

## **Thailand Week** **10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council partnered with the Royal Thai Consulate General in Chennai to organize the Thai Week. The Thailand week was initiated by organizing a B2B event with Thai retailers and India counterparts who were interested take up sourcing and distribution of their products in India.

The event had about 15- 20 Thai Companies for the B2B along with a participation of about 25 Indian companies who were interested in collaborating for business with Thai Companies.

The event followed by the Inauguration of the exhibition at the Express Avenue Mall in Chennai.

**Ms. Jitima Nakamano**, Commercial Consul, Director of Thai Trade Centre, Chennai said that the fast growing Indian market remains attractive for Thai investors, given the vast opportunities available in infrastructure sector, tourism and retail industries. India continues to remain an interesting market for export of goods from Thailand. Currently, Thai goods have benefited from tax reduction under ASEAN-India FTA in Goods, which came into effect and resulted to the flow of more goods into Indian market.

**Mr. Ruban Hobday**, Head, FICCI TNSC said that India's economic and commercial relations with Thailand are rooted in history, age-old socio- cultural interactions and extensive people to people contacts. India and Thailand are celebrating 70 years of diplomatic relations in 2017. India's 'Look East' policy (since 1993) and Thailand's 'Look West' policy (since 1996) has now transformed into India's 'Act East' and Thailand's 'Act West' are powerfully contributing in consolidating bilateral relations including economic & commercial linkages.

**Mr. P K Ashok Babu**, IFS, Head of Branch Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India said that the ties between the two countries are intertwined and deep rooted in history, with interactions in multidimensional fronts, and extensive people-to-people contacts. In addition to the wide range of cooperation, Thailand and India have compatible strategies of Look West and Act East respectively, now evolved into a comprehensive partnership.

**Mrs. Krongkanit Rakcharoen**, Consul - General of Thailand, Chennai urged the private sector of both countries to make the most of the prevailing favourable climate to expand bilateral trade and investment and strengthen business partnerships. She also hoped that the Thailand-India Business Forum will continue to facilitate the private sectors of the two countries. She also encouraged closer people-to-people contact, through inter alia, promoting education, science and cultural cooperation as well as by promoting tourism

