AIBC
ASEAN INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL

30 Years of
ASEAN India Relations



CAMBODIA

# 2022

# AIBC Report to 19th AEM-India Consultation

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**M E S S A G E**

India and ASEAN complete three decades of diplomatic relations this year. A relationship thatstarted with India's Look East Policy in early 1990s, has now turned into a robust, strategic partnership.

ASEAN has emerged as a key growth partner for Indian businesses over these decades, on account of its geographical proximity, expanding cultural relations and a promising economic trajectory. With the borders now fully re-opened, India-ASEAN relations call for greater emphasis on physical and digital connectivity, greater people to people linkages, trade growth & investment enhancement. Areas such as sustainability, healthcare, digitisation, cyber security and resilient regional manufacturing value chains and education.

Beyond the economic dimensions, both India and ASEAN ties have been facilitated through various multilateral and bilateral platforms. ASEAN and India believe that openness, inclusiveness, rules-based order, freedom of navigation lie at the very core of the Indo-Pacific. Both can be apt partners in the Indo-Pacific and play a constructive role in building our regional cooperation.

There has also been enhanced efforts towards strengthening co-operation for reduction/elimination of non-tariff barriers, trade facilitation, flow of information on harmonization and mutual recognition of standards, for easy movement of goods between India and ASEAN. Indian Industry welcomes ASEAN's positive response to review the scope of India-ASEAN FTA and has shared its suggestions for enhancing the value in this FTA.

The future is bright for India-ASEAN ties. While the two sides have made tremendous progress in the last few decades and built strong linkages with each other, the potential for further growth and collaboration is immense. FICCI is 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 2022, will help in taking the partnership between India and ASEAN countries to the next level.

September 1, 2022
Delhi

**Sanjiv Mehta**



**Dato' Ramesh Kodammal**

Co-Chair ASEAN AIBC

## MESSAGE

I am pleased that the 19th AEM-India Consultation is taking place physically in this historic and beautiful city of Siem Reap, the second largest city of Cambodia. The business community view these annual consultations with the economic ministers of ASEAN and India as an important mechanism for the private sector to provide their views and recommendations on ways to further expand ASEAN-India business linkages.

In the past few years AIBC have submitted various recommendations for consideration of the ministers, and we are pleased that some of the recommendations and issues raised have been addressed.

AIBC is also pleased that the negotiating framework for the review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement has been finalized and officials are in the process of reviewing the agreement which was signed in 2009. It is our hope that the review could be concluded expeditiously and importantly that officials could consult the private sector and provide regular updates on the progress.

Despite the impact of the COVID Pandemic the last 2 years, ASEAN-India trade has shown marked increase to USD91.5 billion in 2021 from USD65.7 billion in 2020 and USD77.1 billion in 2019. Both exports from ASEAN and imports from India have increased. AIBC believes that the pandemic has provided an opportunity to the business to look at both markets for their requirements. Also, it is very encouraging to note that there is a diversification of manufactured products traded between ASEAN and India.

AIBC will continue to undertake its role to implement activities to create greater awareness of the potentials and encourage businesses to continue to explore more joint venture activities to increase participation of ASEAN and India in the regional and global supply chains. We will also continue to work towards promoting greater collaboration among the MSMEs.

Kuala Lumpur

30th August 2022

Thank you

Dato Ramesh Kodammal
Co-Chair AIBC (ASEAN)

**AIBC Council Members from India**

| NO | NAME | DESIGNATION | ORGANISATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Mr Sanjiv Mehta | Co-Chair, AIBC (India), President, FICCI and CEO & Managing Director, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) President, Unilever South Asia & Member, Unilever Leadership Executive (Global Executive Board) | Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) |
| 2 | Mr Sanjiv Bajaj | Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Limited (CII President) | Bajaj Finserv Limited |
| 3 | Mr Sumant Sinha | Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Limited (CII President) | Bajaj Finserv Limited |
| 4 | Mr H P Singhania | Vice Chairman & Managing Director | J K Paper Ltd |
| 5 | Ms Naina Lal Kidwai | Chairman India Advisory Board, Advent Private Equity | Advent Private Equity |
| 6 | Mr H K Aggarwal | Managing Director | Grasim Industries Ltd. |
| 7 | Mr Afzal Aziz | President (International Business Development) | Allanasons |
| 8 | Mr Anil Pant | Managing Director & CEO | Aptech Ltd |
| 9 | Mr Amandeep Singh | Head International Operations | 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 | Chief Executive – International Business (EAM and ECE) | Escorts Ltd |
| 14 | Ms Harsha Bangari | Managing Director | EXIM Bank |
| 15 | Mr G M Rao | Group Chairman | GMR Group |
| 16 | Mr O P Lohia | Chairman & Managing Director | Indo Rama Synthetics (I) Ltd |
| 17 | Mr Yogesh Kumar Misra | 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 Ankit Tandon | CEO OYO Southeast Asia & Middle East and Chief Global Business Officer | OYO Rooms |
| 22 | Mr Alok Kumar Gupta | Managing Director & Chairman | 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 |

**AIBC Members from ASEAN**

| NO | NAME | DESIGNATION | ORGANISATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Dato Ramesh Kodammal, | AIBC Co-Chair & Managing Director | Goldtex Group of Companies (ESTD. 1973) |
| | | **Brunei Darussalam** | |
| 2 | Mr. Nazeer Ahmad Zakaria | President | Indian Chamber of Commerce |
| 3 | Mr. Manish Punjab | | TBA |
| 4 | Mr. Shaik Dawood | | TBA |
| | | **Cambodia** | |
| 5 | H.E. Neak Oknha Kith Meng | Director General /Chairman | Cambodia Chamber of Commerce /Royal Group of Companies |
| 6 | H.E. Meng Nimol | Deputy Director General | Cambodia Chamber of Commerce |
| 7 | Dr. Tan Monivann | Vice President | Cambodia Chamber of Commerce |
| 8 | Mr. Hun Monivann | Vice President | Siem Reap-Oddor Meanchey Chamber of Commerce |
| 9 | Ms. Chhin Chhorwathana | Manager of International Relations | Cambodia Chamber of Commerce |
| 10 | Ms. Chou Vipanharith | Deputy Manager of International Relations | Cambodia Chamber of Commerce |
| | | **Indonesia** | |
| 11 | Ms. Shanti Shamdasani | Founder & CEO | S. ASEAN International Advocacy & Consultancy |
| 12 | Ms. Chrisma Albanjdar | Independent Commissioner | |
| 13 | Mr. Ardi Sutedia | IT Expert | |
| 14 | Mr. Thomas Hartono | | ASEAN-Bac Indonesia / Omega Group / India Indonesia Business Association |
| | | **Laos** | |
| 15 | Mr. Habib Mohammad Chowdhury | Chairman | HSMM Group of Companies |
| 16 | Mr. Haider Mohammad Chowdhury | General Manager | HSMM Group of Companies |
| 17 | Mr. Khampeng Vongkhanty | Managing Director | LAO Freight Forwarder |
| 18 | Mr. Xaybandith Rasphone | President | Garments & Textile Association |
| 19 | Mr. Bounleuth Luangpaseuth | Director | Luangpaseuth Construction Soe Co Ltd |
| 20 | Mr. Inthy Deuansavan | Founder & Managing Director | Green Discovery Lt Co |
| | | **Myanmar** | |
| 21 | Dr. Myo Thant | Managing Director | Zar Zar Co Ltd |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | Mr. Tun Agung | Vice President | Myanmar Beans Exporter Association |
| 23 | Mr. Hla Maung | President | Border Trade Association (Myanmar India Border) |
| **Malaysia** | | | |
| 24 | Mr. Sharan Valiram | Executive Director | Valiram Group |
| 25 | Mr. Mohan Kodivel | Director | Adastra Wellness Sdn Bhd |
| 26 | Dato Dr. C. Baskaran | CEO | GMS Holdings Sdn Bhd |
| 27 | Datuk Nabhesh Khanna | Director | Adam Primus |
| 28 | Datuk Tan Teow Choon | Managing Director | GMS Holdings Sdn Bhd |
| 29 | Mr P. Ravidran | Consultant | - |
| **Philippines** | | | |
| 30 | Mr. Johnny Chotrani | Chairman | Philippines India Business Council |
| 31 | Mr. Shashank Pareek | Director | Textile Producers Association of Philippines |
| 32 | Mr. Rafael Alunan | President & Director | Lopez Group Foundation |
| 33 | Mr. Robert Young | President | Foreign Buyers Association |
| 34 | Mr. Oscar A. Torrlba | | |
| 35 | Mrs. Lila Shahani | Expert and Associate | International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) |
| 36 | Mr. Aries B. Balanay | President | Safety First Ventures Inc. |
| **Singapore** | | | |
| 37 | Mr. Karan Singh Thakral | Executive Director | Thakral Group of Companies |
| 38 | Mr. Gautam Banerjee | Senior Managing Director & Chairman | Blackstone Singapore |
| 39 | Mr. Anuj Kagalwala | Partner | PWC Singapore |
| **Thailand** | | | |
| 40 | Mr. Phairush Burapachaisri | Chairman & CEO | Pin Sim Co Ltd |
| 41 | Ms. Prim Jitcharoongphom | Director | Allied Metals Co Ltd |
| **Vietnam** | | | |
| 42 | Mr. Indronil Sengupta | Co-Founder & CEO | Invesify Company Ltd |
| 43 | Ms. Nguyen Quynh Hoa | Chairwoman | E&D Vietnam |
| 44 | Mr. Viet Tran | Chief Operating Officer | Big Capital |

## 19th AEM-India Consultation

In preparation for the AIBC annual consultations with the ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) and Minister of Commerce India a preparatory consultative meeting was held between AIBC Council members from ASEAN and India led by both the co-chairs, Mr. Sanjiv Mehta and Dato Ramesh Kodammal.

During the consultations views were exchanged and many reiterated the need for ASEAN and India to continue to further strengthen economic relations vis-à-vis other economic initiatives that are being promoted within and outside the region, which among others include the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and the recently announced Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF).

Some of the issues raised were like the recommendations submitted by the Council at past meetings. These include the need to eliminate of non-tariff barriers in a systematic manner, facilitating the mobility of business people and supporting and increasing the participation of MSMEs in the ASEAN-India economic process.

The post COVID-19 pandemic period provides ASEAN and India to accelerate engagement to tap on the opportunities and identify new steps that could be taken to increase ASEAN-India participation in the regional and global supply chains activities, learning from the lessons of the last two years.

There are indeed ample opportunities. For the first time, it is noted that ASEAN-India trade has peaked at USD91.5 billion with ASEAN's exports registering USD53.7 billion and ASEAN's imports from India registered at USD37.7 billion as illustrated in the table below.

**ASEAN-India Trade**

| **Country** | Total Trade | Exports | Imports | Total Trade | Exports | Imports | Total Trade | Exports | Imports |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **USD Billion (2021)** | | | **USD Billion (2020)** | | | **USD Billion (2019)** | | |
| **Total ASEAN 10** | **91.5** | **53.7** | **37.7** | **65.7** | **39.4** | **26.3** | **77.1** | **48.3** | **28.8** |
| **Indonesia** | 20.9 | 13.3 | 7.6 | 14.2 | 10.4 | 3.8 | 16.1 | 11.8 | 4.3 |
| **Singapore** | 20.0 | 12.6 | 7.4 | 14.4 | 9.2 | 5.2 | 17.8 | 11.5 | 6.3 |
| **Malaysia** | 16.8 | 10.8 | 5.9 | 13.2 | 7.3 | 5.9 | 14.9 | 9.1 | 5.8 |
| **Thailand** | 14.9 | 8.5 | 6.4 | 9.8 | 5.5 | 4.3 | 12.2 | 7.3 | 4.9 |
| **Viet Nam** | 13.2 | 6.3 | 6.9 | 9.7 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 11.2 | 6.7 | 4.5 |
| **Philippines** | 3.2 | 0.8 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 2.0 |
| **Total ASEAN (6)** | 89.2 | 52.3 | 36.7 | 63.7 | 38.2 | 25.4 | 74.7 | 45.9 | 27.8 |
| **% of total trade with India** | 97.5% | 97.4% | 97.3% | 96.9% | 96.9% | 96.6% | 96.8% | 95.0% | 96.5% |
| **Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar** | 2.3 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 1.0 |

Source: ASEAN Secretariat

The Council notes that trade in manufactured products between ASEAN and India are increasing and this could be attributed to businesses diversifying the sourcing of products from other countries to ASEAN and India and taking advantage of the AIFTA.

Thus, it will be very timely if the review of the AIFTA Trade in Goods agreement negotiations could be expedited and concluded soon. In this context, ASEAN would like to reiterate that we are looking at duties on more products reduced or eliminated and user-friendly rules of origin put in place to increase the utilization of AIFTA by the businesses. Resorting to restrictive measures to address trade imbalances will be very disruptive to trade. It will not also support the aspiration of the businesses to increase their participation in global value chain activities, Protectionist measures at best will be very disruptive and force businesses and investors to look at other more attractive places to operate their businesses.

On its part, AIBC will continue to organize activities to bring together the businesses and create greater awareness of the benefits that could be gained from a more ambitions and facilitative FTA agreement. The activities carried out by the Council is attached as Annex to the report.

As we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-India, we need to work towards further strengthening relations and the economic engagement offers the best prospects for this objective to be achieved.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement has been implemented and its impact on ASEAN and India trade is yet to be examined. Prof Tham Siew Yean indicated that India joining RCEP could propel India's participation in the reconfiguration of the global value chains by connecting India with the old and new global value chains that are emerging in the region, including ASEAN. India's participation in RCEP has always been supported by AIBC ASEAN members.

AIBC ASEAN recommends the following for the AEM-India Consultation:

1. **Updates on the Review of the ASEAN-India FTA Trade in Goods**

   Last year the Council submitted its recommendations that the review could consider the following.

   a. 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 of SMEs.
   b. 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.
   c. There should be no rolling back on tariff commitments based on selected industry's request.
   d. Propose that a full chapter on Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation be included in order to smoothen trade under the FTA as in the RCEP agreement.

   The Council is happy to note that the "Framework" for review of the FTA in Goods have been finalized and negotiations for the review will commence this year. It is our hope that the Council is provided regular updates on the status and if there are specific areas where the views are required, we are willing to coordinate with the private sector to gather such inputs. The review of the FTA must be completed quickly if we aim to gain from the rising ASEAN.

2. **Effectively introduce ASEAN-India services and investment agreements**

The ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement was signed in November 2014. It contains provisions on transparency, domestic regulations, recognition, market access, national treatment and dispute settlement. The ASEAN-India Investment Agreement was also signed in November 2014. The Investment Agreement stipulates protection of investment to ensure fair and equitable treatment for investors, non-discriminatory treatment in expropriation or nationalisation as well as fair compensation. While both the agreements were signed in 2014, they were ratified only in 2018-19 FY.

Till date, none of the agreements has been introduced by India. ASEAN companies are unable to get a national treatment under the regional investment agreement resulting which FDI inflows to India from ASEAN (except Singapore) has sharply declined. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has trigged the fall in both ways, non-implementation of the ASEAN-India investment agreements has been identified as one of the major reasons from FDI flows between ASEAN and India. On top, several FDI provisions in the aforesaid agreement are yet to receive the needed attention of the government. Similarly, the services agreement has not been introduced resulting in sharp fall of services trade flow under the Mode 3 between ASEAN and India. Both the FDI and services trade under the Mode 3 are inter-related. India must effectively implement the services trade and investment agreements with ASEAN.

3. **Catalysing ASEAN-India participation in the regional and global value and supply chains**

The global value chains have assumed increasing importance is a truism. However, different parts of the world have shown varying patterns of their integration into the global value chain networks. The East-Asian economies were the harbinger of increased penetration into the global value chains. Neighbouring countries of the Southeast Asia have displayed increasing trends of GVC participation, more importantly at the regional level. India-ASEAN global value chains have a potential to elevate further given the extensive scope for trade integration and cutting down on inefficient cross-border trade.

Much of the existing global value chain participation is backward link initiated. It emerges that India-ASEAN could elevate their global value chain participation by focusing on sectors such as Computers and Electrical equipment, Transport equipment, chemicals and chemicals related activities, and Basic and Fabricated metals. It is important for India-ASEAN to improve trade related infrastructure and connectivity in order to better connect with ASEAN and the CLMV countries, especially the landlocked ones such as Lao People's Democratic Republic. Conducive regulatory policies as well as procedural measures will deliver more with the existing India-ASEAN partnership which will both be a catalyst for trade and investment. India and ASEAN must step up B2B linkages through exhibitions, business networks, showcasing each other's markets, etc. India has not yet done any mega-scale exhibition to showcase the ASEAN-India GVC potentials.

AIBC ASEAN views that the participation of India in RCEP will provide a tremendous boost to a number of product sectors with high potentials for GVCs between ASEAN and India in the context of the Post Pandemic period and beyond. Participation could lead to joint ventures to be formed for production of products and supply of services from ASEAN and India to the global market. Some of the areas to be considered include:

a. **Research**: AIBC is proposing for more collaboration in research, design, development, and demonstration of following industries through activities such as investment, joint

ventures, technical experts exchange program, sponsorship, training, conferences, and other activities.

b. **Pharmaceuticals**: Localizing the production of pharmaceuticals in developing Life Saving Drugs to achieve self-sufficiency. To make this possible, approval process can be accelerated to make partnership with Indian companies more convenient
c. **Food**: ASEAN will benefit greatly from India being the world's third-ranking rice producer and exporter and a leader in developing and commercializing natural and biological farm inputs. A joint technical working group is recommended to expand the existing partnership and explore new areas of collaboration, particularly in importing Rice, Wheat, Corn and Sugar.
d. **Power**: Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Renewable Energy, specifically the "seven horses of energy", which include thermal, gas, and hydro, with emphasis given on the development of solar, wind, and biogas. As ASEAN countries puts in more effort into developing renewable sources of energy, it can explore further cooperation with India by encouraging more investors and private energy companies to examine possible renewable energy collaboration given ripe market conditions and growing energy demand.
e. **Infrastructure**: AIBC would like to invite Indian companies to explore investment opportunities in the infrastructure sector such as railways, seaports, airports, roads and bridges with an aim to enhance economic cooperation.
f. **Textile**: As some ASEAN countries such as the Philippines look inwardly to revive the textile industry, India comes in first in our agenda as partner/investor having obtained success in the textile sector. Demand on textile is high for the 110 million Filipino population with no local manufacturing source not to mention the potential in the export business.
g. **Automotive and motorcycle and parts:** There is already a growing crossflows of auto parts and components between ASEAN and India which can be further strengthened as demand in ASEAN and India are on the rise.

h. **Creative Economy**: The creative economy comprises industries that are based on individual skill and creativity, which have the potential to generate income and jobs through the generation of intellectual property. Some of the wonderful creative industries include advertising, film, animation, music, architecture, crafts, design, literature, new media, and culinary arts. The proposal aims to raise awareness, promote cooperation and networking between ASEAN and India, encourage sharing best practices and experiences, enhance human resource capacity, promote an enabling environment at all levels as well as tackle the challenges of the creative economy.

## 4. Imports from ASEAN facing 'Double' ROO due to the CAROTAR

Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) or CAROTAR Rules, came into effect from September 21, 2020. This has been introduced to stop circumvention of third country export via ASEAN. CAROTAR empowers the Indian customs officers to ask the importer to furnish further information, consistent with the trade agreement, in case the officer has reasons to believe that the country-of-origin criteria have not been met. Where the importer fails to provide the requisite information, the officer can make further verification consistent with the trade agreement.

CAROTAR rules say: "In the event of a conflict between a provision of these rules and a provision of the Rules of Origin, the provision of the Rules of Origin shall prevail to the extent of the conflict." Since then, Customs officers are insensitive to apply CAROTAR without any consistency with the provisions of the ASEAN-India FTA in Goods and its Rules of Origin. It has introduced red tape, particularly to ASEAN exports to India. CAROTAR regulations require the Indian importers from ASEAN availing of benefit under

FTAs to maintain and furnish information in Form I which essentially put some onus on the importer to ensure that the benefit was taken in line with the rules stipulated under the relevant FTAs. This has led to create unnecessary harassments. The CAROTAR rules require extensive submission of data and facts, where in certain cases the requirement even goes beyond the stipulated conditions under the bilateral/multilateral FTAs signed between the countries. Therefore, Indian government should remove the CAROTAR with immediate effect failing which ASEAN member states may be forced to introduce reciprocal measures on Indian exports to ASEAN.

5. **Differences in the regulations and actual implementations of exports to India.**

While implementing export activities, there are delays as new trade barriers surfaced, such as high tariff & duties, investments requirements and local partners.

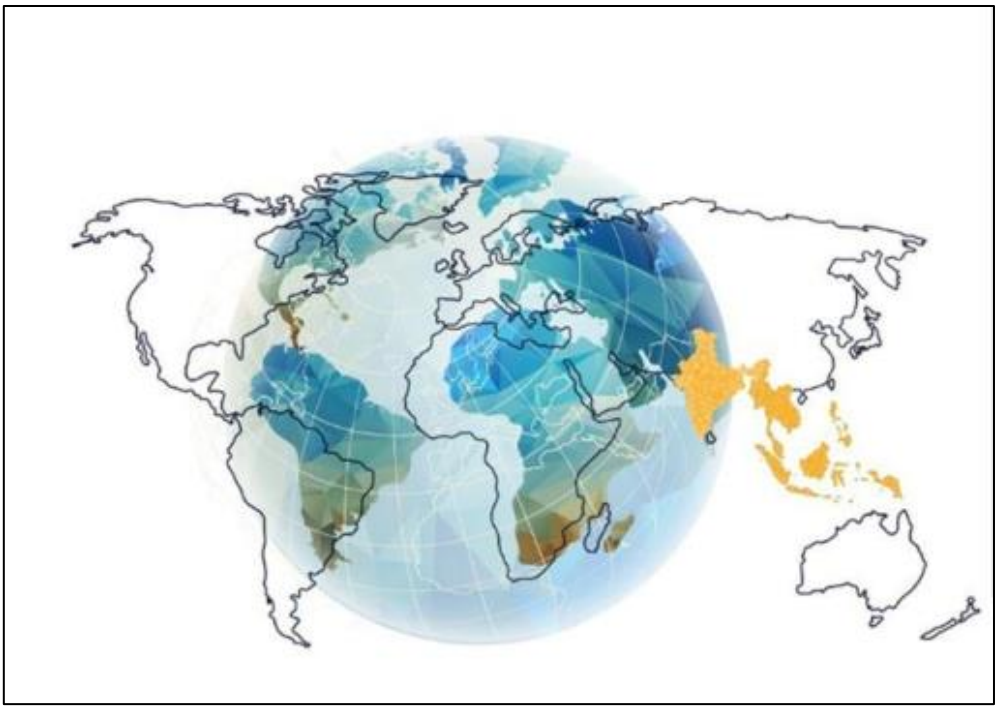
While different industries from Indonesia faces different challenges, the theme remained the same as indicated in the above paragraph. Most of the issues are undetected, since the companies make a direct contact with the local businesses, a B-to-B approach without going through the Associations or the Embassies.

6. **5th Edition of the ASEAN-India Business Summit and related events**

The 5th Edition of the ASEAN-India Business Summit - Expo, the ASEAN-India Business Excellence Awards and Gala Dinner which was scheduled to be held on 11th October 2022 in Kuala Lumpur has been deferred to quarter 1 of 2023. The theme of the Business Summit is “Strengthening and Moving Forward ASEAN-India Economic Relations for a Strategic Business Partnership”. AIBC looks forward to the support of ministers and to encourage businesses from your respective countries to participate. The finalized date will be circulated.

# ASEAN – India Business Council

**Submission of Recommendations by Indian Industry**
**19th ASEAN Economic Ministers- India Consultations Meeting**
**16th September 2022, Siem Reap City, CAMBODIA**



**Report**

**Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**

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## AIBC India Recommendations

### Tariff Barriers

**I. Market access of Indian Frozen boneless Buffalo Meat to Thailand**

India is already a major supplier of buffalo meat to South-East Asian countries like, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Laos, etc. where it is well accepted by the consumers because of its excellent quality, competitive price and suitability for making various meat products. Thailand is a potential market for export of frozen Buffalo meat from India. There is a huge potential to export Buffalo meat if Thailand grants market access to Indian frozen buffalo meat. The per capita consumption of bovine meat in the neighbourhood countries of Thailand (Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Malaysia, Vietnam) is average 7 kgs per annum. The total consumption of bovine meat should be 470,000 MTs per annum on the basis Thailand population size of 67 million. The current production of beef/buffalo meat together with imports does not exceed 220,000 MTs. Hence, there is a huge potential for export of frozen boneless Buffalo meat to Thailand. Government of India may take up the issue regarding grant of market access to Indian buffalo meat with the Government of Thailand.

There is also abnormally high import duty ranging between 30- 50% on frozen buffalo meat in Thailand which is acting as a deterrent to realize the potential of export of frozen boneless buffalo meat from India. The high import duty imposed by the Government of Thailand is much above the duty prevailing in ASEAN countries.

- Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam & Brunei permits importation of frozen meat without any duty.
- Indonesia imposes duty of 5% upto maximum 25% for imported frozen meat.

If the import duty is either eliminated or at the most retained at 10% by Thailand, it will help in exploring the potential available for export of Buffalo meat to Thailand. It is also mentioned that the Trade balance is heavily in favour of Thailand. The buffalo meat exports could play a major role in reducing the negative balance of trade of approx. USD 3.6 billion as per the following table:

| | **2021-22 (in USD Million)** |
|---|---|
| Thailand exports to India | 9332.54 |
| India's exports to Thailand | 5751.30 |
| **Trade Balance in favour of Thailand** | (-)3581.24 |

Source: Export Import data Bank, Department of Commerce

## II. Industry Inputs to be considered while reviewing of ASEAN – India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)

### A. Flexible Packaging Industry

- **Review of Asymmetrical Duty Structure on the Indian products i.e., BOPP, BOPET under India – ASEAN FTA.**

| Countries | BOPET (HS Code 39206220) | | BOPP (HS Code 39202020) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Duty on Indian Product when exported | Duty in India on Import | Duty on Indian Product when exported | Duty in India on Import |
| Cambodia | 5% | 0 | 0 | 5% |
| Indonesia | 10% | 0 | 15% | 5% |
| Malaysia | 5% | 0 | 5% | 5% |
| Thailand | 5% | 0 | 0 | 5% |
| Viet Nam | 0 | 0 | 6% | 5% |
| Philippines | 0 | 0 | 11.52% | 5% |
| Laos | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5% |
| Singapore' | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5% |
| Brunei | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5% |
| Myanmar | 0 | 0 | 1.5% | 5% |

The above tables show that custom duty in India against BOPET from the above listed countries is zero, i.e., their products have duty free access into Indian market. Whereas Indian products exported to these countries are levied with higher duties. Such asymmetrical trend in duty is a matter of concern not only for our industry and for growth of Indian economy.

**Industry's major concern is in the following countries:**

| BOPET (HS Code 39206220) | BOPP (HS Code 39202020) |
|---|---|
| Indonesia | Indonesia |
| Malaysia | Malaysia |
| Thailand | Philippines |

Such asymmetrical duty structure between trading partners of the same group not only adversely affects the Indian industry by distorting level playing field but also a roadblock in achieving higher exports of India which is the prime focus area of the present day GOI.

### B. Steel

**a) Parity in coverage of lines under the FTA:**

India has included all HS codes 7206-7306 of Steel in its Tariff elimination schedules to the ASEAN countries, with rapid elimination of duties. However, the ASEAN members have each given individual offers, which vary from member to member and exclude many finished product lines from scope of the FTA. Effectively, India has 10 separate agreements, one with each member.

Non-inclusion of any HS code in the FTA allows ASEAN countries the freedom to increase import duties at any time they desire, say, as their domestic capacities increase. India, on the other hand will be bound by its Tariff elimination schedule at zero duty or low duty. This will lead to mismatch in market access.

For trade facilitation, a common tariff elimination offer from all ASEAN countries to India on HS codes of steel will bring a parity under FTA. Even if the same is not possible, each ASEAN member should be asked to include all steel lines under the scope of FTA.

**b) "Melt and Poured" as the Origin Criterion for steel**

The issue of third-party materials, piggy backing onto bilateral FTAs and illegitimately availing duty exemption is an important one which impacts smooth trade relations.

Recognizing this, in the recent India-UAE FTA and India-Australia FTA, the Government has incorporated the "Melt and Poured" criterion – i.e., the steel product should have been made from steel which was originally melted and poured in the country, to qualify as originating product.

For trade facilitation and ensuring that only genuinely originating products benefit from duty exemptions, it is recommended that the Rules of Origin for steel products be changed to "Melt and Poured" as in UAE and Australia FTAs.

**c) Automatic Trigger Safeguard Mechanism**

As a measure for boosting confidence on both sides, import surges should automatically be addressed through an automatic trigger mechanism, at the option of the receiving party.

Pre-fixed Safeguard duties can be incorporated in the FTA, based on severity of surge above a baseline level. The affected party then has the option of immediately putting in place a pre-negotiated safeguard measure, without having to pursue a protracted investigation process. This shall be fair to both sides of the FTA and boost confidence in the agreement.

**d) Considering India does not have major Anti-Dumping duties (ADD) against most of the ASEAN countries, the following tariff barriers should be discussed for removal:**

- **Thailand:** ADD on Hot- rolled coin (HRC) @ 31.92%. Thailand also has a 5% import duty on Tinplate, GI (Galvanized) & Cold Roll vs. 0% for South Korea & China. This should be brought down to 0%.
- **Indonesia:** ADD on HRC @ 35% + depending on mills in India

## C. Stainless Steel

India is the second largest consumer of stainless steel and one of the fastest growing markets. The country's per capita stainless-steel consumption has more than doubled to 2.5 kg in 2022 fiscal from 1.2 kg in 2010.**Concern areas** for the Stainless-Steel Industry in Indo – ASEAN Trade Agreement are given below:

i. Disparity of Tariff Concession offered to India vis-à-vis other countries like China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan by ASEAN makes steel import from India less competitive. India offers 0% import duty on all HS lines under Ch. 72. However, India's Exports to Indonesia attracts an import duty of 11.3% (max); Vietnam 5% - 8.3%; Thailand: 5% (max) and Malaysia: 5% (max).
ii. Bilateral Safeguard provision under the India – ASEAN Trade Agreement is transitional and since **1st Jan 2019** there is no provision for bilateral safeguard measures.
iii. Current Rules of Origin (ROO) is based on value-addition (min 35%) and Change of Tariff Sub Head (CTSH). This has often enabled suppliers in ASEAN to circumvent ROO and produce fake Certificate of Origin (COO) as the traceability of the origin is a challenge. There have been numerous instances where Stainless Steel exports made to India by ASEAN have had negligible value additions to the original Hot Roll Coil (HRC) sourced by them from China etc.

**Industry Recommendation:**

i. ASEAN should offer reciprocal tariff concessions (0% import tariff) on imports of Stainless Steel (HS lines under 7219 and 7220) from India.
ii. To prevent unwarranted surge in imports for both India and ASEAN, provision for permanent safeguard should be included in the agreement like in case of India's FTA with UAE.
iii. Melt and pour should be added as the pre-requisite for local manufacturing in ROO as is the case of India's FTA with UAE and Australia. Also, there should be proper checkpoints to substantiate ROO and tariff benefits should be denied outrightly in case of discrepancies in COO.

## Non- Tariff Barriers

### I. Entry Visa

The main issue holding back the investments in neighbouring ASEAN countries, is the Entry Visa for Indian businesses. Indian companies have been requesting to explore the possibility of multiple entry visa or something like the ASEAN travel card (which provides visa on arrival) to Indian Industry.

### II. Supply Chain Disruptions and Logistic Issues

Indian industry has been requesting for good road connectivity via Myanmar to other ASEAN Countries in view of the supply chain disruptions and logistic issues faced by them.

- A train/road/sea freight corridor should be built at the earliest so businesses can trade even low value goods as freight rates are uneconomical.
- Visa norms to be simplified to promote more labour migration and tourism.

## III. Pharmaceuticals

| Country | Non-Trade Barriers | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| **Vietnam** | • Timelines for major and minor variation approval from Drug Administration of Vietnam (DAV) are same. Need to have minimum timelines for minor variation. No clarity on notification category for implementation.<br>• Continuous changes in guidance/circulars leading to lot of concerns/queries during registration process<br>• Product registration process of other regulatory authorities gives applicant opportunity to appeal in case of rejection but in case of Vietnam the registration application is rejected without any intimation and giving chance to appeal.<br>• Upon submission of new registration dossier to Drug Administration of Vietnam (DAV), it takes 13-15 months to get the first review/deficiency letter from authority. Need to have faster evaluation process to reduce the final approval time which is 30-36 months.<br>• Current Regulation is either to provide marketed COPP (Certificate of pharmaceutical product) from India along with real packaging material marketed in India or marketed COPP of US/EU along with real packaging material in reference countries.<br>• Guidelines are available only in local language. Guidelines should also be made available in English and Vietnamese version on website<br>• Visa extension is being reviewed as new dossier even though it is for extension of existing registration validity by committing that no changes done in registered product except the variations approved by DAV<br>• Rejection of hard copy dossier without any valid reason even after acceptance of online submission. | • Website to include most up-to-date information for all products<br>• Clearance of backlog<br>• Simplification of visa extension dossier requirements and evaluation process<br>• Applicant should be allowed to submit the dossier based on MA copies from reference countries since getting COPP's from reference countries is tedious process |

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| **Philippines** | • Zero deficiency policy<br>• Separate desktop audit approval from Phil FDA for same site through different partners and consultants<br>• Non availability of innovator labelling material on websites<br>• Local clinical trial protocol requirement for Monitored release products | • Website to include approved labelling material of innovator<br>• Clearance of backlog<br>• Simplification of requirements for monitored release category |
| **Thailand** | • Product registration process of other regulatory authorities gives applicant opportunity to appeal in case of rejection but in case of Thailand the registration application is rejected without any intimation and giving chance to appeal.<br>• Non acceptance of batch size less than 100000 for critical dosage forms i.e anti-cancer drugs etc<br>• Non acceptability of bio studies done in international population except Anti-retroviral, anti-cancer, Respiratory products<br>• No fast-track review if product is approved with stringent regulatory authority<br>• No expedite review for molecules listed under fast-track list published by Thai Food and Drug Administration (Thai FDA) | • Registration process to be streamlined<br>• Website to include approved labelling material of innovator<br>• Fast track review process for listed molecules and products already approved in SRA (stringent regulatory authority) countries/WHO prequalified<br>• Additional dossier requirements to be shared with applicant with timelines rather than rejecting the dossier |
| **Indonesia** | • National Agency of Drug and Food Control (NA-DFC) publish all the circulars and guidelines only in local language on website.<br>• Indian company cannot hold the Marketing Authorizations. Need to have local presence and local manufacturing site.<br>• Registration not allowed for the products which are manufactured locally in Indonesia.<br>• Procurement of Indonesia innovator is critical task to conduct multimedia dissolution profiling | • Allow product registration even though presence of local manufacturer<br>• Acceptance of BE studies against the innovator approved in US/EU. |
| **Myanmar** | • For new registration, previously stability data of 3 batches upto shelf life was mandatory during dossier submission but now MOH has started accepting stability | • Allow to submit dossier with 12 months stability data for new chemical entity |

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| | data completed upto 12 months with commitment letter.<br>• Zone IVB stability data is mandatory for registrations/renewals.<br>• Official registration guidelines from MOH are available. Variation guidelines yet to be published.<br>• Biostudy requirement- for oncological products, vaccines & new chemical entity<br>• Regulatory evaluation time should be minimized (current timelines: new registration 2+ yrs, renewal 1+, Variation 6+)<br>• Samples for submission are required in proposed artwork only for new registration and renewal request to accept samples in available packing material.<br>• Samples with less than 85% shelf life is not acceptable. | • Acceptance of the samples in available packing material for new registration and renewal<br>• Acceptance of COPP with 'NO' clause status for section 1.2,1.3 with justification<br>• Allow overseas manufacturer to submit dossier on new e-submission website of MOH |

## IV. Auto and steel sector

| Country | Non-Tariff Barriers | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| Indonesia | • There are several NTBs in auto sector such as multiple documents/approvals required for imported CBU registration, increased tax on Indian CBU on account of variation in calculation of assessable value by registration department, delay in clearances by multiple Ministries, SNI certification, non-acceptance of ECE approved auto components etc. There is also discrimination in registration process for imported commercial vehicle (CVs) vs domestically manufactured commercial vehicle. Imported CVs have to obtain local registration for sale in the market and this increases the cost by 8-15% of the landing price | The processes need to be streamlined and NTBs should be reviewed. |
| Indonesia | • There is a requirement of a special "Type Registration Mark (TPT)" for imported CBUs from the Ministry of Industry for issue of a "number plate" for running the vehicles on the road. This process has been made online since December 2020 and since then the Indonesian importers are | The problems being faced by Indonesian importers in the online process needs to be looked into. |

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| | facing difficulties such as (i) The website does not allow the applicant to apply for more than 13 bikes per model in an application. (ii) For, one model, specific application can be made only once in 3 months. (iii) Approval time in the online system has also doubled to 4 months from the 2 months of manual system. (iv) In case if company files multiple applications for the same vehicle model, only the first one gets processed and the others do not get considered in the Online system. This practically limits the number of imported CBU motorcycles that can be registered in Indonesia. | |
| Indonesia | • Import Approval of Iron or Steel, Alloy Steel, and Their Derivative Products (API-P) (This certificate is required to renewal every year and lead time of renewal for minimum 2 weeks from Ministry of Industry & Ministry of Trade) | Should be one time approval for Industry |
| Philippines | • In absence of national level approval policy, Indian auto manufacturers have to approach every LGU (Local Govt. unit) for approval to use 3-wheeler within the jurisdiction of LGU. There are 1600 city/town/municipalities in Philippines and each city/town/municipality separately approves the particular type of design. Therefore, the auto manufacturers have to go through the same process of multiple approvals in different cities/towns/ municipalities. These approvals in some places can take up to two years. | There should be a single window approval to use three-wheelers in all 1600 cities/towns/municipalities |

## V. Electronic Form

AIFTA (shipping document) draft copy to be used across ASEAN. The draft copy is an electronic form. This helps consignments to be cleared in time. Waiting for the original stamped document takes 20 days at times by which time the ship already reaches Indonesia. Malaysia and Thailand allow clearances on electronic AIFTA form whereas Indonesia does not. This simple change for uniformity across ASEAN will help us quite a bit for exports to Indonesia.

## Other issues

VI. **Imposition of Import duty by Indonesia for slight delay in verification of COOs:** In July 2021, Indonesia imposed customs duty to the tune of USD 4,60,000 on import of Mahindra vehicles from India by strict application of 90 days period for retroactive verification of COOs ignoring the force majeure factors brought in by the pandemic. The response to verification request was provided 11-12 days late on account of COVID-19 challenges and the Indonesian Customs was sounded in advance in this regard. India has not imposed any such penalty in several similar cases of delay in verification of COOs on the part of Indonesia.

VII. **Export duty/levy on palm oil by Indonesia and Malaysia**: Indonesia imposes export tax and export levy on Palm oil on monthly basis. The export duty on CPO during July 2022 was USD 200 per ton. The export levy on CPO prescribed for May 2022 was USD 375 per ton. Though Indonesia has temporarily scrapped its export levy for all palm oil products from July 15 to October 31, the export levy on CPO prescribed for May 2022 was USD 375 per ton. Malaysia also imposes export duty on CPO contingent upon the prevailing price of the commodity. The export duty on CPO by Malaysia is around 8% on the prevailing price. Continued imposition of high export duty and export levy pushes up palm oil prices in India and causes distortion in the prices of edible oils in India.

## OPPORTUNITIES WITH ASEAN

**Infrastructure Connectivity:** India- Myanmar- Thailand Trilateral highway is one of the major routes of India – ASEAN Connectivity. The Indian side has helped construct two key stretches of the 1,360-km trilateral highway in Myanmar but work on several other sections and the upgrade of nearly 70 bridges has been held up by a variety of factors. India believes the highway, which will run from Moreh in Manipur to Mae Sot in Thailand, will allow it to access markets across the ASEAN region and boost people-to-people ties.

The early completion of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and its extension to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam can be a vibrant economic growth corridor for trade and transport facilitation between North-East and Southeast Asian countries. Continued commitment and investment are needed in these infrastructure initiatives, as well as in soft infrastructure such as standardisation, increased automation in customs, and upgraded border facilities to facilitate the seamless movement of goods.

**Maritime Connectivity:** India's maritime connectivity with Southeast and East Asia, is at present in a very initial stage of development. Well-connected ports along with efficiency of shipping services are the major catalysts to greater maritime connectivity between ASEAN and India. Today, only a few ports of India and ASEAN are directly connected by shipping lines. Many ports in India and ASEAN are yet to be connected. Consequently, transportation costs and time go up substantially when cargo is shipped through feeder routes to reach ports in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, with whom India's trade has been growing fast. The opposite is also true. Both India and ASEAN countries need to explore new and established shipping routes as existing route

through Malacca Strait is heavily congested and is also relatively unsafe. As an alternative, economic corridor based multimodal connectivity such as Mekong-India Economic Corridor may be actively promoted, which will connect Indian coast with unexplored Southeast Asian coast and beyond, according trade a shorter time and at lesser cost.

To develop connectivity through water, ASEAN and India are working on the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP). The project was initiated by the Indian government in 2008 and is entirely funded by India. The purpose is to seek an alternative route through Myanmar for the transportation of goods to the northeast region of India. The KMMTTP connects Kolkata in India to Sittwe and Paletwa in Myanmar by sea and river respectively.

**Digital Connectivity:** ASEAN is a fast-growing consumer market with a growing middle class and a population that is increasingly digitally connected. As such beyond movement of goods and physical connectivity, it is also important for ASEAN and India to explore ways to enhance digital connectivity.

If the MPAC 2025 is implemented successfully, digital technologies in ASEAN will have grown to more than $500 billion by 2025. Technology will be adopted in the region in a bigger scale, efficiency in business and governance will be a notch higher, and products and services from the region will stand a stronger chance of competing in the global market. In order to progress on digital trajectory, ASEAN countries have to focus on strengthening its digital infrastructure and train the talent pool with advanced digital skills. Indeed, the full potential of the ASEAN digital transformation still lies in the future and there is immense potential for collaboration between India and ASEAN in this area.

ASEAN Countries should consider partnering with India for better integration of digital economies and both the countries should enable the sharing of data and avoid data localisation. There should be greater impetus to accelerate our efforts to integrate our digital realms and enable more seamless flow of data, services and payments.

**Air Connectivity:** Air connectivity is an important mode of transportation to carry tourist and business travellers, high-value fragile goods and perishable products from one place to another in the shortest time. Besides, it also provides significant social benefits by facilitating communication between different parts of the world and by providing greater access to remote areas.

Flow of ASEAN passengers coming to India has been much lower than the Indian passengers going to ASEAN or transit through ASEAN. Hubs like Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur equipped with bigger and performing airlines continue to attract passengers and air cargos from India. Today, out of 10 ASEAN countries, only five ASEAN countries like Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand have direct flights with India and vice versa. For the rest five ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Brunei), there is no direct flight but have inter-connection from other airports, of which Indonesia and the Philippines are two prominent ASEAN countries with which India has substantial business and tourism interests.

**People to People Connectivity:** Establishing connectivity will enable to promote people to people connectivity through cooperation in business and tourism. There is need to develop air connectivity to enhance tourism in the unexplored areas of ASEAN countries. Tourists from ASEAN Countries are interested in Buddhist pilgrimage. However, there is huge potential in other tourist destinations in India such as cruise, heritage and culture, spiritual and medical tourism. Both ASEAN and India need to integrate all stakeholders and build a roadmap for tourism cooperation and student exchange programmes to enhance people to people connectivity.

**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 to produce 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 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.

AIBC India recommends that India needs to work together with ASEAN Countries to promote regional cooperation in healthcare sector- creating a special visa scheme for doctors and nurses, regional Air Ambulance agreement for medical contingencies, developing regional platform for collating, compiling and studying data about the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines and a regional network for promoting technology-driven epidemiology, for preventing future pandemics.

**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.

AIBC India recommends that there should be more of 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.

Government of India and Government of Mekong Countries can partner for India- Mekong Cooperation Summit, to constructively engage private sector, in particular MSMEs, 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 Government of India and facilitating recovery and building back better from the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**5th ASEAN – India Expo and Summit:** India and ASEAN should host the flagship initiative, ASEAN – India Expo and Summit on rotational basis. Government of India has hosted this initiative 3 times (2011, 2012 and 2019) and Government of Thailand has hosted the event in 2017. In view of the same, Government of ASEAN Countries should consider hosting the event in 2022-23. The Expo and Summit will enable business communities to network with prospective buyers and generate business opportunities and reinvigorate the economic connect and at the same time also layout the plan for newer engagement and growth. FICCI being an apex industry body of India and secretariat of ASEAN India Business Council will work on this from India side and extend all support to conceptualise and guide leading ASEAN industry associations to implement this project in 2022-23 with support of Government of ASEAN.

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# ANNEX 1 –
# AIBC ASEAN ACTIVITIES

## Events and Meetings from September 2021 – December 2021

### September 2021

- Official Launch of the UK-ASEAN Digital Innovation Partnership Symposium
- 18th Joint Business Council and Associations Meeting by ASEAN-BAC
- Resurgent India Limited Virtual Session on "International Trade Finance – Opportunities for MSMEs
- FICCI Karnataka State Council & Tata Teleservices "MSME & Cyber Security: End-to-End Solutions"
- ASEAN Energy Climate Nexus: Launching of Reports Oil & Gas Updates, Power Updates 2021
- National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency of the Government of India "Doing Business in India"
- ERIA "4th East Asia Energy Forum: A Low Carbon Energy Transition in the ASEAN Region
- 53rd ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings
- FICCI LEADS 2021 "Future of Partnership"
- 34th ACTS (ASEAN Customs Transit System Conference Call
- Resurgent India Limited "Funding Opportunities in Food Processing and Agri Infrastructure"
- ASEAN Energy Business Forum "Providing Unrivalled Networking Access to Senior Global and Regional Industry Representatives
- ASEAN-EU Health Summit 2021 "Health Solutions Post Pandemic: Innovation, Inclusion & Immunizations in ASEAN and Beyond
- CII Factory and Plant EXPO 2021
- FICCI Task Force Session on ESG with Prof C B Bhattacharya, University of Pittsburg on Sustainability and Ethics
- CII in association with Government of Tripura "Buyer Seller Meet on Agarwood Products of Tripura"
- CII IntelliGen Summit 2021: Self Reliant India – Building India for a New World
- Fourth ASEAN Inclusive Business Summit: General Public Interest
- ASSOCHAM India "6th International Conference on Competition Law – Risk, Challenges and Way Forward"
- Research and Information System for Developing Countries "New Challenges to Development Cooperation in a Post Covid World"
- UK-ASEAN Business Council – London Tech Week – Fintech and Cyber Security Opportunities
- Resurgent India Limited "Overview on External Commercial Borrowings"
- Future Energy ASIA Exhibition and Summit with Philippines Energy Secretary H.E. Alfonso G. Cusi to Keynote at Future Energy Asia 2021
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Contribution on Medical Fraternity in ASEAN and India
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Importance in Youth Entrepreneurs in ASEAN and India
- FICCI-CMSME: Special Sessions with the MSME Secretary, CEO-GeM and CMB SIDBI on the occasion of the 7th FICCI-CMSME AGM
- Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): Opportunities for Spain
- AIBC Webinar: Investment Opportunities in Different Sectors within ASEAN & India
- ASEAN BAC Brunei: ASEAN Business & Investment Roundtable 2021 – Skills for a Digital Age
- RHB Investment Outlook: Investment Opportunities in a Low Yield Environment

- Dialogue with ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) at the AEM-India Consultations

**October 2021**

- Resurgent India Limited "Affordable Housing Finance Industry – Current Scenario & Future Outlook"
- ASEAN Secretariat Invitation to ACTS Conference Call
- ICC India Start Up Week
- EU-ABC Webinar: Re-Orientation of ASEAN Supply Chains for a Sustainable Future
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Importance of Insurance Companies in India and ASEAN during Covid Pandemic
- DIGITECH Expo – Virtual Exclusive B2B Meets Between ASEAN & Indian (ICT) Companies
- ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum 2021: Rebuilding ASEAN Towards Sustainable Recovery
- RIS – "Third International Conference on ASEAN-India Cultural and Civilizational"
- Indo-ASEAN Business Summit & Expo – Act East Policy in the Post Covid World
- SANEM: Inaugural Session: Bay of Bengal Regional Trade and Connectivity Capacity Building
- IEA Global Gas Security Review Insights and Asia Perspectives
- 10th ERIA Editors' Roundtable: 'Overcoming COVID-19: From Adversity to Opportunity'.
- ASEAN-BAC Workshop Between the Study Group on Feasibility of Implementing Simplified Customs Procedures for low Value Shipments and Joint Business Councils (FSG-LVS – JBC Workshop)
- International Energy Agency (IEA) "IEA Global Gas Security Review Insight and Asia's Perspectives"
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Contribution of Insurance Companies in ASEAN & India: Before & Post Pandemic
- FICCI Invitation – Charting Agri-Trade Across Border: Second Session of Virtual India-Mekong Networking Series under ASEAN Development Bank's "India-Mekong SME Internationalization Program
- Invitation to Regional Workshop on the Project on Assessment of Future Sustainable Infrastructure Trends and Priorities in a Post-Pandemic
- 3rd Unlocking RCEP for Business: Trade in Services
- Regional Webinar "Social Entrepreneurship as a Path to Resilient Post-Covid Recovery"
- 5th AIBC Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2021
- EXIM Bank - Deepening India- ASEAN Relations: Exploring New Avenues for Engagements
- CII Future Tech 2021 Conference & Exhibition on Digital Technologies "Driving Technologies for Building the Future, we all can Trust"
- ASSOCHAM Corporate Governance Symposium Series 3: Effective Nomination & Remuneration Committee
- US-ASEAN Webinar: ASEAN Safe, Nutritious Food Workshop: Farm to Fork Learnings from Covid-19
- ASEAN-BAC Healthcare Working Group (HWG) Meeting
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Contribution of Women Entrepreneur in ASEAN & India
- ERIA Webinar Series "Entrepreneurship, Start-Ups and Innovation in ASEAN and East Asia for the Post Pandemic Recovery

- "The Role of Business and Non-Governmental Organization in Rebuilding a Post Pandemic Nation" by The Metro Manila Jaycee Senate
- UK-ASEAN Business Council Webinar on ASEAN Business & Investment Summit (ABIS) 2021
- ASEAN-BAC Brunei "ASEAN Business & Investment Summit (ABIS) 2021
- ERIA Webinar "Further Collaboration in Healthcare Sector between Viet Nam and Japan"
- ASEAN New Zealand Business Council ABA Conference 2021: Trade Policies and Practices to Strengthen Recovery
- CII & US Consulate Invite: What to expect from COP26 – A Framework for India Businesses
- FICCI Digital Roadshow on Opportunities in Aircraft Leasing and Financing in GIFT-IFSC, India
- ICC Fireside Chat "Sanjeev Bikhchandani & Gopal Srinivasan" Markets, Reforms, Digital Technologies & Start Ups
- EU-ABC Digital Toolkit Webinar Series: Banking on Cross Border Payments

**November 2021**

- EU-ABC ASEAN Road to Recovery Webinar Series: The Future of Travel
- AIBC Webinar: Investment Opportunities in Different Sectors within ASEAN & India
- AIBC Webinar: Role & Contribution of Youth Entrepreneurs in ASEAN & India
- ICC Webinar: Future of Branding in Digital World
- ICC Session with Mr. Ritesh Agarwal – Founder & Group CEO OYO Hotels "How Technology has Catalyzed Transformation in the Hospitality Sector"
- ASEAN Secretariat & iBAN Regional invitation to a Webinar on the Guidelines for the Promotion of Inclusive Business in ASEAN: The Opportunities for Collaboration
- US-ASEAN Business Council Innovation Series: 2nd Webinar "Innovation for Sustainable COVID-19 Recovery Showcasing Healthcare and Digital Services Sector
- CII Capital Goods Summit 2021 (6th Edition) Theme: Building a Global Competitive, Self-reliant and Sustainable Capital Goods Industry "Inaugural Session by Chief Guest Mr. Arun Goel, Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries, India
- EU-ABC Digital Toolkit Webinar Series: Banking on Cross Border Payments
- CII Global Economic Policy Summit 2021 – Inaugural Session by Mr. Uday Kotak, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman & Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee
- APEC Digital Trade Symposium: Advancing Digital Trade Transformation & Connectivity in APEC
- CII Global Economic Policy Summit 2021 – Rebuilding Economies "In Conversation Session on Enhancing Global Footprint: India's Big Opportunity" by Shri Piyush Goyal
- ASEAN BAC & ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Council (AYEC) invitation to the 1st ABAC-AYEC Policy Dialogue (AAPDF)
- ICC Webinar on Future Branding in the Digital World
- ICC Annual Session & AGM with Hon' Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highway – Bharat @75
- ERIA – Malaysia's Private Sector: Innovation as Driver to Tackle Marine Plastics
- Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and Assam Skills Development Mission (ASDM) "Physical Conference on Skills Development"
- FICCI's The Emergence of GIFT-IFSC as World Class FinTech Hub
- ICC Annual Session with Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia - Hon' Minister of Civil Aviation GOI

- ICC Annual Session with Shri Bhupender Yadav - Hon' Union Minister of Labour & Employment GOI
- ICC Annual Session with Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla – Hon' Foreign Secretary GOI
- ICC Annual Session with Shri Amit Shah – Hon' Minister of Home Affairs & Co-operation GOI
- AIBC Webinar: Revival of Hotel & Tourism Industry in ASEAN & India
- ICC Annual Session & AGM with Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla – Chairman of Aditya Birla Group
- Resurgent India Knowledge Series Session "COVID 19 Impact on Structured Finance Markets
- RIS Brainstorming Session "Expectation from MC12 and Way Forward"
- RIS Review of ASEAN-India FTA: Identifying the Potentials and Challenges for Deepening India-Indonesia Economic Engagement
- FICCI-CMSME: Orientation session for FICCI "Fostering Textile -Trade Across Border"
- FICCI-ADB: India Mekong SME Internationalization Program
- CII on E-Conference on Air Pollution & Industry – Focus: Actions Towards Climate Change
- Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM): Doing Business with World Series: Focus on Egypt
- US Consulate Mumbai and CII: Post COP26 Opportunities for US-India Collaboration on Sustainability
- ASEAN Business Awards 2021

**December 2021**

- PHDCCI Webinar on Trading Opportunities in Nifty Financial Services Index and Currency Weekly Future
- ASEAN-IEA Workshop: Sustainable and Energy Efficient Buildings and Cooling in Southeast Asia
- CII-IVL Swedish: Co-operative Rainwater Harvesting for Sustainable Society
- 40th ASEAN-Customs Transit System Bi-Weekly Conference
- Resurgent-India on "How FinTechs can Collaborate with Banks and NBFC's for Enabling Credit Growth in India"
- FICCI – InFinity Forum: India's Beyond Boundaries FinTech
- ICC Session on India in Perspective: Today and Tomorrow
- ASEAN Secretariat: ASEAN Under the Leadership of Cambodia in 2022
- ERIA – Social Enterprises and Disability: Fostering Innovation, Awareness and Social Impact in the ASEAN Region
- CII Seminar "Taking Threat Detection and Response to the Next Level with XDR
- ICC "Destination Tripura – Investment Summit 2021'
- CII Conference on "One Sun, One World, One Grid"
- ASEAN Secretariat "Unlocking RCEP for Business: Investment, Intellectual Property and E-Commerce
- CII & CCI Annual Conference on Competition Law and Practice
- ICC "India Oil & Gas Summit – Transforming Bengal into a Gas Based Economy
- Resurgent India Knowledge Series "Future Proofing Bank Outlook and Opportunities for Indian Banks"
- CII Partnership Summit 2021 "Partnering for Building a New World: Growth, Competitiveness, Sustainability, Technology"
- ICC – Textile & Apparel Expo 2021 in Nigeria

- ASEAN Secretariat "Unlocking RCEP for Business: Competition, Government Procurement, SMEs and Economic and Technical Cooperation
- ICC 'e-Conference on Air Pollution & Industry-Focus: Actions Towards Climate Change
- ASSOCHAM National Conference on "Constitutional Law Interfacing with Commercial Laws"
- FICCI and Indian Banks Association (IBA) – FIBAC 2021 "Resilience & Rebound – Preparing for Journey Towards $5Tn Economy"
- ASEAN Centre for Energy Webinar on the Role of Clean Coal Technology (CCT) and Carbon Capture Storage (CCS) towards Energy Transition and Low Carbon Economy
- Resurgent India Knowledge Series Virtual Session "PLI Scheme: Journey so far and major impact on Indian MSMEs"
- ERIA Event "Promoting ASEAN-Japan Collaboration for Human Resources Development"
- FICCI-IBA Banking Conference "FIBAC 2021 is Resilience & Rebound – Preparing for journey towards $5 Tn Economy"
- ICC AMC Meet on "Corporate Investor Solutions"

**January 2022**

- Resurgent India "Alternative Funding Options for Real Estate Sector 2.0
- Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia "The Next Chapter of ASEAN and Japan Economic Corporation in Post-Pandemic Era
- Resurgent India Virtual Session on "Role of Financial Advisors in MSME"
- Resurgent India "Co Lending between Bank and NBFCs: Journey so far & Road Ahead"
- Asia CCUS Network Workshop on CCUS Model Case Study
- Canada-ASEAN Business Council "The Role of ASEAN in Global Supply Chain Diversification"
- FICCI – 5 Years of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code: Looking Forward and Beyond
- AIBC Virtual Meeting with Shri Manoj Kumar Bharti – Indian Ambassador to Indonesia
- ICC – Evolving trend in FOREX Risk Management -Using Technology to Overcome Challenge
- Resurgent India – Fintech and NBFCs Partnership for Credit Revolution
- Official Launch of ASEAN Access MATCH
- PHDCCI – Webinar on Agriculture Ecosystem: Expectations from Budget 2022
- ASEAN Secretariat – Embracing the 4IR: Outlook, Strategies, and Plans for ASEAN
- RIS – 30 Years of ASEAN-India Relations
- ICC – 7th ACT EAST Business Show
- CII Conference on Smart Metering Industry
- ERIA - Women Entrepreneurs: Focusing at the Grassroots
- EU-ASEAN: ASEAN in 2022 – Economic Outlook & Drivers for Growth
- ASSOCHAM Webinar Seminar: Corporate Governance Symposium – Series 4: Effective CSR and Sustainability Committee
- Resurgent India: Private Equity Investments in MSME Sector – Opportunity of the Next Decade
- ICC - Integrating BIMSTEC 2022 "Transition to Paperless Trade to Mitigate"
- PHDCCI Webinar on Commodity Market – Opportunities Ahead

**February 2022**

- ICC – Outreach Program on Export Controls for Startups
- Quantum Mutual Fund – Decoding the Union Budget 2022 and its Impact on Your Investments
- Resurgent India Session "Distressed Assets and Funding Opportunities in India"
- OCED – Building an Inclusive ASEAN through human centered, sustainable and resilient partnership
- ASSOCHAM India Webinar: Interactive Session on Union Budget 2022-23 with Hon'ble Union Finance Minister
- The Energy and Research Institute "ASEAN-India High Level Conference on Renewable Energy
- PHDCCI – Post Budget Interactive Session on Implications of Union Budget 2022-23
- US Consulate General Mumbai and University of Notre Dame Webinar on Supporting LGBTQI + Communities on Campus
- India Malaysia Strategic Business Summit
- ICC Online Session with Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs on Union Budget 2022-23
- PHDCCI Webinar on Changes in Direct Taxes in the Union Budget 2022
- ASEAN-BAC "19th ASEAN-BAC JBCs Meeting
- CII Directors Guild – Board Leadership Ruminations
- CII Conference on Future of Mobility India
- ICC on Promoting New FPOs' and Raising Farmers Income in Western and Central India
- RIS Webinar: FITM Invited Lecture on One World One Health
- CII Webinar on Digital Transformation in the era of Pandemic
- ASEAN Secretariat "The 7th ASEAN Economic Community Dialogue"
- US Consulate Mumbai Session "Avoiding Plagiarism & Building Academic Integrity"
- ICC – Evolving Trends in Forex Risk Management – Using Technology to Overcome Challenges
- ERIA "Towards Plastic Waste Free Thailand – Single Use Plastic Reduction and Replacement
- RIS Webinar: Celebrating 30 Years of ASEAN-India Relations
- FICCI-ADB: India Mekong SME Internationalization Program
- EU Delegation to ASEAN & EU-ASEAN Business Council Webinar: EU & ASEAN Green Transition: Focus on Renewable Energies
- UKABC Webinar: UK-ASEAN Business Forum
- ASSOCHAM National Dialogue Series: India Affirmative Action: Future of SC/ST Entrepreneurs
- FICCI – AI in Indian Financial Services – Uncovering Ground Truth
- RIS Webinar:" STIP Forum Lecture by Dr. Ajay Mathur, DG, ISA"

**March 2022**

- EU-ASEAN "Legislating EPR in ASEAN: A Need?
- Canada-ASEAN Business Council "Canada-ASEAN Collaboration in Agriculture and Food Security"
- UK-ASEAN Business Council "UK Genomics Symposium with ASEAN Partners 2022
- CII Mist Summit & Expo 2022
- ASEAN-BAC 'Online Consultation on Advancing Women's Economic Empowerment

- Resurgent India Webinar on "Bridging Funding Gap for SME/MSME's
- ICC – India Bangladesh Business to Business Meet 2022
- First Annual FICCI ESG Summit "Financing India's Sustainable Growth"
- 1st India-Israel Deep Tech Summit 2022
- CII Webinar Exclusive Session on "E-Sports in India-Making India Globally Competitive"
- EU-ASEAN Business Council – Women in Leaders' Summit 2022
- Second Bay of Bengal Economic Dialogue 2022
- CII - Curtain Raiser – 3rd Hybrid Conference & Digital Exhibition on "AatmaNirbhar Bharat – Making India a Global Manufacturing Hub for Renewable Energy
- CII - Delhi Roadshow on Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS)
- ASEAN-Bac Malaysia Virtual Dialogue with Trade Associations and Chambers of Commerce
- EU-ASEAN Business Council – Sustainability Reporting: Transparency for Investors & Economic Recovery for ASEAN post COVID-19
- CII & U.S. CG, 5th Edition "India US Trade Townhall – India-US Economic Partnership: Opportunities and The Way Forward

**April 2022**

- Resurgent India – Impact of RBI Guideline on Shadow Banks (NBFCS) Health: Way Forward
- Resurgent India "Bridging Funding Gap for SME/MSME's 2.0
- CII – Industry Outreach Session on G20/B20
- ASEAN Secretariat SME Academy 2.0 Launch Event
- CII Corporate Governance Summit 2022
- EU-ASEAN Business Council – The Financing of Net Zero Transition in Emerging Markets
- CII Exclusive Session on "Scaling India Gaming Studios and taking the to the next level"
- Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia & Canadian Embassy in Jakarta special event "In Conversation with the Hon' Melanie Joly: Exploring the Future of Canada's Engagement in the Indo-Pacific"
- RIS – Indo-Pacific Dialogue 2022
- US-ASEAN Business Council: ASEAN SME Academy 2.0 Launch Event
- RIS – Seminar on Connectivity Cooperation for a Free, Open and Inclusive Indo-Pacific: Building Economic Resilience Through Enhanced
- PHDCCI on Pan-India webinar on "GST Audit-Taxpayers Perspective"
- RIS Webinar on 30 Years of ASEAN-India Economic Relations: Opportunities and Way Forward
- ASSOCHAM Webinar on Related Party Transactions (RPT) – Regulations, Governance & Practice
- CII Web Seminar: Fireside Chat on "Meghraj – Cloud as a Service"
- FICCI Preview Meeting of LEADS 2022
- Canada ASEAN Business Council – ASEAN as Canada's Key to the Indo-Pacific Implications for Businesses"
- RIS – Panel Discussion on India-EU Connectivity-New Context, New Horizons
- CII – Global Unicorn Summit 2022
- CII – "Gearing up with ESG: A Discussion on India's ESG Playbook, Preparedness and Expectations"

- FICCI-PWC Master Class on Digital Technology and Effective Applications and Solutions for Smooth Finance Transformation
- ASSOCHAM Webinar on "Navigating Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Trade Remedies to your Advantage in India"

**May 2022**

- PHDCCI – Geopolitical Distress: Economic Implications for India
- Resurgent India Knowledge Series "Challenges in Adhering to Timelines under IBC"
- Launch of FICCI Self-Regulatory Code for the e-diagnostics Sector
- CII Session on Institutionalization of International Arbitration in India
- CII Global Unicorn Series "Presenting Growth Stories of Indian Unicorns"
- Canada-ASEAN Business Council "Opportunities in ESG and Sustainable Finance in ASEAN
- ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) & Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) – 30 Years of ASEAN-India Relations "Post Covid-19 Recovery: Regional Cooperation Agenda for ASEAN-India Partnership
- East Asia Business Council "Unlocking RCEP for Business: Opportunities for Food and Beverage Industry
- Resurgent India Virtual Session on "Impact of Rising Interest Rates on Lending to Borrowers"
- SANEM-MFO Webinar – The Lives of Garment Workers during Covid-19
- ERIA – Pandemic Best Policy Strategies: Balancing Health and Economy
- ASEAN-Japan Business Week 2022 "Towards Innovative and Sustainable Growth"

**June 2022**

- ASSOCHAM National Council for Human Resources & Industry Relations (HR&IR) Policies and Reforms-reg
- MEA – Delhi Dialogue-XII "Building Bridges in Indo-Pacific"
- PHDCCI – "Importance of Competition Law for MSMEs'
- Book Launch on "ASEAN-India: Strengthening Partnership and Post-Pandemic Future"
- ASEAN Secretariat – The 3rd ASEAN Consumer Protection Conference (3rd ACPC)
- FMM – Unlocking RCEP for Business: Opportunities for Garment and Textile Industry
- RIS Webinar – 44th STIP Forum Lecture by Mr. Nitin Desai, Former USG for Economics and Social Affairs, United Nations
- ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) & Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) Webinar on Thirty Years of ASEAN-India Economic Relation: ASEAN-India Socio Cultural Partnership

**July 2022**

- ASEAN-India Business Council (AIBC) Consultative Meeting
- CII – 2nd Indo Pacific Business Summit – Forging Partnership for Connected Indo-Pacific
- ERIA – Data Release of the 2018 Longitudinal Study of Ageing and Health in the Philippines
- PHDCCI - Conference on Urban Infrastructure for Sustainable Future
- ERIA "Unpacking the RCEP Agreement: Public-Private Dialogue #5

- CII – Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of India and Japan Diplomatic Relations "Innovative Collaborations for Developing Future Generation Communication Technologies"
- PHDCCI – Interactive Video Conference on Understanding ISO 13485 Certificate for Medical Devices
- PHDCCI – First Lecture of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Memorial Lecture
- CII Webinar: Advance Machine Vision Automation for the Future of Manufacturing Quality Excellence in the Automotive Industry
- FICCI – India@75-US-India Economic Partnership: From Here to Where in Next 25 Years Conference on "Co-operation for Green Finance for a Better, Greener Future"
- ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) & Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) - International Conference to Commemorate Thirty Years of India-ASEAN Relations "Geopolitical Shifts and Opportunities – New Horizons in India-Southeast Asia Relations"
- FICCI & IBA - #PICUP Fintech 2022
- CII Webinar: Renewables Energy Speaker Series "Indo-US Best Practices on Advancing Renewable Energy Collaboration"
- CII Webinar: Intelligent Processes, Empowered Workforce – Pillars of Digital Transformation
- ASEAN-BAC Webinar "The ASEAN Supply Chain (ASC)
- EU-ABC Webinar: Road Safety for Two Wheelers in ASEAN
- Connect ASIA Webinar: IP & Brand #5 – Brands for Good 2023
- CII Webinar "India Taiwan Business Cooperation Forum
- ICC Webinar "Independent Directors Need to be Really Independent in Their Discharge of Responsibilities

**August 2022**

- PHDCCI Zoom Meeting "Interactive Video Conference on Validation of Medical Devices
- CII – Session on Mediation: Singapore and India Perspective
- Resurgent India Knowledge Series "New Age Neobanks & FinTech's – Threat or Opportunities for Banks and NBFCs?
- ASEAN-BAC Malaysia Webinar 2022 "Public-Private Health Partnerships in ASEAN's Post-Covid Recovery
- Indian Chamber of Commerce "Exclusive Interactive Session on Export Formalities to Encourage Indian Exporters with Mr. Santosh Kr. Sarangi, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)
- ASSOCHAM Web Seminar: Heartcare – Dil Dhadakne Do
- ASSOCHAM Web Seminar: Tax Implications vis a vis SEZs and "DESH" Bill – Understanding Key Nuances of This Potential Gamechanger
- CII Webinar: Renewable Energy Speaker Series "Indo-U.S. Best Practices on Advancing Renewable Energy Collaboration" Focus State: Telangana
- The ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) : ASEAN Re-GENDER Roadmap
- ASEAN International Advocacy & Consultancy (SAIAC) & University Indonesia (Department of Electrical Engineering) – Forum on Emerging Threats to Space Sustainability & Risks to Indonesia's Space Economy & Digital Connectivity

# Activities by AIBC Members
# ASEAN



Donating funds and medicine to Ziwitadarna Sanga Hospital (Hospital for religious Persons) on behalf of AIBC Myanmar.



Meeting with newly appointed India Ambassador to Myanmar, discussion on enhancing India Myanmar border trade and assisting Myanmar IT sector and building hospital in Myanmar.




Meeting with PHARMEXCIL India for the Philippines Buyer-Seller Meet (30th June - 1st July 2022)



Meeting with Dato Sri Azmin Ali (Senior Minister of International Trade and Industry Malaysia) with Dato Ramesh Kodammal and members after trade dialogue between the Minister and private sector.

# Activities by AIBC Members
## ASEAN




Meeting on 30 years relationship of ASEAN and India with H.E Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, H.E Jayant Khobragade (High Commissioner of India to ASEAN), H.E BN Reddy (High Commissioner of India to Malaysia).



H.E S. Jaishankar External Affairs Minister with Dato Ramesh Kodammal in Delhi at the XII-Delhi Dialogue on the 17th June 2022.



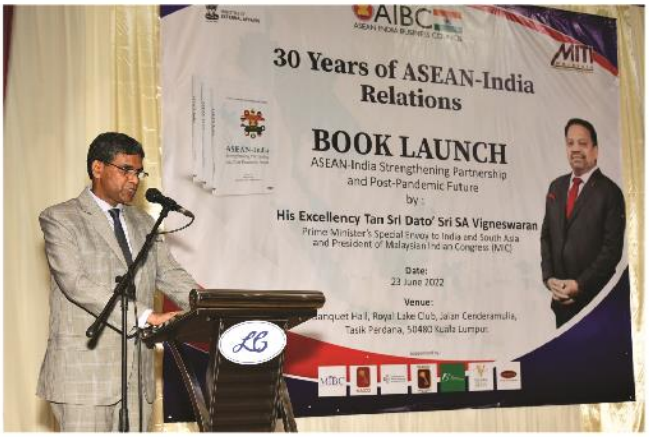
Mr Indronil Sengupta, Vietnam Chair of AIBC met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur, India, Shri N Biren Singh to discuss about the potential of green energy in Manipur on 30th July 22




Dato Ramesh Kodammal presenting a paper at Delhi Dialogue-XII on 16th to 17th June 2022, highlighting issues on ASEAN-India trade.

# 30 Years of ASEAN-India Relations Book Launch

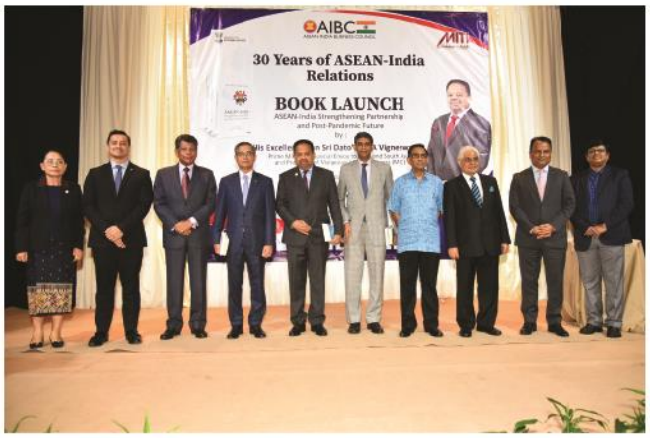
**ASEAN-India relationship strengthening partnership and post-pandemic future.**










The book was launched in Kuala Lumpur on 23rd June 2022 by H.E Tan Sri Dato' Sri SA Vigneswaran (Prime Minister's Special Envoy to India and South Asia) with H.E BN Reddy (Ambassador India to Malaysia), H.E. Mr. Cheuy Vichet (Ambassador Cambodia to Malaysia), Tan Sri Dr. Munir Majid, Mr. Prabir De and Dato Ramesh Kodammal.



ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) met with India's ASEAN Ambassador to Indonesia, H.E. Jayant Khobragade to inquire potential collaborations between ASEAN, in particular Indonesia on the development of Green Pharmacy, what is also commonly known as "ayurveda or herbal medicines". A separate meeting was also conducted with India's Ambassador to Indonesia, H.E Manoj Kumar Bharti to inquire potentials of other business between Indonesia and India.

# ANNEX 2 -
# AIBC INDIA AND FICCI
# ACTIVITIES

## Key FICCI and AIBC India Activities in 2021 and 2022

**Virtual ASEAN India Business Council Meeting**
**17th 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, Indian 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 for all 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.




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.
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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.
AIBC
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**18th ASEAN Economic Ministers- India Consultations**
**14th September 2021**






**LEADS 2021 ASEAN Session on India- ASEAN Connectivity Partnerships**
**14th September 2021**

**Mr Sarbananda Sonowal, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of AYUSH, Government of India** while addressing the **LEADS 2021 ASEAN Session on India- ASEAN Connectivity Partnerships,** organized by **FICCI**, emphasised that connectivity and communication are of prime importance for the economic growth of countries. He also added that India should collaborate with ASEAN countries for strengthening digital infrastructure and train the talent pool with advanced digital skills.

**LEADS** is curated as a strategic platform for global leaders from Asia, Europe, Africa, CIS, Americas & the Pacific, to deliberate on the tenets of Leadership, economic Excellence and Adaptability to change and to build on pillars of Diversity and Sustainability.

**The Minister** further stated that physical connectivity between India and the neighbouring South Asian countries will enable small and medium sized enterprises in the border areas to explore new business opportunities. He also said that said there should be greater impetus to accelerate our efforts to integrate a digital realm and enable more seamless flow of data services and payments. India's engagement with ASEAN should therefore be driven by and focused on expanding digital connectivity between the two regions given India's solid infrastructure and booming digital economy.

"We need to realise that India and the ASEAN region are fast-growing markets and boast of a young population that is digitally connected. Apart from the connectivity of goods and trade it is also important for both regions to explore ways to enhance digital activity," he said.

**Mr Sonowal** added that the Govt of India has been making efforts to turn India into a global data hub. "Through various policies and reforms. India's data centre is expected to add 560mw by 2023. As the data centre landscape continues to go up, the industry is expected to grow exponentially," he noted.

**Mr Sonowal** also stressed on establishing connectivity between India and ASEAN to enable the people-to-people connectivity through business and tourism. "We need to focus on greater air connectivity and enhance tourism in unexplored areas of the ASEAN countries. We need to speed up the regional connectivity project with ASEAN countries to give boost to a bilateral trade

Speaking at the event, **Mr Devin Narang**, Country Head-India, Sindicatum Renewable Energy Company mentioned that Connectivity is the high-speed catalyst to facilitate trade, logistics and customs integration between the two regions for seamless movement of goods and services.

**Mr Harshavardhan Neotia**, Co-Chair, India-Singapore CEO Forum, Past President, FICCI and Chairman, Ambuja Neotia Group said that it is necessary to overcome the missing links in transportation, the lack of interoperability, and infrastructure gaps between two regions, to create a functional single market of India and ASEAN.

**Ms Mridula Iyer,** Managing Director and Head of Treasury & Trade Solutions, CITI, India, shared that fintech and start-ups have played a crucial role in building India- ASEAN digital connectivity as large number of Indian start-ups are foraying into ASEAN market.

**Dr Ruth Banomyong**, Dean- Faculty of Commerce & Accountancy, Thammasat University, Thailand suggested that Visa exemptions and cultural exchanges will be crucial for enhancing people-to-people connectivity between India and ASEAN.

**Dr Robert Yap**, Executive Chairman, YCH Group, Singapore, said that India and ASEAN need to work together for building resilient supply chains for enhancing trade connectivity.

The session was concluded with the following key outcomes:

- The physical connectivity between India and Neighbouring south-east Asian countries will enable small and medium-sized enterprises to explore new business opportunities.
- An ASEAN Visa (like Schengen) and cultural exchanges will be crucial for enhancing people-to-people connectivity between India and ASEAN.
- Tech Savvy young population and explosion of e-Commerce are creating huge opportunities for creation of robust digital infrastructure between India and ASEAN.





















**FICCI-ADB: India – Mekong SME Internationalization Program 2021-22**

FICCI in partnership with Asian Development Bank (ADB) organised **INDIA – MEKONG SME INTERNATIONALIZATION PROGRAM**, to promote internationalisation of SMEs based in Greater Mekong Subregion (Cambodia, Vietnam & Thailand) and India.

Under this project, FICCI organised networking series focusing on trading across border, charting agri trade, textiles, Adoption of new technologies by SMEs on 19 August 2021, 11 October 2021, 30 November 2021 and 21 February 2022.






## Glimpses of 11th October 2021







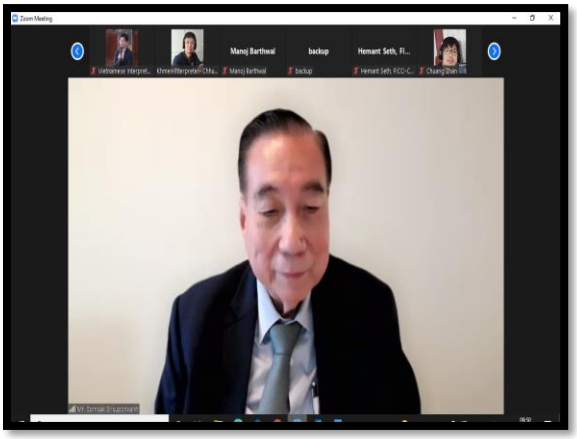


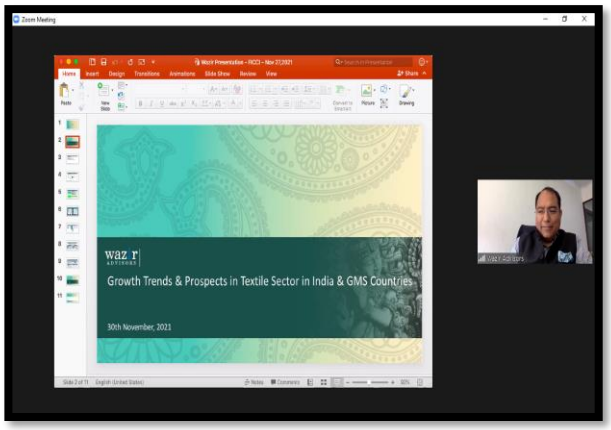




## Glimpses of 30th November 2021



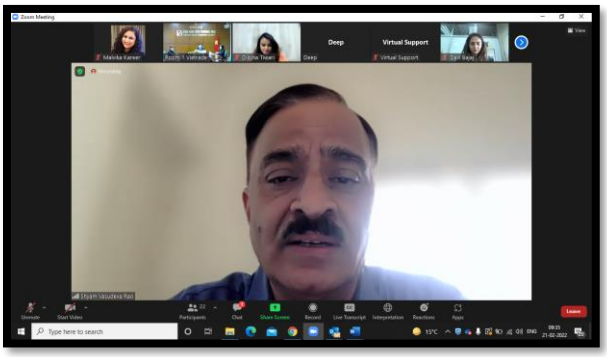









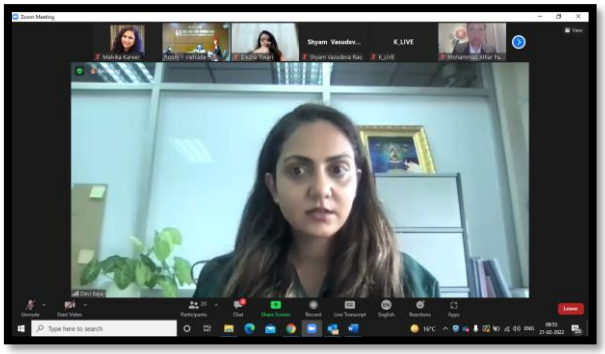
## Glimpses of 21st February 2022

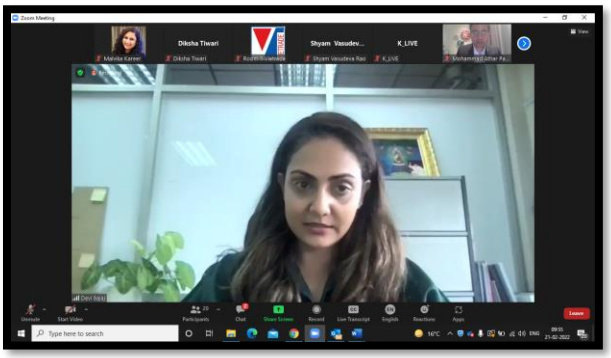
















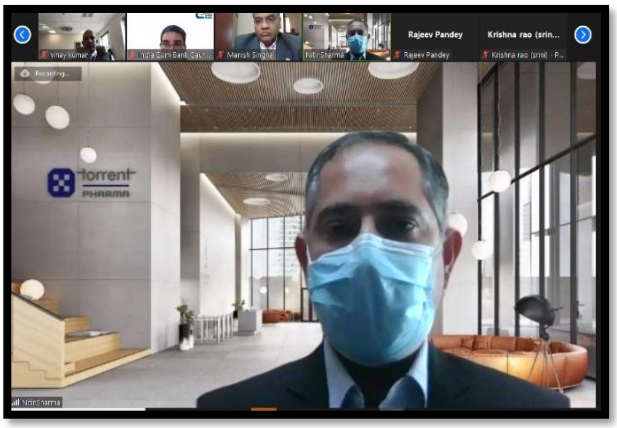


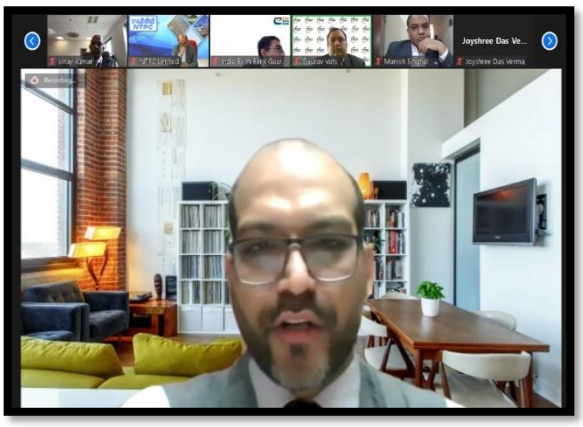
**Exclusive Industry Interaction with Mr Vinay Kumar, Ambassador Designate to Myanmar**
**21st January 2022**

FICCI organised exclusive Industry interaction with Mr Vinay Kumar, Ambassador Designate to Myanmar on 21 January 2022, to brief Ambassador on the business issues Indian companies are facing with Myanmar. The interaction was joined by prominent companies such as Escorts Ltd, GAIL Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd, J K Paper Ltd, NTPC Limited, The Rice Exporters Association, Torrent Pharmaceuticals Limited, Wipro Limited, EXIM Bank, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals.







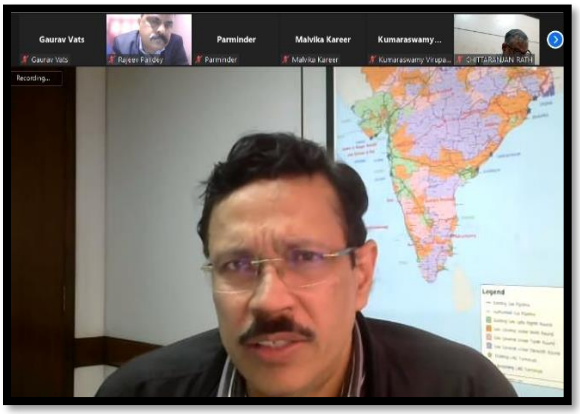



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एनटीपीसी
NTPC
Transforming Lives


Gaurav Vats
Parminder
Malvika Kareer
Kumaraswamy...


NitinSharma
Krishna rao (srin...


Gaurav Vats
Malvika Kareer
NTPC Limited


NTPC Limited





**Meeting with Shri Manoj K Bharti, Indian Ambassador to Indonesia and H.E. Ms. Ina Krisnamurthi, Ambassador of Indonesia to India, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia**
**16th February 2022**

FICCI organised exclusive Industry interaction with Shri Manoj K Bharti, Indian Ambassador to Indonesia on 16 February 2022, to brief Ambassador on the business issues Indian companies are facing with Indonesia. The interaction was joined by prominent companies such as Thermax Limited, Fomento Resources Pvt. Ltd., Sindicatum Renewable Energy Company, Aditya Birla Management Corporation Pvt Ltd., Wipro Limited, Tata Consultancy Services Limited, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, BEML Limited.

Post the industry interaction, FICCI team had institutional meeting with H.E. Ms. Ina Krisnamurthi, Ambassador of Indonesia to India, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, along with Shri Manoj K Bharti, Indian Ambassador to Indonesia to understand the perspective of both the Ambassadors on India- Indonesia economic enagagment.










**ASEAN- India Business Council Consultative Meeting**
**4th July 2022**

FICCI as Secretariat of ASEAN – India Business Council organised a virtual consultative meeting of AIBC Members on 4th July 2022, 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 Sanjiv Mehta**, Co-Chair, AIBC (India), President, FICCI and CEO & Managing Director, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL); President, Unilever South Asia & Member, Unilever Leadership Executive (Global Executive Board), Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) emphasised that Technology driven opportunities in **healthcare, education, finance, defence, space, e-mobility, renewable energy, could be the way forward for India- ASEAN shared future.**

**Dato Ramesh Kodammal**, Co-Chair (ASEAN), ASEAN-India Business Council and Chairman, Goldtex Group of Companies highlighted that Pharmaceuticals, Digital partnerships, SME Collaboration and Energy are some of the focus sectors which require collaboration between India and ASEAN.









**Vietnam- India Business Meeting**
**18th July 2022**

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam - India Diplomatic relations, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Government of Vietnam organised a business delegation led by **H E Do Quoc Hung, Deputy Director General, Asia-Africa Market Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam** and 20 businesses in multi-sectors like agriculture, chemicals, electronics, mechanical, food processing, shoes, pharmaceutical cosmetics, fertilisers, limestone, textiles, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals to India from July 18th to 22nd, 2022. In view of this high-level visit, FICCI supported Embassy of Vietnam for organising **Vietnam- India Business Meeting on 18 July 2022.**

Addressing the Vietnam - India Business meeting, Mr. Do Quoc Hung, Deputy Director General, Africa-Asia Market Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam highlighted that there has been 6 times increase in bilateral trade over the last 11 years with an average annual growth of 16% and Vietnam is hopeful to achieve the USD 15 billion bilateral trade target soon.

Mr. Rajeev Pandey, Head – Asia (International Business), Escorts Kubota Limited and Member, FICCI shared that Vietnam is one of the most important partners for India's Act-East and the key areas for cooperation are agriculture, healthcare & pharmaceuticals, infrastructure, information technology, energy, and tourism.

The session was also addressed by representatives from Invest India, Indian Importers Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Development & Foreign Relations (CCSDFR), Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt of India, Global Trade & Technology Council of India (GTTCI).

