FICCI



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India and Italy forge deeper business ties as trade delegation explores strategic partnerships

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

EDITORIAL

From The Director General



The convergence of cutting-edge technology and regional development has become the central theme of India's growth story, as demonstrated by two major gatherings this month that underscored the nation's ambitious transformation plans. From Andhra Pradesh's quantum computing ambitions to the central government's focus on helicopters and small aircrafts, these initiatives collectively show how states and the centre are working together to position India as a global technology leader while making advanced services more accessible.

In Vijayawada, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu articulated arguably the most ambitious state-level vision yet seen, promising to turn Andhra Pradesh into a trillion-dollar economy by 2047 through leadership in quantum computing. Speaking at FICCI's national executive committee meeting, Naidu outlined plans for India's first Quantum Valley Tech Park in Amaravati, marking a notable shift from conventional industrial development models. His government has already shown remarkable speed in execution, approving investment proposals worth Rs 9.5 trillion across 25 cabinet meetings since returning to power.

Naidu's ambitions highlight wider technological shifts transforming India's economy. His forecast that quantum computing will make current supercomputers outdated aligns with global tech trends, while his broad digitisation plan—aiming to move all government services online within a year—shows practical digital governance.

This technological optimism found a similar expression in Pune, where Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu announced plans to democratise aviation through helicopters and small aircraft. The creation of a dedicated Helicopter Directorate under the Directorate General of Civil Aviation signifies a significant shift towards regional connectivity, moving beyond traditional large aircraft and mega airports to embrace 'modern and inclusive air solutions'.

These initiatives demonstrate a maturing understanding of how technology can promote inclusive development. Both initiatives highlight the vital role of public-private partnerships in delivering transformative projects. Andhra Pradesh's collaboration with IIT Madras and the University of Tokyo on quantum research, along with significant industrial investments, demonstrates how academic institutions, government agencies, and private companies can work together to foster innovation. The Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit's engagement with industry leaders and 20 state governments similarly emphasises the collaborative approach needed for sectoral transformation.

FICCI's role in promoting these transformative discussions highlights our dedication to strengthening India's growth drivers. From hosting regional investment promotion events to organising sector-specific summits, the chamber continues to identify and develop emerging opportunities that align with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.

Jyoti Vij