry

- Asymmetrical tariffs − Higher import tariffs in ASEAN member countries for Indian products as compared to lower tariffs in India for ASEAN products (BOPP and BOPET Films)
- Inverted Duty Structure − Finished good from certain ASEAN member counties have lower import duty while raw material from there attracts higher duty in India.

Viscose Staple Fibre

Under the India - ASEAN FTA, starting Jan 2014, the Import Duty on Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) (HS Code 55041010, 55041090 & 55049090) has been reduced to 0% since 2014 in phases (5% in 2012, 2,5% in 2013 and Nil from 2014) which has resulted in sharp increase in VSF imports from Indonesia growing at a CAGR of 11% during 2012 − 2019 as shown in *Annexure 1*: **The beneficiary of this NIL import duty on VSF under the FTA are the Chinese companies in Indonesia (Sateri/Asia Pacific Rayon) who have set up production facilities in Indonesia to take the duty advantage to dump their excess capacities in India.**

Annexure 1: India VSF Import from Indonesia



Source: DGCIS

- **Most of the Indonesian players gain unfair cost advantage by sourcing their pulp wood from forests which are either ancient & endangered and/or do not follow sustainable forestry practices.** This is in violation of United Nations Sustainable Development goal (SDG)15 under the Paris Accord, to which India is a signatory and an active advocate. **Sourcing VSF products made from such pulp goes against the spirit of Paris Accord and indirectly promotes deforestation in the world.**

  It is therefore requested that Indian Government mandates that all VSF based products made only from sustainable pulp are allowed to be imported. This can be ensured by insisting on Canopy 'Green Shirt' certified pulp made from FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) controlled wood. These are global certifications endorsed by the leading fashion brands and widely accepted in the MMCF industry world over.
  Only sustainable RM trade should be allowed under ASEAN be it Textiles Raw materials or sustainable palm oil for edible oil industry .

- **Currently there is huge overcapacity for VSF in Indonesia (overhang of around 63%)** *(Please refer Annexure 2*) for which it is finding its way into the Indian Market consequent to the Nil Import Duty coming into force from 2014.

- **The Indian VSF Industry has expansion plans of adding 2,20,000 MT capacity with an investment of more than Rs 7,000 Crore to honour the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative of our honourable PM.** It is needless to say that any capacity expansion can be undertaken only if the industry has a level playing field compared to imports, and a stable regime to commit long term investments.

- **Inverted Duty Structure Consequent to Nil Import Duty on VSF**. Further, soft wood Dissolving Pulp **(HS Code- 4702 0000)** is not available in India due to tropical climate and has to be imported from temperate climate countries. The current Import Duty on Dissolving Pulp is 2.5%. Given duty free imports of VSF from Indonesia under the India- ASEAN FTA and 2.5% import duty on Dissolving Pulp, the major raw material required to produce VSF domestically, results in an **Inverted Duty Structure.** *(Details mentioned in Annexure 2)*

- **Industry recommends reviewing and correcting such anomalies as this is hurting the domestic industry due to significant increase in viscose staple fibre from Indonesia since then. It is therefore requested that the Import Duty on VSF from Indonesia be increased from current Nil to minimum 5% to provide a level playing field to the domestic industry and restricting imports of substandard and non-sustainable products during upcoming renegotiation of India – ASAN FTA.**

  Only sustainable RM trade should be allowed under ASEAN whether for Textiles Raw materials or sustainable palm oil for edible oil industry. Such measures would invite investment, add to 'Make in India' campaign, generate jobs and reduce dependence on imports to become 'Atmanirbhar'.

Annexure 2: Indonesia VSF Capacity & Demand

VSF (KTPA)	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020 (P)**
Capacity	535	535	612	740	865	865
Demand	414	450	403	374	385	316
Overhang	*23%*	*16%*	*34%*	*49%*	*55%*	*63%*

Annexure 3: Inverted Duty structure

Since there is no import tariff on VSF imported from ASEAN countries under the FTA and it may be noted that the raw materials used for VSF manufacturing like Pulp, Caustic and Coal attract import tariff incidence of 2.5% to 10% lead to an inverted duty structure for VSF industry Please see the detailed working below:

Particulars	**US$ / Kg**	**Remarks**
Pulp - BCD and Cess	0.025	2.5% + 10% cess
Green cess on Coal	0.010	Rs 400 per ton of coal
Diesel - Duty and cess	0.021	Inward and outward diesel cost (~40% duty on diesel price in India)
Sulphur import duty	0.002	2.5% + 10% cess
Finish (Honol / BM5) import duty	0.0004	Custom duty and Cess on Finish
Electricity duty	0.012	~75 paisa per KWH (60 paisa for captive and 15% on grid)
RPO Obligation cost	0.004	Rs ~300 per ton of Fibre
Caustic soda	0.020	Higher Domestic rate vs Global
Coal Rate (Import vs Local)	0.025	Import vs Local cost for coal
Differential freight due to (FG vs RM)	0.028	Higher freight on RM import vs FG import
Total	**0.147**	

PVC Industry

- **Increased PVC Imports from ASEAN member countries at reduced tariff rates hampering capacity expansion by domestic manufacturers in India.**
  The PVC Industry has seen very little capacity addition in the last fifteen years ever since import duties on finished products were reduced in steps to 5% in 2006 before being increased to the current 10% in 2019. While Indian industry kept adding capacity in line with demand growth till about mid-2000s – that is till about the time import duty on PVC was at reasonable levels, with reduction in Import Duty on PVC, capacity expansion in domestic PVC Industry stagnated and this resulted in increased arrivals of Imports into the country. The Government of India subsequently

took note of the major disadvantages faced by the Indian PVC industry and adjusted the Import Duty to 10% last year.

The India − **ASEAN FTA negotiations were carried out on the basis of the MFN tariffs prevailing in 2007**, which for PVC in India was 5%. The tariff concessions offered by India to ASEAN were also negotiated with reference to the base rate of 2007, while tariff rates were raised to 10% only in 2019. This adjustment in Import Duty needs to be factored in the tariff concession commitments under the FTA. We hence request that tariff rates under ST category for PVC be raised to 10%.

- **Non identical treatment of HS codes 390410,390421 & 390422 in the India – ASEAN FTA resulting in confusion and mis-declared imports.**
  PVC is classified under three different HS codes at 6-digit level − **390410** (PVC not mixed with any other substance), **390421** (PVC mixed with non-plasticised substance) and **390422** (PVC mixed with plasticised substance). All these are however like articles.

  As per India − ASEAN FTA, while items under HS codes 390410 & 390422 are under "ST" category, items under 390421 are under "NT2" category. For items under "ST", duty is capped at 5%, while for items under "NT2", duty gets progressively reduced to zero. This is a marked difference from the FTAs signed with Singapore and Korea which treats items under HS codes 390410,390421 & 390422 alike. We fervently request you to review this and place PVC under all three HS codes under either Exempt category or ST category.

To sum up, the domestic PVC industry requests the Government of India to revisit, renew and renegotiate the categorization of Petrochemicals and India's tariff commitments under the India-ASEAN FTA to effect the following changes:

1. PVC under all three tariff sub-headings − 390410, 390421 & 390422 − to be uniformly classified under either exempt or ST category.
2. The duty rate for PVC under ST category to be reset to 10% in line with current tariff rate in India.
3. Direction is issued to all Customs Houses to ensure that PVC resin − Suspension and Paste/Emulsion − that are not mixed with any other substance is allowed to be imported only under 390410.

Custom clearances of organic cosmetics: There should be simplified customs check/clearance for organic cosmetics/toiletries originating from India along with herbal products including essential commodities. For small scale industry natural/organic product support, there could be easy storage/warehousing facilities at destination country

4. Issues with Bovine Meat:

- India has been exporting frozen buffalo meat to Philippines for over 28 years. However, Philippines authorities have restricted sales to meat processors only. Philippines doesn't have bovine meat industry, and does not apply restrictions to other foreign countries. It should allow India to have access to local markets without restrictions as this would allow to quadruple our bilateral trade.
- Indonesia has been importing Frozen Halal Boneless Buffalo Meat from India for over the past four years now. Unfortunately, inspite of the high demand for the product and the prevailing shortage of the same being faced in Indonesia, Indian exporters can only export to Indonesia through certain State - owned Enterprises. The Indonesian Authorities have made it difficult for Indian exporter to export directly to the Meat importers in Indonesia. Other Meat exporting countries such as Australia & New Zealand have no Quota and can export directly to the Meat Importer's/ Distributors in Indonesia.

5. Market Access for Indian Potato, Potato Seeds and Mini-Tubers / Reduction of Import Duties:

ASEAN countries are currently not importing potatoes, potato seeds and mini-tubers from India. There seems to be an incorrect notion amongst some of the ASEAN members states that potato, seeds / mini-tubers originating from India are low on quality. Despite providing Certificate of Origin issued by the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Phyto Sanitary Certificates issued by Central Potato Research Institute, there are restrictions on export of potato, seeds & mini-tubers to ASEAN countries excluding Myanmar who has allowed India access to its market.

Further, Malaysia and Indonesia have opened up its market for Chip Grade Potatoes but not allowed access for potato seeds and mini-tubers from India. Further, the rate of import duties being charged on Chip Grade Potatoes by Malaysia and Indonesia at 20% is high compared with Nil rate of duty charged for imports from China.

Through bilateral talks and showcasing of Indian seed production capabilities and technologies, there is a need to get access to ASEAN markets. Further, the import duty rate for exports from India should be reduced to Nil.

6. Power Projects in ASEAN

- For Indian entities investing in development of infrastructure projects such as power plants in the ASEAN region, the benefits on custom duties and other trade benefits may also be applied to the goods/equipment being supplied to the projects in the region irrespective of the country of origin of the said equipment.
- During long term commercial operation of such infrastructure projects, the accumulated profits shall need to be repatriated back to India. In this case support in easing currency conversion back to USD and dividend repatriation back to India can be sought.
- Removal of Non- tariff barriers viz. requirement of experience in OECD countries / Manufacturers from OECD countries faced in some ASEAN Countries (eg. Indonesia & Thailand) in power projects/ supply of equipment.

OPPORTUNITIES WITH ASEAN

1. **Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals:** India can serve as ASEAN's strategic partner in strengthening medical capacity in the region, particularly to tackle the pandemic, including increased production capacity of COVID-19 drugs and vaccines, raw materials for the production of medicines, and doing joint research and development in the health sector.

   India has shared resources - medicines, PPE, and testing equipments as COVID-19 Emergency Response to meet the immediate costs of fighting the pandemic. And, above all, India has shared the most valuable commodity - knowledge - through collaborative training of health workers. Through webinars, online courses and IT portals, India has shared experiences and learned from each other's best practices in testing, infection control and medical waste management.

   India today, is widely called the 'pharmacy of the world' with its strong domestic presence and strong global exports. We have proved to be a trusted supplier of critical pharmaceuticals (eg. export of Hydroxychloroquine) to over 120 nations in the recent COVID crisis.

AIBC India recommends that India needs to work together with ASEAN Countries to promote regional cooperation in healthcare sector. We need to look at the recommendations proposed by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi for regional cooperation with neighbouring ASEAN countries:

- Can we consider creating a special visa scheme for our doctors and nurses, so that they can travel quickly within our region during health emergencies, on the request of the receiving country?
- Can our Civil Aviation Ministries coordinate a regional Air Ambulance agreement for medical contingencies?
- Can we create a regional platform for collating, compiling and studying data about the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines among our populations?
- Can we similarly create a regional network for promoting technology-driven epidemiology, for preventing future pandemics?

2. **Technology and Digital Partnerships:** The India- ASEAN partnership could be directed towards restoring the regional economy of ASEAN, which has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, the growth of digital platforms has been able to drive the economy. India with a large and rapidly growing digital economy ecosystem, can expand cooperation with ASEAN member states for developing their digital economy potential.

   ASEAN has one of the most robust economies in Asia and are showing impressive penetration of smart phones and smart technologies. The ASEAN digital transformation is characterised by a well-developed and innovation-driven information and communications tech infrastructure. India's prowess in technology-led business excellence combined with the leadership, teamwork, creativity, and social skills, and the speed, scalability, and quantitative capabilities of ASEAN makes for great synergy.

   AIBC India recommends that India and ASEAN countries can cooperate in capacity building, research and development, security and resilience in the areas of Critical Information Infrastructure, 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), among others.

- India and ASEAN can collaborate in **agri- technologies** for transforming agriculture across the value chain by connecting farmers to markets and shared equipment, automating farm management processes, and analysing data to drive actionable insights for farmers. The increasing availability of real-time data from a variety of sources can enable entities to offer customised advice to farmers, to improve productivity.
- Indian companies can collaborate with ASEAN Governments for improving the **healthcare technologies** especially telemedicine technologies for connecting with patients in rural areas and enabling them for cost − effective virtual visits to hospitals. Technologies such as AI technologies for preventive healthcare, unified healthcare records are also areas where possible collaboration can be considered.
- Conventional sectors such as **banking, education, transportation, entertainment** are increasingly becoming online. This provides an opportunity for Indian tech companies to support these companies for building digital platforms and providing innovative tech solutions.
- Both India and ASEAN present innumerable investment opportunities for investors from across the globe, across multiple sectors. The common denominator being vibrant small and medium and business eco-system, booming technology-based start-ups, and progressive business friendly policies.

3. **Infrastructure Connectivity:** The strategic geo-position of the ASEAN nations with respect to Indian subcontinent plays a major role in highlighting importance of developing infrastructure in the region. It's imperative to understand that there are number of infrastructure projects linking India and ASEAN which are in progress, including the Trilateral Highway connecting India's Northeast to Thailand, the Dawei Deep-sea Port in Myanmar, and the Kaladan Multi-modal Transit Transport Project. These projects will not only enhance transportation links but also be significant factor towards economic integration with the region. Continued commitment and investment are needed for development of infrastructure vide port development, freight carrier corridors to and from ports- both air and sea-ports, connecting highways etc. This would largely facilitate the strengthening of trade in the region and promote people-to people connectivity.

   AIBC India recommends that India and ASEAN need to explore viable infrastructure projects for cooperation, supportive regulatory frameworks, financing and development of physical infrastructure as well as exploring opportunities for improving cross-border transport and communications across India and South East Asian borders.

4. **Technology disruptions in Logistics:** The logistics market in India is forecasted to grow at a CAGR of 10.5% between 2019 and 2025. Online freight platforms and aggregators have been on the rise in the Indian logistics market, given the need for low entry barriers and less capital investment compared to setting up of an asset-based business model. Manufacturing in India holds the potential to contribute up to 25%−30% of the GDP by 2025 which will drive the growth of the warehousing segment in India. E-commerce is another major segment which is expected to support growth of the logistics industry during the forecast period. Increasing investments and trade point towards a healthy outlook for the Indian freight sector.

   New age technology has revolutionised the logistics sector by being a key differentiator. Internet of Things (IoT), Automation technology, Blockchain technology, Cloud Computing, Advanced / Big Data Analysis, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics will be leveraged by market leaders in this domain to provide end-to-end lean and smart logistics solutions, enhance quality, reduce cost and minimise human intervention. Driverless vehicles, wearable devices, warehouse digitization / automation will help achieve operational efficiencies to counter supply-chain cost pressures in the industry.

   AIBC India recommends that ASEAN Logistics start-ups should leverage the opportunity to provide smart solutions as the sector will continue to witness fast paced technology disruptions resulting in real time supply chain visibility. There is a need for technological upgradation and digital transformations for more agility, and integration not only between modes of transportation but also the users and third-party service providers.

5. **ASEAN Travel Card:** Fostering a more endearing people to people connect between citizens of ASEAN nations and India is imperative. The mutual co-existing cultures, shared values and norms have built a social engineering perspective that is nascent to the region. Common customs, traditions and festivals banking on religious practices shared between people, migration and travel seems a given. Although the pandemic hit hard on the tourist economy, there is certainly room for fostering business as well as cross migration of skilled and semi-skilled workforce for economic development of the region.

   AIBC India recommends the ASEAN side to consider introducing short- term business travel card which can facilitate business travel within ASEAN Countries. The business travel card will help to streamline visa processes for business professionals travelling for 60-90 days in the region.

6. **Blue Economy:** Blue economy has emerged as one of the emerging sectors - a significant potential driver of sustainable economic growth in India and ASEAN, and the concept has struck a chord with a number of countries and international organizations, increasingly appearing in policy discussions, conferences, publications and agreements.

   While the discussion has remained largely the domain of government, the private sector is showing more interest in the potential that blue economy holds. Indeed, business will play a critical role as its development unfolds. There is a significant need for private sector capital and expertise to scale up blue economy investments for the benefit of both communities and companies. Blue economy investments are those that consider environmental and social impacts and build the long-term ecological, social and economic health of coastal and marine ecosystems and communities.

   AIBC India recommends that Multilateral collaborative initiatives need to be harnessed between Indian and ASEAN in the blue economy sector. Research and innovations in marine biotechnology, higher access to seabed resources, investment in marine ICT and proper integration of coastal tourism and other services can play a crucial role in injecting stimulus to create additional economic activities for both ASEAN and India.

7. **Education:** Both India and ASEAN countries realise the importance of fostering education as a primary need to fuel growth. Cooperation to develop education models, especially through digital spectrum are proposed. Augmenting the K12 and major university courses in the region to bring students on a common platform is apprehended to foster skill transferability, factor transferability and greater resilience along with common thought processes in the region. It is imperative for countries to join hands and build and share resources to help students achieve a goal for a better tomorrow though common education programs.

8. **Start-Ups:** The emerging stars in developing nations have taken the shape of start-ups − employing and generating wealth at a micro economic level. It is imperative for India and ASEAN to acknowledge inter and intra country entrepreneurship by promoting start-ups. Providing a conducive environment for their flourishing, growing unicorns and adequate financing options are proposed to be one of the key initiatives that need to be understood and covered. Preservation of the start-up ecosystem in the long run would put these companies on a global map and let them enter the free market system, if backed by host countries in an adequate manner.

9. **Climate action and Renewable energy:** Nations across the world are looking for ways to decarbonising their economic growth- a shared goal that India and ASEAN nations need cognizance of. As these economies are characterised by the developing status, manufacturing sectors as well as most industrial projects lead to emissions. The climate agenda proposes that nations strengthen their economic growth whilst in compliance of common actions to achieve the 2030 climate goals − a goal that may only be achieved by mutual, fair and shared cooperation through collective, defined and meritorious efforts.

   Renewable energy creation and utilisation has thus been highlighted as one of the key deliverables required to foster a better climate action plan in swing. Greater areas of cooperation between India and ASEAN to produce, promote and export renewable energy sources is proposed.

10. **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):** Proposed by the United Nations, the 17 sustainable development goals highlight different parameters that bring together nations on a common platform that needs cooperation. It is important for accruing shared values that these goals be planned and fostered through greater India- ASEAN collaboration. While most of these goals fall under conservation of wildlife on land, underwater and preserving of climate, there are issues like women empowerment and child development, poverty alleviation, better working environments and good health and well-being that India and ASEAN nations need to mutually work upon.

    SME Cooperation with Greater Mekong Sub-region: India has been promoting economic cooperation and cultural ties with countries in Asia and the Pacific region through its Act East Policy. Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand (countries in The Greater Mekong Sub Region- GMS) offers immense potential for businesses in India. The region is geographically proximate and is historically and culturally well connected with India. Trade and investment between the two regions have been growing with large potential gains to both regions from integrating with each other in terms of stimulating growth, employment, and boosting resilience. Closer integration with GMS countries offers opportunities for India to diversify its exports, and better link up to the global value chains (GVCs) centred around East Asia.

    FICCI in partnership with Asian Development Bank is working on India − Mekong SME Internationalization Challenge, a platform for SMEs for exploring opportunities for investment & trade between India and Vietnam, Cambodia & Thailand. The programme has been funded by Asian Development Bank and supported by partners Impact Tech and Impact Hub in ASEAN countries.

    AIBC India recommends that there should be more of such capacity building programmes which can provide training, mentorship Growth plan development support, Mentoring by trade experts and business Networking through matchmaking for enhancing SME cooperation between two regions.

11. **Focus on North-East India as Gateway to ASEAN:** FICCI with the support of Ministry of External Affairs will organise a Mekong Ganga Cooperation North- East Summit later this year, to constructively engage private sector and evolve a long-term strategy to deepen economic connect in the sub region, thus serving the greater purpose of ASEAN integration and supporting Act East Policy of the Govt of India. The focus of the summit will be enhancing trade and investment between North-East India and MGC countries with emphasis on connectivity and development of an economic corridor connecting with Southeast Asia, people-to-people connectivity, digital connectivity and infrastructure requirements in terms of roads, railways, inland waterways, airports, and market linkages.

12. **India ASEAN Facilitation Centre** may be considered in line with what ASEAN has with its other FTA partners. AIBC India- FICCI Secretariat has been proposing this for many years and would be happy to lead this initiative with the support of Ministry or Commerce and Industry.

13. **Water Resources and ESG:** Water is a critical area of collaboration for India and ASEAN. ASEAN has recognised the importance of preserving, sustaining and managing the use of water resources as well as adapting new technologies. ASEAN leaders have recognized the importance of this area as well as knowledge sharing for confronting challenges in water resources, integrated water resources management, waste-water management. Water is a huge issue which has been positioned by world economic forum at global level and there is need to look at for collaboration in water resources between India and ASEAN.

There is a need to develop common taxonomy around Environment Social Governance (ESG) to help direct foreign investment. A discussion or dialogue on ESG, to have some commonality of thinking between India and ASEAN would be important. It could be made part of India ASEAN technology & innovation partnership or could be established under ASCC Blueprint 2025.

14. **Digital Agreement/ MoU with ASEAN:** There is huge opportunity of collaboration in E Commerce sector between India and ASEAN countries. Existing India ASEAN FTA does not adequately include E-commerce trade. Establishing a digital trade or E Commerce agreement between India and ASEAN would help in promoting digital connectivity in current scenario.

15. **Tourism and Hospitality** are among the worst hit sectors due to the pandemic. Accelerating opening borders with travel bubbles in India and ASEAN and a regional policy will help ease restrictions and stimulate tourism sector in these economies.

    Laying out a clear roadmap with milestones for markets to open would be beneficial for independent hotel owners to plan their investments better in the new normal. There is also a need to bring in consistency in tourism policies across markets from sanitization and certification in post covid world to licensing and operations across the ASEAN regions.

    In addition to all of the above, few other recommendations are proposed by AIBC India :

    i. Two sides should consider collaboration in areas such as Digitization, Pharmaceuticals & Medical Equipment, E-commerce, Women Empowerment & Youth Empowerment.
    ii. Financing of commercial vehicles is another important area of cooperation between India and ASEAN. There is lack of financing for customers who wants to buy Indian products in ASEAN markets. Indian banks can collaborate with local banks in ASEAN countries in order to support Indian automobile distributors.
    iii. Indian Public sector is looking at USD 1 Billion projects in ASEAN countries and willing to consider joint venture projects where knowledge and capital/financing can be provided by India. Public sectors from both the regions can identify mutual areas of cooperation and identify projects where India can play an integral role for investments or practice barter system with each other based on the expertise.

The events and meetings participated by AIBC or organized by AIBC Asean in collaboration with other organizations is in Annex 1. And key initiatives of FICC and AIBC India is in Annex 2.

ANNEX 1 -
AIBC ASEAN ACTIVITIES

Events/Meetings from Oct 2020 – August 2021October 2020

- EU-ASEAN Business Council: Banking on Digital Inclusivity in ASEAN, Post Pandemic
- Rejuvenating South Asia: Towards New Source of Competitiveness
- Malaysian Economy Summit "Covid-19: Assessing Financial & Economic Impacts & Its Aftermath
- ABC Dialogue – UK-AASEAN Trade & Investment: Emerging Opportunity & Outlook PostBretix &Covid-19
- CARI Briefings – How can ASEAN Bounce Back: A US Perspective
- ASEAN Startup Forum 2020: Cooperation Towards Transparency in Digital Era
- Ascon Web Series– Development, Prosperity & the Eastern Neighborhood: Voices from North Eastern States in India
- Courtesy Call on YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister & Minister of International Trade & Industry Malaysia
- ASEAN-Bac Virtual Dialogue with Sabah MSME's: Unlocking Sabah's Potential in the Post Covid-19 World
- Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) Coping with Covid-19 in ASEAN Challenges of Digitalization
- New Zealand Mission to ASEAN: Covid-19 Robust Economies Regional Impacts of Covid-19 and Options of Recovery
- Engagement with SME Associations and Business Chambers by Bank Negara Malaysia

November 2020

- The 9th ERIA's Editors Roundtable (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN & East Asia
- RIS Webinar On "India & Argentine in the New World Order"
- Invitation to Release of ASEAN-India Development & Cooperation Report 2021
- Vietnam Business Summit (VBS) & ASEAN Trade & Investment Summit (ASEAN BIS) 2020
- ASEAN-Japan Cooperation: "Enhancing Digital Trade Connectivity in ASEAN"
- FICCI Global Young Leaders Summit 2020
- FICCI President's International MoU Partners & Investment Agencies
- RIS Webinar "Covid-19 & Mental Health Response in South Asia: Opportunities for Learning & Cooperation"
- ASEAN Secretariat "Focus Group Discussion on ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025 Mid Term Review
- Webinar on "Future Roadmap for Global Economic Recovery: Reflections on G20 Riyadh Summit & Beyond
- ERIA "Survey Launch: The Impact of Covid-19 on Foreign Businesses across ASEAN

December 2020

- EU-ASEAN Business Council Webinar "Vaccine Confidence in the time of Covid-19: Asia's time to act"
- Investment Forum – North East India Indo-Pacific Virtual Investor Summit
- WRA-IKMAS/UKM Webinar Series: Webinar #2 on the Outlook of Budget 2021 for Malaysia's Economy
- ERIA's MSME Talk# Innovation Eco Systems & Roles of ASEAN Startups & MSMEs
- United Nations Global Compact Webinar: Rebuilding Resilience Through Sustainable Finance in Asia Pacific
- FICCI's Annual Convention & Annual Expo 2020 "Inspired India"
- Covid-19: Wakeup Call for Better Cooperation between Science & Policy Making -UNDP
- Webinar Series: ICC Annual Session & AGM Interactive Session with Shri Piyush Goyal
- ICSI 'Global Education Roadmap-Post Covid-19: What Should Be Done by Education Establishments? Focus ASEAN-India Region"
- UK-ASEAN Business Council "UKABC Roundtable on the UK-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement"
- Infra Financing: The Road to India's Recovery & Growth
- Webinar Series: Road map to Delhi VI-South-South Partnership to Foster decent Work for Sustainable Development

January 2021

- Courtesy Call on YB' Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister & Minister of International Trade & Industry Malaysia
- Courtesy Call on His Excellency Cheuy Vichet – Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Malaysia
- India U.S. Trade Townhall 'Indo Pacific Vision: Economic Opportunities & Challenges for India"
- UKABC Forum on Brunei's Chairmanship of ASEAN 2021
- ASEAN on Point' Public Forum Fake News: Tackling Disinformation in ASEAN
- Formal Handover Ceremony of ASEAN Bac Chairmanship to Brunei
- Invitation to Join Exclusive Interaction with Ms. Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (EAST) Ministry of External Affairs
- RIS – Global Trends in Triangular Co-Operation with India – Emerging Policy Choices for Enhanced Collaboration with Civil Society Organizations
- India UK Business Forum
- Webinar on Invest ASEAN: Italian Industry Expertise in Malaysia

February 2021

- Bay of Bengal Economic Forum
- DISG – 4th Webinar "Upgrading Food Value Chain in Mekong and ASEAN
- UK-ASEAN Business Council "UKABC Forum on Sustainable Opportunities in Cambodia

- Interaction with Tarun Bajaj, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs Ministry of Finance, Government of India on India's Union Budget 2021-22
- Engagement with SME Association on Moratorium & Targeted Relief Assistance (Bank Negara Malaysia)
- US-ASEAN: "A Vision for Cross-Border E-Commerce in ASEAN Workshop"
- Meeting with High Commissioner of India to Malaysia. H.E. Shri Mridul Kumar
- India-ASEAN Healthcare Expo Summit "Inaugural of the Exhibition & Session with AIBC & ASEAN Partners"
- Courtesy Call on YB Dato' Seri Azmin Ali- Senior Minister of Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia
- International Research Conference" Harnessing India's Resources to make India Self-Reliant in Collaboration with ASEAN Countries"
- Future Energy Asia: "Recovery & Rebound of the ASEAN Energy Sector – Outlook for 2021"

March 2021

- Inauguration of Maritime India Summit 2021 by Shri Narendra Modi
- RIS Invitation: International Economic Forum on Asia on the theme Digitalization &Development: Reflections from Asia
- FICCI's Digital Conference on Distressed Debt in India Infrastructure Sector with special focus on EPC
- CII - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Conference "Al for Industry – Al for All"
- DISG – 5th Webinar "The background, significance, implications & future prospects of the RCEP from the viewpoint of evolving regional economic architecture"
- ERIA-Building Dementia-Friendly Communities in Asia Pacific
- Webinar – "Invest in Maldives" by the High Commissioner of Maldives to Malaysia
- EU-ASEAN Business Council – Webinar to Europe's New Trade Policy: What's in it for ASEAN?

April 2021

- FICCI- Creative & Digital Economy: A New Fusion between Mr. Uday Shankar, President of FICCI and The Right Hon' The Baroness Prashar of Runnymede CBE PC, Chairperson – FICCI UK Council
- Webinar – ASEAN Healthcare 2021: "Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout and the Recovery of the ASEAN Economy"
- RIS: Invitation to Webinar on Priorities for Growth and Stability in Post Covid-19 World: Role ofG20 Framework Working Group
- ERIA- Women Participation in the Digital Economy: Improving Access to Skills, Entrepreneurship& Leadership Across ASEAN
- ERIA: 'ASEAN on Point' Public Forum Preparing ASEAN Workforce for Post-COVID-19
- Virtual Launch of the Mid-Term Review Report of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)Blueprint 2025
- Future Energy Asia Webinar: Capturing Solar and Wind Sector Opportunities in Southeast Asia

May 2021

- ASEAN Research & Advocacy "Towards Green Recovery in ASEAN Post Pandemic"
- ASEAN-UK Race to Zero Dialogues
- EU-ASEAN Business Council "EU-Singapore on Enabling Cross Border Data Flows"
- Meeting with Ambassador Shri Jayant Khobragade

June 2021

- ASIAN Confluence "Impact of the Myanmar Crisis on North-East India"
- ASEAN-India Centre Lecture Series Report
- ASEAN-BAC Malaysia Webinar 2021: RCEP and CPTPP as Game-Changers in ASEAN's Post Covid-19 Economic Recovery
- Courtesy Call on Her Excellency Johariah Wahab, Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to the Philippines
- Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) "ICC EDTECH Summit – The Education Technology Trends in India – Vision 2025"
- Future Energy Asia: Financing Dialogue "Renewable Energy Project Briefing in Southeast Asia"
- Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) "ICC EDTECH Summit – The Education Technology Trends in India – Vision 2025"
- PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) Webinar "Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Business Responsibility & Sustainability Reporting (BRSR)

- EU-ASEAN Business Council "Keeping Asia's Ageing Population Healthy: The Role of Life-Course Immunization
- Courtesy Call Meeting with His Excellency Hoang Huy Chung, Ambassador of Viet Nam to the Philippines

July 2021

- Courtesy Call Meeting with His Excellency Gerard Ho Wei Hong – Ambassador of Singapore to the Philippines
- ASEAN Studies Centre (Chulalongkorn University), the Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC-CNRS) & ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) 's International Asia's Post-Pandemic Order and Integration: Outlook of ASEAN and the Indo-Pacific at Crossroads
- MITI's Virtual Meeting with AIBC – To discuss the draft Scoping for the ASEAN-India trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Review commented by India and updates from AIBC
- MITI – Briefing on Empowerment of Employers in Prevention of Covid-19 in Workplace
- The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Webinar on Investment Opportunities in State Owned Enterprises and Urban Development
- AIBC & InCham Cambodia "MSME's Forum
- ASEAN-Centre for Energy – IEA Webinar: The Role of Industry in Building Policy Development
- CARI ASEAN Research Advocacy "Pathway to Green Recovery for ASEAN Dialogues: ASEAN Private Sector's Perspective"
- ASEAN Secretariat Invitation to be a Panelist (Dato' Ramesh) for "Unlocking RCEP for Business: Trade in Goods"
- CARI ASEAN Research Advocacy "ASEAN Tourism Webinar 2021: Outlook and Pathways to Recovery'
- Asian Confluence Online dialogue on "A prosperous Indo-Pacific: Enhancing Cooperation in India's NE and Eastern Neighborhood
- FICCI Capital Market Conference & Special Session on Vaccines Digitization of Financial Assets; Global Perspective and Sustainable Finance
- ASIAN Confluence "Russia-India-Sri Lanka Trilateral Dialogue – Impact of Climate Change on fresh Water Resources and Combating Water Pollution"
- AIBC-InCham Zoom Meeting "Economy: Pre & Post and Role of the Banking Sector"

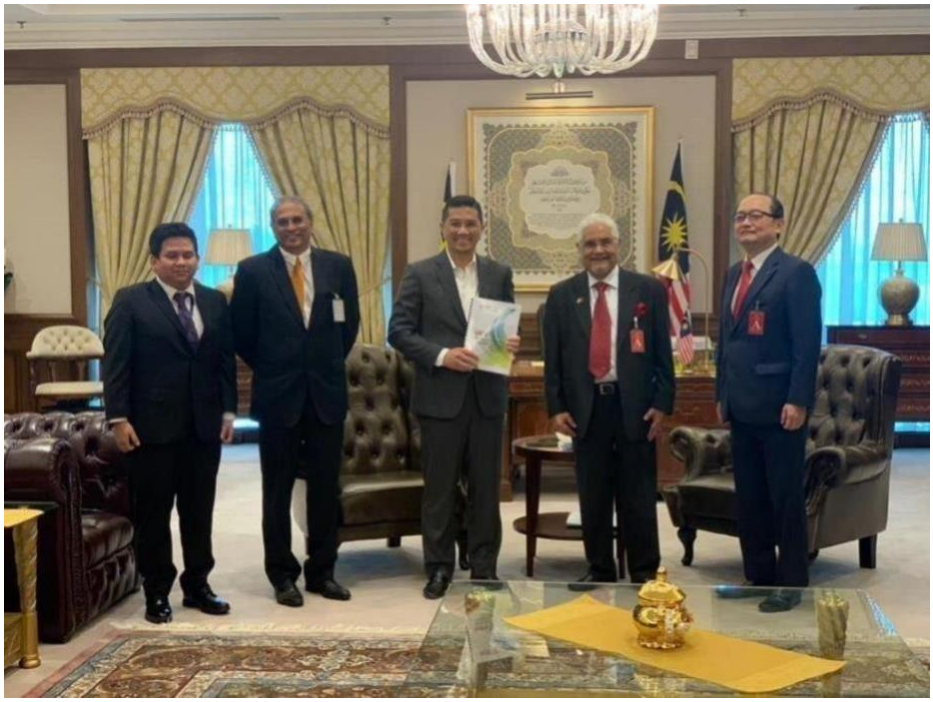
August 2021

- EABC Webinar on Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) – Trade Tool for Business Recovery in East Asia
- AIBC – InCham Zoom Meeting - Impact on Bilateral Trade between ASEAN and India during Covid Pandemic
- ASEAN-BAC "5th Symposium on the ASEAN Single Window: Marking Achievements & Pursuing Progress for the Future"
- AIBC-InCham Zoom Meeting with SME sectors in Cambodia
- FMM Webinar on Comprehensive & Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP):Your Covid-19 Business Recovery Tool to Boost Trade
- AIBC & InCham Cambodia - Pre and Post Covid: Perspectives on the New Normal
- AIBC Council Members Meeting ASEAN & India
- AIBC – InCham Zoom Meeting "Importance of Start-ups in Today's World
- ASEAN-BAC Business Investment Roundtable 2021 on Fintech and Financial Literacy
- FICCI – First Event of India-Mekong Networking Series "Trading Across Borders' under the Asian Development Bank's India – Mekong SME Internationalization Program
- Research & Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) -Horizon Europe "The Way Forward in India-EU Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation
- FICCI's Young Leaders Forum "Fireside Chat with Members of Parliament





Meeting with Dato' Seri Azmin Ali, Senior Minister of International Trade & Industry Malaysia withthe presence of Dato' Ramesh Kodammal, Shri Mridul Kumar, High Commissioner of India to Malaysia and Dr. Varun Jeph.



Meeting with Dato' Seri Azmin Ali, Senior Minister of International Trade & Industry Malaysia byDato' Ramesh Kodammal and AIBC members.



Courtesy Callon His Excellency Ambassador of Cambodia to Malaysia by Dato' Ramesh Kodammal and Mr Sharan Valiram.


Unlocking RCEP for Business
Trade in Goods
26 July 2021 (Monday) | 14:00 – 16:00 (GMT+7)
In collaboration with:
East Asia Business Council
Keynote Speakers
H.E. Dato' Lim Jock Hoi
Secretary-General of ASEAN
Mr. Iman Pambagyo
Former, RCEP TNC chair
Scan to Register:
shorturl.at/IsCOP
Contents:
- Significance of the RCEP Agreement, the prospect for regional economic integration in ASEAN and East Asia
- Feature of the RCEP Agreement: (i) tariff liberalization i.e. market access commitments for trade in goods, navigating the Tariff Reduction Schedules (Annex I), understanding "tariff differentials"; (ii) non-tariff measures i.e. Import licensing, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures; ; and (iii) trade remedies, safeguards, anti-dumping and countervailing measures.
Speakers
Ms. Anna Robeniol
Director of Market Integration, ASEAN Secretariat
Mr. Brasukra Gumilang
Head of External Economic Relations, ASEAN Secretariat
Mr. Oscar Fernando
Young Professional, World Trade Organization
Panelists
Ms. Maria Esperanza F.
Senior Expert on International Trade, ARISE Plus
Datuk M Supperamaniam
Chief Advisor, Insight Think Tank
Ms. Donna Gultom
Treasurer of the Board, CIPS
Dato' Ramesh Kodammal
Co Chair, ASEAN-India Business Council


IDEA
International Dynamic Entrepreneurs Alliance
www.aaa-idea.com
OPEN INVITATION
Entrepreneurs Get-together on The Occasion of
World Entrepreneurs Day
21st August, 2021, Saturday, IST 5:45 PM onwards
Key Note Speaker on Entrepreneurship
Dato Ramesh Kodammal
Chairman-ASEAN-India Business Council
Chairman-Goldtext Group of Companies
Malaysia
Felicitation of Successful Entrepreneurs / Professionals, Who will Also Share Their Experiences
Mr Mike Dawson
CEO & Co- founder
Ustad Mobile
Dubai
Mr Sandeep Majumdar
Chairman & Managing Director
Curewel International Co Ltd
Cambodia
Ms Vasudha Sondhi
Managing Director
OMPL Group
India
Mr A Jeff Johnson
Managing Director
Purple Prime Limited
Nigeria
Mr Arvind Raghunathan
Co-founder & Director
APIC Group
India
Mr Kumaresan C
Director
SGC Impex Group
Jetmore Aviation Co Ltd
Thailand
Mr K Anil Kumar
Managing Director
KPC Projects Limited
India
Mr Deepak Shenoy
Director
Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd
India
Mr Jakka Sathyanarayana
Managing Director
Aanandham Group
India
Mr Shashank Rao Sahib
Executive Officer
Sri Nuthatch Nutricare Technologies (Cafe Udupi Ruchi), India
Ms Nikhila Ravishankar
Zomato Ltd
India
Mr Shaik Akbar
Managing Director
Googee properties Pvt Ltd
India
Mr Ajit Sharma
Managing Director
Global Proxima Solutions Pvt Ltd
India
Ms. Hemalatha
Director
Hoven Nine Industries Sdn Bhd
Malaysia
Limited Participants Allowed
Register in Advance
Pre-registration Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsd-mprTsuEtbhXqUVeOZA9vLjdvcSPT1b
Zoom Session

AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL

InCham
CAMBODIA

Bridging Borders Through Business

Pre and Post Covid: Perspectives on the New Normal



Dato Ramesh Kodammal
Co-Chair
ASEAN-INDIA Business Council
Country Chair, AIBC Malaysia



Suhas Joshi
Regional Treasury Advisor
International Monetary Fund
Thailand



Prof. Ujjwal K. Chowdhury
Educationalist, Former Pro VC,
Adamas University
Former Dean, Symbiosis & Amity



Sandeep Majumdar
President
India Chamber of Commerce
Cambodia

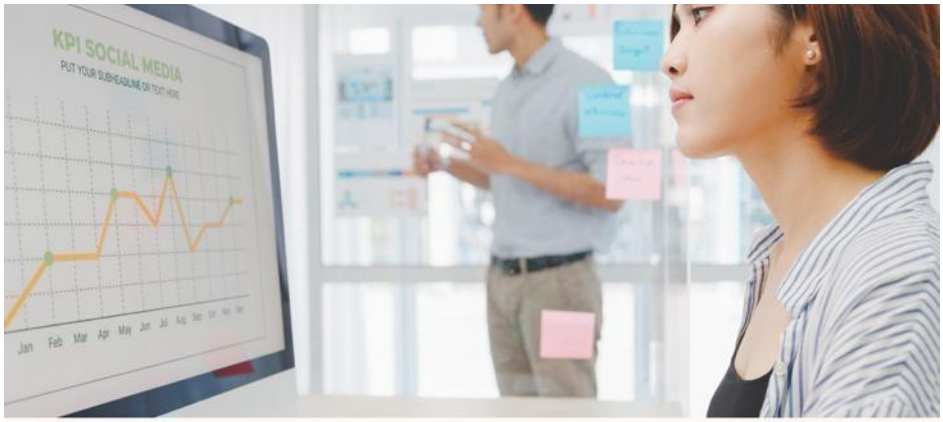


Johnny Chotrani
Country Chair
ASEAN-INDIA Business Council
Philippines

AUG 14 2021 04:00 pm Malaysia time Via Zoom **FREE REGISTRATION**

www.aibcasean.com Zoom ID: 839 4851 9700 Passcode: AIBC


AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL
InCham CAMBODIA
Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
The Voice of Business
Bridging Borders Through Business
Impact on Bilateral Trade between ASEAN and INDIA during Covid pandemic
Speakers
Dato Ramesh Kodammal
Co-Chair ASEAN-INDIA Business Council
Country Chair, AIBC Malaysia
H.E. Pranay Verma
Ambassador of India to Vietnam
H.E. Ung Sean
Ambassador of Cambodia to India
Sandeep Majumdar
President
India Chamber of Commerce, Cambodia
Indronil Sengupta
Country Chair
AIBC
Vietnam
Johnny Chotrani
Country Chair
AIBC
Philippines
AUG 4
2021
Start 11:30 am
Malaysia time
Via Zoom
FREE
REGISTRATION
www.aibcasean.com
Zoom ID: 810 5653 9659 Passcode: AIBC



AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL

InCham
CAMBODIA

ECONOMY: PRE & POST COVID AND ROLE OF THE BANKING SECTOR



DATO RAMESH KODAMMAL
Co-Chair
ASEAN - India Business Council
AIBC Chair, Malaysia



SANDEEP MAJUMDAR
President
India Chamber of Commerce
Cambodia



DEBASISH MALLICK
EX Deputy Managing Director
Exim Bank
India



ONG TEONG HOON
Director and Shareholder Representative
Phillip Bank
Cambodia

Role of the BANKING SECTOR

COVID-19 has generated significant instability and high volatility in global capital markets. While the full impact is yet to be determined, it's expected that the adverse impact are likely to continue from the virus' knock-on effects. We explore the areas of the overall banking sector most likely to be impacted, including valuation and profitability.

Meeting ID: 892 3459 7881
Passcode: AIBC
FREE REGISTRATION

zoom

Saturday
July 31, 2021
Malaysia 11:30 am


AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL
MSME's
zoom
Forum
InCham
CAMBODIA
DATO RAMESH KODAMMAL
Co-Chair
ASEAN - India Business Council
AIBC Chair, Malaysia
SANDEEP MAJUMDAR
President
India Chamber of Commerce
Cambodia
SHRI VIJAY TIWARI
President
Indo European Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises, India
SHANTI SHAMDASNI
Country Chair
ASEAN-India Business Council
Indonesia
OKNHA SOK DARA
Vice President
Federation of Association for SME's of Cambodia
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in ASEAN greatly contribute to livelihoods, communities and economies in the region because they account for up to 99% of business establishments in key sectors, contribute to more than 50% of ASEAN's GDP and employ more than 80% of the workforce.
Zoom Registration
https://bit.ly/aibcincham
Saturday | July 17, 2021
Malaysia 11:30 am

ANNEX 2 -
AIBC INDIA AND FICCI ACTIVITIES

Key FICCI and AIBC India Activities in 2020 and 2021

Virtual ASEAN India Business Council Meeting27 August 2020

FICCI as Secretariat of ASEAN – India Business Council organised an exclusive virtual interaction of AIBC Members with **Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Government of India on 27th August 2020.** The meeting was attended by senior Industry leaders from India and ASEAN and senior officials of Government of India.

Addressing the AIBC Members meeting, **Shri Piyush Goyal** said that 3Cs- Cooperation, Collaboration and Commitment, will guide the strategic partnership between India and ASEAN countries. He also expressed that India has taken major steps towards Atma Nirbhar Bharat, ready to engage with rest of the world with a deep concern for the global communityas a whole.

Dr Sangita Reddy, Co-Chair (India), ASEAN – India Business Council and President, FICCI & Joint Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group shared that India need to work along with ASEAN countries for reduction of Non – tariff barriers, building Infrastructure and Connectivity ,integrating Logistics, Seamless Digital Connect, collaboration in Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals and push for review of AITIGA. She highlighted that collective thoughts of ASEAN members will outline a roadmap towards seamless movement of goods and services.

Dato Ramesh Kodammal, Co-Chair (ASEAN) emphasised that ASEAN and India should take concrete steps towards increasing the trade between two regions as the regions offer a huge market consisting of one-third of world's population together.

Mr Sandip Somany, Immediate Past President, FICCI and Vice Chairman & Managing Director of HSIL Limited suggested that Fast Tracking Mechanism for priority clearance of Import-export cargo under, Joint working group between Government and industry and adherence to Rules of Origin norms to be considered while reviewing India ASEAN FTA.

Minister shared that India is prepared for discussions with ASEAN Countries for review of AITIGA for mutually beneficial partnership and fairer trade.



Dr Sangita Reddy, Co-Chair (India), ASEAN – India Business Council and President, FICCI & Joint Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group addressing the ASEAN India Business Council Meeting 2020



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Government of India addressing the members of India and ASEAN at ASEAN India Business Council Meeting



Mr Sandip Somany, Past President, FICCI and Vice Chairman & Managing Director of HSIL Limited addressing the ASEAN India Business Council Meeting

17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations29 August 2020

Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways and H.E. Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade of Vietnam co-chaired the 17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations held virtually on 29th August 2020. The meeting was attended by the Trade Ministers of all the 10 ASEAN countries Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

FICCI as the Indian secretariat of ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) presented recommendations of 2020 to enhance trade and investment between India and ASEAN.

Dr. Sangita Reddy, Co-Chair AIBC (India) reiterated the quote of Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, that India and ASEAN are two bright spots of optimism. She further said that India and ASEAN should develop a roadmap for collaboration in Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals sectors along with knowledge exchange and digital connectivity. She shared that special incentives for Indian Pharmaceutical companies should be introduced for setting up plants in dedicated ASEANzones.

Dr. Reddy, further recommended that India and ASEAN facilitate greater knowledge sharing and best practices, collaborative research, capacity building, and training programs in the areas of Artificial Intelligence, Big data, and Blockchain, especially focusing on financial services, health tech, and transportation, etc. This will help us achieve long term economic growth and positive social outcomes.

Dato Ramesh Kodammal, Co-Chair AIBC (ASEAN) said that the business community of ASEAN and India has tremendous partnership potential to take this economic engagement to greater heights. From the ASEAN side, Dato Kodammal said that a review of AITIGA is critical as India's participation at RCEP is still not certain. He also emphasised that Rules of Origin norms between India and ASEAN need to be discussed as part of the negotiations.



Dr Sangita Reddy, Co-Chair (India), ASEAN – India Business Council and President, FICCI & Joint Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group sharing the Recommendations of Indian members atASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Government of India addressing ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting

Interaction with Ms Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary East, Ministry of External Affairs on 'India's Engagement with World's Growth Centre – ASEAN and Oceania Region'
22 January 2021

Addressing the session **'India's Engagement with World's Growth Centre – ASEAN and Oceania Region'**,**Ms Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs** emphasised on the importance of India's relations with ASEAN and Oceania countries for enhancing collaboration in areas such as Digital connectivity, Information Technology, Fintech, Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.

Ms Das highlighted the centrality of these two regions in terms of India's vision for Indo-pacific and urged the industry to explore opportunities in emerging areas of cooperation like Blue economy, Disaster management and Sustainable development, Defence cooperation, building connectivity through India- Myanmar- Thailand Trilateral Highway.

Key principles of Act East Policy are promotion of economic cooperation, cultural ties, and development of strategic relationship with countries in Indo pacific region, added **Ms Das**.



Ms Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary East, MEA addressing the industry members during the interaction

Mr Uday Shankar, President, FICCI highlighted that in order to build new and resilient supply chains with ASEAN and Oceania region, we must upgrade the skilling, improve logistics services, and strengthen the infrastructure connectivity with ASEAN and Oceania region.

He further added that sectors such as Start-ups and innovation, E-commerce, Infrastructure, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, etc. hold the maximum promise for collaboration between India and the countries in the ASEAN and Oceania region.

Mr Shankar also laid emphasis on business and economic cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as start-ups, and innovation, empowerment of youth and women and the development of MSMEs for elevating the plateau of our relationship with ASEAN and Oceania countries.



Mr Uday Shankar, President FICCI delivering Welcome remarks during the interaction

Mr Dilip Chenoy, Secretary General, FICCI delivered the vote of thanks.

The session also talked about how India can become the next potential alternative to theworld, for de-risking business, bringing an opportunity to be part of global value chains.



Mr Dilip Chenoy, Secretary General, FICCI presenting Green Certificate to Ms Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary East, Ministry of External affairs

2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum meeting
(Virtual)18 February, 2021

FICCI in partnership with Singapore Business Federation, and with the support Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry organised the second meeting of India-Singapore CEOs forum on 18th February 2021, to further strengthen the India- Singapore economic and investment relations,

Addressing the 2nd Meeting of India-Singapore CEOs Forum', **Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry,** Govt of India highlighted three Bs- Buddhism, Bollywood and Business, for enhancing India- Singapore relations.

Mr Goyal also emphasized on creating a forum for women entrepreneurs, for both India and Singapore for sharing of experiences and success stories. He also stressed on education and skill development being key pillars for strengthening India- Singapore ties.

Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Govt of Singapore urged for a greater engagement between the businesses on both sides. He emphasized on 3Ds- Development, Diversification and Digital Economy for building a partnership that will benefit the two economies.

Mr Uday Shankar, President, FICCI said that India-Singapore enjoys multifaceted strategic relations and both nations are supporting each other in the endeavor to reinvigorate multilateralism.

Mr Harshavardhan Neotia, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum, Past President, FICCI and Chairman, Ambuja Neotia Group said that the Forum will focus on two working groups, viz., Innovative technologies and Advanced Manufacturing. It would cover the aspects of women empowerment in business, education and skills, in these areas. He also emphasised facilitating collaboration in Artificial Intelligence, IoT, blockchain and Big Data, Advanced manufacturing, Infrastructure Financing, e-Commerce and Healthcare.

Mr Gautam Banerjee, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum, Senior Managing Director and Chairman, Blackstone Singapore said, "In January 1994, the then Singapore Prime Minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong started a 'mild India fever' with his visit to India with a group of Singapore businessmen. Since that historical visit not only has bilateral trade and investment between the two countries grown significantly but the level of knowledge, confidence and desire of businesses from both countries to invest and operate in each other's territories has grown at a healthy pace. The India-Singapore CEOs Forum will help identify new areas of cooperation, investment and partnership between businesses of both countries."

The members of India- Singapore CEOs Forum also agreed to work towards resolving regulatory issues and processes affecting bilateral trade and investment between the two countries.

Co-Chairs Mr Neotia and Mr Banerjee presented a Joint Intention document with proposals for collaboration to Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry, Government of India and **Mr S Iswaran**, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore.

FICCI
@ficci_india

India - Singapore enjoy multifaceted strategic relations: Mr Uday Shankar, President, FICCI at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



Uday Shankar and 6 others

12:40 PM · Feb 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

Replying to @ficci_india

Both India & Singapore are supporting each other in the endeavor to reinvigorate multilateralism: Mr Uday Shankar, President, FICCI at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



Uday Shankar and 9 others

1 4

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

The Budget 2021 lays a strong foundation for Atmanirbhar Bharat and lays a strong roadmap for the industry: Mr @HNeotia, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum & Past President, FICCI at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



Minister of Commerce and Industry and 5 others

1 1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

We suggest reviewing the employment pass framework of Singapore: Mr @HNeotia, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum & Past President, FICCI at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



Minister of Commerce and Industry and 2 others

1 1 1

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

There is an opportunity for Singapore to be a bridge for India in growing South Asia and East Asia market: Mr Gautam Banerjee, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.

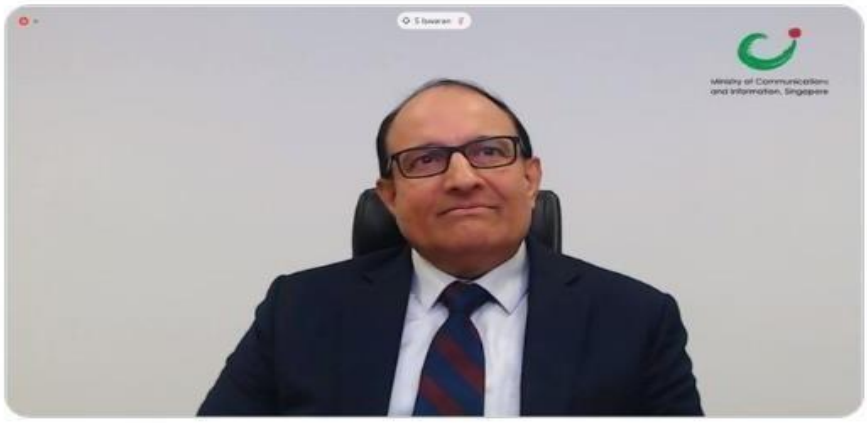


Dept of Commerce, GoI and 2 others

1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

This forum is a reminder of our people-to-people connect: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



MCI and 9 others

1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

Together we are embarking on new projects especially in the area of fintech: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



MCI and 9 others

1

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

Singapore remains open to international business investment and ties: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India-Singapore CEOs Forum.

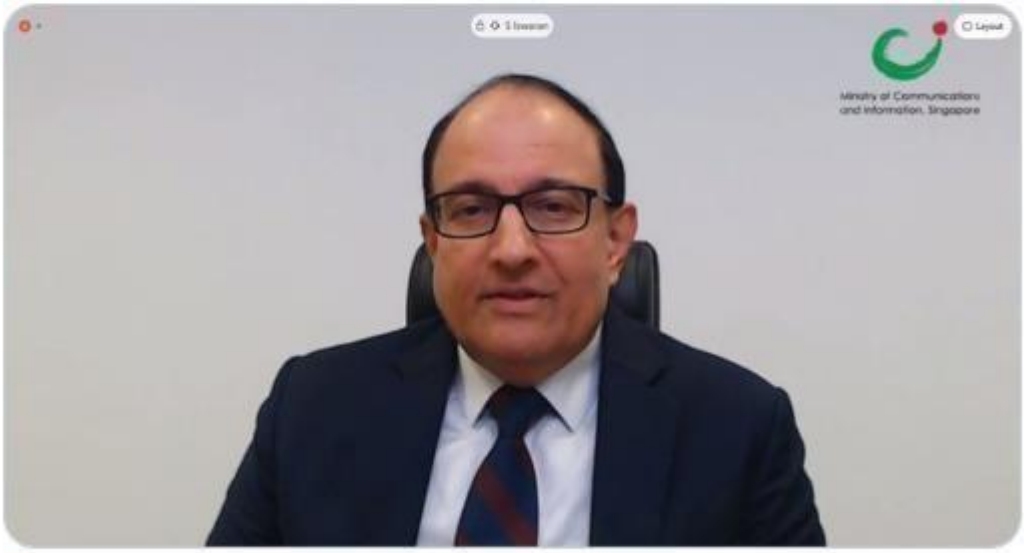


MCI and 9 others

1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

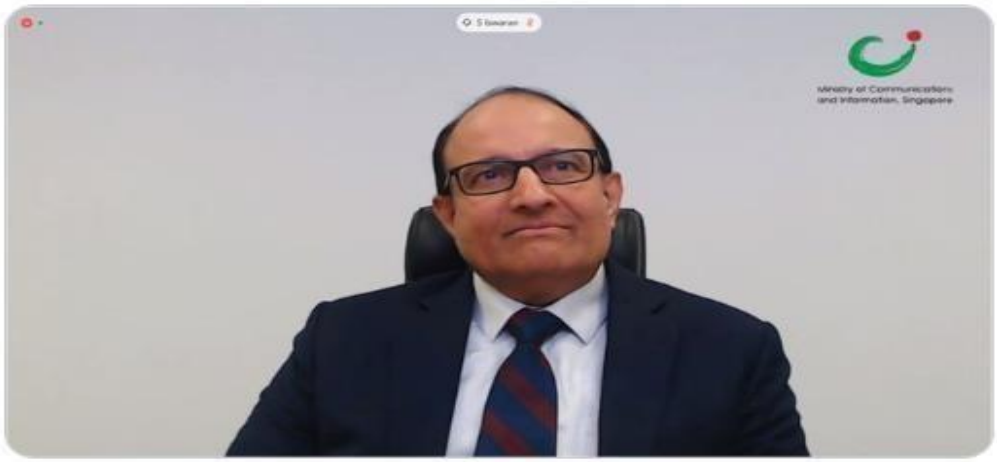
India's growing preference for renewable energy especially solar will open new avenues for cooperation: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications & Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



1 1

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

Singapore is bullish on India's potential and entrepreneurial caliber: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India-Singapore CEOs Forum.



MCI and 9 others

1 1

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

Three areas of collaboration between India and Singapore are development, diversification and digital economy: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



MCI and 9 others

1 1 1

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

We will be working with the Government of India on a structure to enable digital trade: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

India-Singapore relations will continue to flourish with a keen eye on new opportunities: Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Government of Singapore at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



1 5

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

A great deal of innovation & technology can truly transform the relations between India and Singapore: Mr @PiyushGoyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



1 1 4

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

I look at expanding India-Singapore ties resting on the base of people to people connect: Mr @PiyushGoyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.



1 1 4

FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 18

We welcome attracting Indian businesses to manufacture in Singapore: Mr @PiyushGoyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry at 2nd meeting of India- Singapore CEOs Forum.

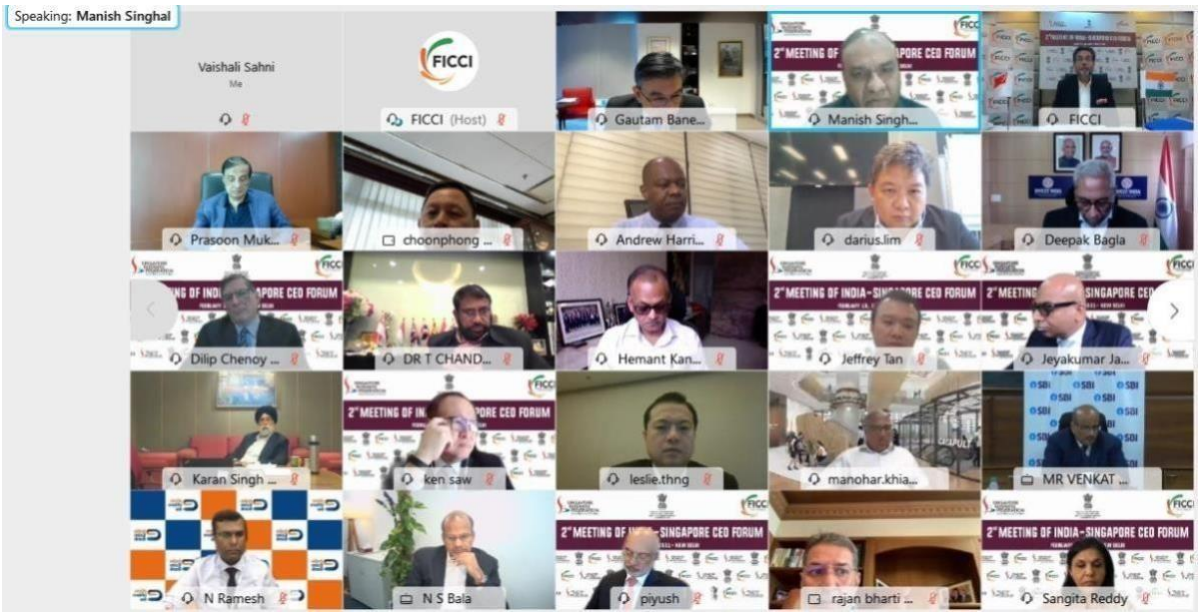


2

Group Photographs






Speaking: Manish Singhal
Vaishali Sahni
Me
FICCI (Host)
Gautam Bane...
Manish Singh...
FICCI
Prasoon Muk...
choonphong ...
Andrew Harri...
darius.lim
Deepak Bagla
Dilip Chenoy ...
DR T CHAND...
Hemant Kan...
Jeffrey Tan
Jeyakumar Ja...
Karan Singh ...
ken saw
leslie.thng
manohar.khia...
MR VENKAT ...
N Ramesh
N S Bala
piyush
rajan bharti ...
Sangita Reddy

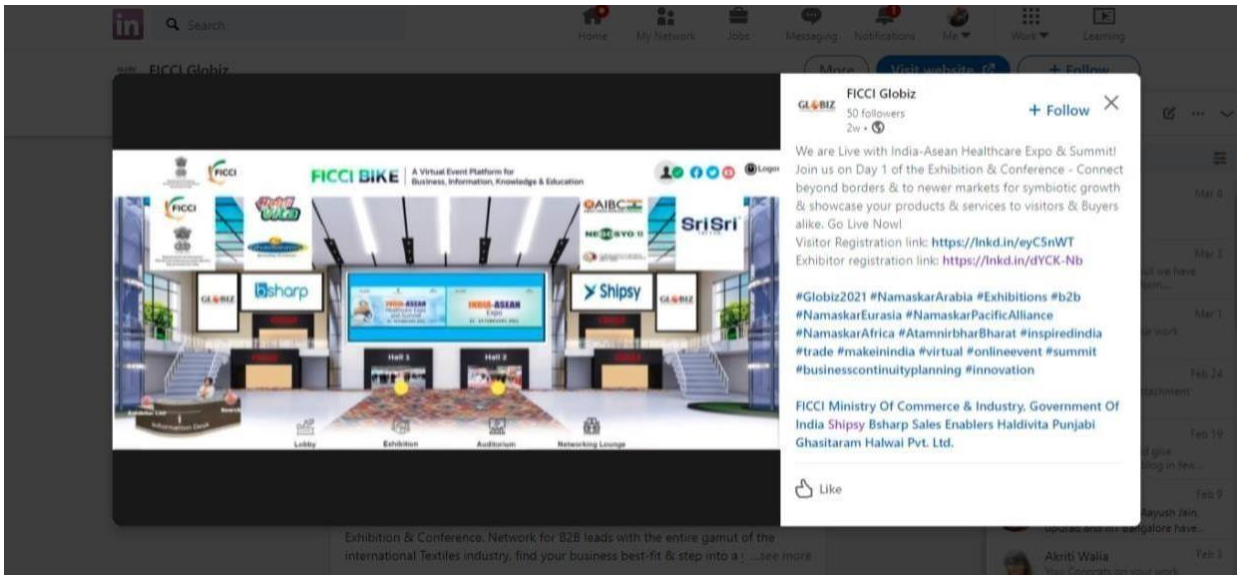

Vaishali Sahni
Me
FICCI (Host)
Gautam Banerjee
Andrew Harrison GMCA...
FICCI
choonphong Goh
Deepak Bagla
Dilip Chenoy FICCI
DR T CHANDROO
Jeyakumar Janakaraj Ad...
Karan Singh Thakral
ken saw
leslie.thng
Manish Singhal
MR VENKAT NAGESWA...
manohar.khiatani
N S Bala
Navita Myer
piyush
Robert Yap
shahzad nasim
Sunil Mehta
Tushar Vashisht
Sangita Reddy
Wei-Chieh SOO

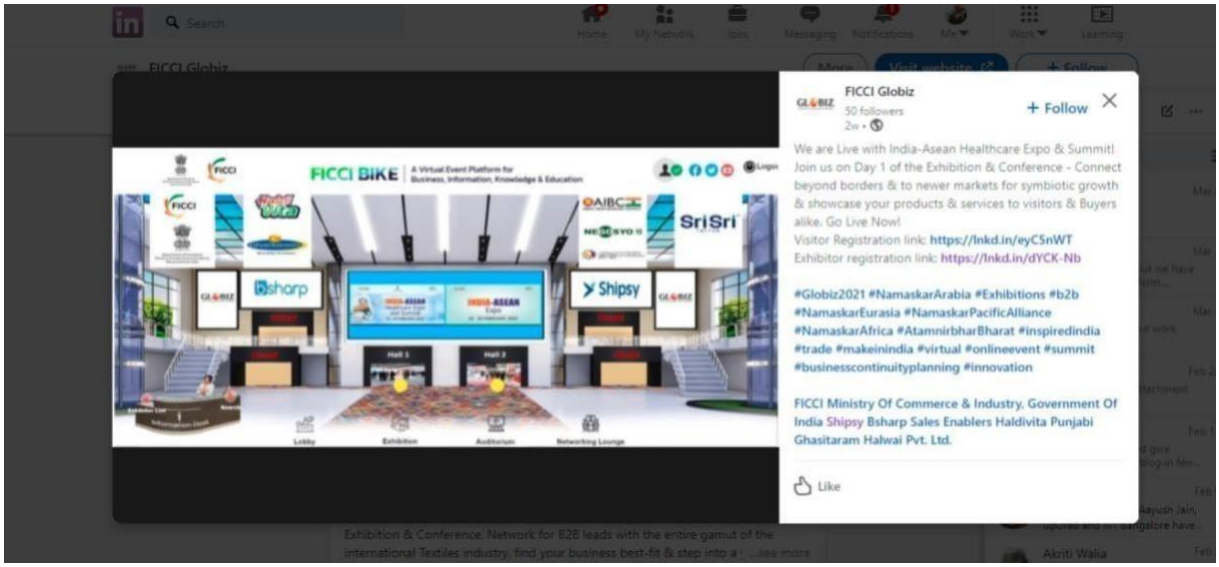
India ASEAN Healthcare Virtual Expo & Summit
202122-24 February 2021

FICCI organized India ASEAN Healthcare Virtual Expo & Summit 2021 from 22-24 February 2021 on FICCI BIKE (Virtual Platform). Expo offered a platform to showcase India's technical capabilities and relevant technologies in healthcare sector.

The main objective of organizing the event was to enable Indian companies in Healthcare, Pharmaceuticals, Medical Equipment and Pharma Machinery to capture opportunities in healthcare industry and market across globe in these tough times.
The 3-days exhibition **22-24 Feb'** kick started with the inaugural session **'India - ASEAN Healthcare Expo'** followed by panel discussion on **'The New Era of Partnership in Healthcare: Telemedicine, Health Techs, Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals and affordable healthcare services" on 22nd February 2021.**
Mr Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, FT (ASEAN), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India inaugurated the exhibition and shared that ASEAN is the central pillar of India's Act East Policy and lot of collaboration opportunities exist between India and ASEAN. He also emphasised that India is looking to collaborate with ASEAN under Project Development Fund and is currently working on development of Multi-speciality hospitals in Cambodia and Myanmar.
Dato Ramesh Kodammal, Co-Chair (ASEAN), ASEAN-India Business Council and Chairman, Goldtex Group of Companies talked about how COVID-19 has encouraged reforms in the ASEAN healthcare sector by opening new investment opportunities in the field of biotechnology telehealth, pharma & other areas where health is concerned. He also emphasised that India can collaborate with ASEAN in the areas of Medical Tourism and Medical devices.
The panel discussion was moderated by **Mr Lalit Mistry, Director- Healthcare, KPMG India** and focussed on how telehealth, healthtech, pharmaceuticals and medical devices companies can improve their preparedness to navigate the new normal to tap into emerging trends and capitalise opportunities.
The perspective on the Indian healthcare sector was shared by **Dr Harinder Singh Sidhu**, VP Corporate Development, Head - International Relations, Apollo Hospitals Group; **Mr Lalit Ranjan Manik,** Co- Founder, Med- Tel; **Mr Sudhanshu Sharma**, Business Head - South East Asia, Wockhardt Ltd and **Mr Sandeep Sur,** Country Manager- Indonesia, Hetero Drugs.
The speakers from ASEAN countries included **Ms Joyce Socao-Alumno,** Founder & President, HealthCore – Philippines; **Mr Siddhartha Mishra**, Business Leader & Co-Founder, Global Executive Healthcare Strategy, IT Transformation AI|BI, Malaysia and **Ms Shanti Shamdasani,** CEO & President – S. ASEAN International Advocacy & Consultancy Pvt Ltd & SHANAIKA MED Consult, Indonesia.
The session emphasised on the adaptability of healthcare sector amidst challenging times and the need to create new business models and incorporate technology innovations for driving regional cooperation between India and ASEAN countries.


Via CiscoWebex
Gaurav Vats
Manish Singhal
V Narayanan
Dato Ramesh Kodam
sandeep sur
Anant Swarup
+21
FICCI
@ficci_india
ASEAN is the central pillar of our Act East policy. I am sure that the India-ASEAN healthcare Expo Summit will be an important journey of our partnership: Mr Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, FT (ASEAN), @DoC_GoI at the inaugural of the India-ASEAN Healthcare Expo & Summit.
12:18 PM · Feb 22, 2021 · Twitter Web App
11 Retweets 17 Likes
FICCI @ficci_india · Feb 22
Replying to @ficci_india
There are a lot of opportunities that exist between India and the ASEAN region: Mr Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary, FT (ASEAN), @DoC_GoI at the inaugural of the India-ASEAN Healthcare Expo & Summit.


FICCI Globiz
FICCI BIKE
A Virtual Event Platform for Business, Information, Knowledge & Education
FICCI Globiz
50 followers
2w •
+ Follow
We are Live with India-Asean Healthcare Expo & Summit! Join us on Day 1 of the Exhibition & Conference - Connect beyond borders & to newer markets for symbiotic growth & showcase your products & services to visitors & Buyers alike. Go Live Now!
Visitor Registration link: https://lnkd.in/eyC5nWT
Exhibitor registration link: https://lnkd.in/dYCK-Nb
#Globiz2021 #NamaskarArabia #Exhibitions #b2b #NamaskarEurasia #NamaskarPacificAlliance #NamaskarAfrica #AtamnirbharBharat #inspiredindia #trade #makeinindia #virtual #onlineevent #summit #businesscontinuityplanning #innovation
FICCI Ministry Of Commerce & Industry, Government Of India Shipsy Bsharp Sales Enablers Haldivita Punjabi Ghasitaram Halwai Pvt. Ltd.
Like



India- Mekong SME Internationalization Challenge (Launch Programme for Vietnam)21 May 2021

FICCI in partnership with Asian Development Bank is working on **India – Mekong SME Internationalization Challenge,** a platform for SMEs for exploring opportunities for investment & trade between India and Vietnam, Cambodia & Thailand. The programme has been funded by Asian Development Bank and supported by partners Impact Tech and Impact Hub in ASEAN countries.

This programme provides small and medium businesses an opportunity to enhance manufacturing capabilities and productivity through international trade. The programme aims to promote regional opportunities for trade and investment by providing the necessary support in early growth journey of SMEs exploring international markets.

FICCI in partnership with VIETRADE and Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) organised a webinar on **India – Mekong SME Internationalization Challenge on 21st May 2021,** to launch the programme for SME companies in Vietnam.



Mr Vu Ba Phu, Director-General, Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency addressing India – Mekong SME Internalization Program



Ms Mini Kumam, First Secretary(E&C), Embassy of India in Hanoi, Vietnam addressing India – Mekong SME Internalization Program



Mr Nguyen Ba Hung, Asian Development Bank addressing India – Mekong SME Internalization Program

India – Philippines Business Conference on Renewable Energy29 July 2021

The critical importance of renewable energy to governments, economies, society and individuals has never been clearer than now. India and Philippines have together realised the potential and importance of development in renewable energy segments. Philippines Government plans to increase total installed power capacity from 27.6 GW in 2020 to 58.4 GW in 2030. Under the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP) of Philippines, projected share of RE in the total energy mix is to rise of 37.3% by 2030 to 55.8% in 2040. With limited potential in hydropower development and already utilised geothermal potential, there is renewed focus on sectors like solar, wind and biomass. This presents immense opportunities for Indian companies to engage in this sector by establishing business linkages with industry players in Philippines.

In view of the potential for partnership between India and Philippines in Renewable energy sector, FICCI supported Embassy of India in Philippines for **"India – Philippines Business Conference on Renewable Energy"** on **29th July 2021,** to explore the business opportunities available for Indian companies in renewable energy sector in Philippines. The programme was also supported by Manila Times, leading newspaper of Philippines. FICCI members of Renewable Energy CEOs Council shared their perspective in this conference.

- **Mr Ranjit Gupta,** Chair, FICCI RE CEOs Council and CEO, Azure Power
- **Mr Shivanand Nimbargi**, Co-Chair, FICCI RE CEOs Council and Managing Director & CEO,Ayana Renewable Power Pvt. Ltd
- **Mr Ashish Khanna**, President – Renewables, Tata Power and Member, FICCI RE CEOsCouncil
- **Mr Devin Narang**, Member, FICCI RE CEOs Council and Country Head – India, SindicatumRenewable Energy



FICCI @ficci_india · Jul 29

India's rich experience in the RE sector can be used to provide the Philippines financing & transfer of technology to help the country lead in RE for a sustainable way of living: Mr Ranjit Gupta, Chair, FICCI RE CEOs Council at India-Philippines Conference on Renewable Energy.



India in Philippines

2 2 11

FICCI @ficci_india · Jul 29

Replying to @ficci_india

The biggest opportunity to collaborate between India & the Philippines is the area of bioenergy. India can help the Philippines in providing boilers and high-pressure turbines: Mr @devinnarang, Member, FICCI Renewable Energy CEOs Council.



1 1 2

FICCI @ficci_india · Jul 29

Both India and the Philippines could see to maximize the opportunity of self-reliance with dedicated programmes in areas like manufacturing, floating solar, off-grid solar: Mr Shivanand Nimbargi, Co-Chair, FICCI RE CEOs Council and MD & CEO, Ayana Renewable Power.



1 3

FICCI @ficci_india · Jul 29

Immense opportunities exist for India & the Philippines to change their energy mix and learn from each other in micro-level technologies: Mr Ashish Khanna, Member, FICCI RE CEOs Council & President, Renewables, Tata Power at the India-Philippines Business Conference on RE.



1 3

ASEAN- India Business Council Consultative Meeting17 August 2021

FICCI as Secretariat of ASEAN – India Business Council organised a virtual consultative meeting of AIBC Members on 17th August 2021, to discuss the various issues and opportunities for India and ASEAN, as run up to the ASEAN Economic Ministers meeting. The meeting was attended by senior Industry members from India and ASEAN Countries.

Addressing the members, Mr Subhrakant Panda, Vice President, FICCI and Managing Director, Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd highlighted that there is a need to strengthen the Rules of Origin provisions, work towards removal of non-tariff barriers and provide better market access. The Free Trade Agreement between India and ASEAN should be mutually beneficial and a win-win forall sides. FICCI has already shared industry recommendations on the scope of the agreement, with Government of India.

Dato Ramesh Kodammal, Co-Chair (ASEAN), ASEAN-India Business Council and Chairman, Goldtex Group of Companies highlighted that we need to push for the review of AITIGA at the ASEAN Economic Meeting. We need to work together and build supply chains as well as support SME groups in the post pandemic world. ASEAN has a supply chain which India needs and we are ready to provide India to strengthen the global supply chains.

India – ASEAN will complete 30 years of relations and AIBC will work with all chambers of India and ASEAN countries to mark 30 years celebrations.

FICCI Retweeted

Subhrakant Panda @subhrakantpanda · Aug 17

Delighted to attend the ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) on behalf of @ficci_india. ASEAN is central to India's "Act East Policy" as underlined by PM @narendramodi, and industry leaders from both sides are working to broaden & deepen the relationship.



5 19

FICCI @ficci_india · Aug 17

The Free Trade Agreement between India and ASEAN should be mutually beneficial and a win-win for all sides: FICCI VP Mr @subhrakantpanda at ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) Consultative Meeting.



1 5

FICCI @ficci_india · Aug 17

Let's focus and see how we can work and find a formula to support various SME groups survive post-pandemic: Dato Ramesh Kodammal, Co-Chair (ASEAN), ASEAN-India Business Council and Chairman, Goldtex Group of Companies at ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) Consultative Meeting.



2

FICCI @ficci_india · Aug 17

There is a need to strengthen the Rules of Origin provisions, work towards the removal of non-tariff barriers and provide better market access: FICCI VP Mr @subhrakantpanda at ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) Consultative Meeting.



1 5

India Mekong Networking Series 1: TRADING ACROSS BORDERS19 August 2021

To strengthen global value chains and trade between India and GMS Countries (Greater Mekong Sub Region – Thailand, Vietnam & Cambodia), Asian Development Bank has formulated "India – Mekong SME Internationalization Program". The program intends to provide training, mentorship and networking assistance to SMEs in these regions. It is built with a view to provideSMEs with managerial capacity building and exposure to international markets.

As a part of providing networking assistance, FICCI organised the first networking connect of "India Mekong Networking Series" on 19th August 2021.The event provided a unique opportunity to interact and network with exporters, importers, manufacturers, service providers & EXIM experts from India, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia. The knowledgesharing session focused on business environment in these countries.





FICCI Diplomacy Unplugged series: Interaction with H.E. Simon Wong, High Commissioner of Singapore to India
25 August 2021

FICCI has launched **'Diplomacy Unplugged'** a new series of interactions between Heads of Missions of various countries and select group of Indian business leaders following Chatham House rules. Taking this **"Diplomacy Unplugged"** series forward, FICCI organised an interaction with **H.E. Simon Wong, High Commissioner of Singapore to India on August 25th, 2021**. The interaction was attended by select industry members, who had business interests with Singapore.

