Amcham - The Voice of American Business in India

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US Secretary of State John Kerry's visit to India in July paved the way for PM Narendra Modi's trip to the US in September, and provided a window of opportunity for both nations to re-launch their partnership. There was broad convergence of views and interests between the US and India when John Kerry, accompanied by Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and other senior American officials, visited India, despite India's decision not to ratify the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). The visit repaired the damage that was prevalent in the last two years. Concerns of the business community were addressed and the opening up of the insurance and defense sectors as well as putting retrospective taxation on the backburner created the right investment climate.

Taking forward his plans for India's economic recovery, Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a massive charm offensive with America's corporate elite. Modi met a select group of 10 CEOs for a breakfast meeting as well as had one-on-one interactions with five key corporate and finance leaders in New York — including Ginni Rometty of IBM, Jeff Immelt of GE and Marilyn Hewson of Lockheed Martin — to interest them in investing in India. While New York was all about connecting with the Indian diaspora and wooing business, Washington DC marked the political outreach.

PM Modi and Obama discussed defence ties, energy security and the WTO issue. The defence deal was renewed for 10 years and both leaders reiterated their commitment to civil nuclear cooperation. President Obama said that corporate America as well as the American government would like to partner with India when it comes to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, the cleanliness and sanitation programme that the Prime Minister had launched.

There were many firsts – a joint by-line PM Narendra Modi and President Barack Obama writing an op-ed for the Washington Post together, the creation of Infrastructure Collaboration Platform (ICP) signed between Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Department of Commerce, United States of America (USA). The objective of the agreement is to establish a United States-India Infrastructure Collaboration Platform under which both the Governments intend to coordinate and cooperate with

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Amcham interactive session with U.S. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker
- Amcham interactive session with U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel
- Amcham Meeting with Chief Minister of Karnataka Mr. K. Siddaramaiah
- Amcham Timken Golf Tournament, Bangalore



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Mr Ajay Singha Executive Director Amcham the goal of facilitating U.S. industry participation in Indian infrastructure projects. The Agreement also facilitates improved bilateral commercial relationship between the two countries and also focuses on the benefit of both the Participants' economies. To support the infrastructure platform AMCHAM has compiling a "Capability Deck" to include the full range of products, solutions and services which individual companies are capable of providing in the infrastructure business. The "Capability Deck" will become the basic document in the hands of the US Government, chambers, associations and other agencies who plan to actively promote US technologies for Indian infrastructure projects.

By all accounts PM Modi's visit has gone down as a successful one primarily on account of being able to infuse fresh energy into the relationship between India and the USA.

Amcham members also had an opportunity to meet and interact with Secretary Pritzker and Secretary Hagel and discussed issues such as IPR, regulatory issues in IT, defence ties, tax issues, infrastructure development and its challenges. U.S. Ambassador Kathleen Stephens invited Amcham for an interactive session on Indo-U.S. relations post PM Modi's visit to the U.S. There was a consensus that Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. was extraordinary and the leaders of both the countries established a good rapport with each other. The U.S. Government was keen to support the new Government and take the Indo-U.S. relations to a higher trajectory.

Amcham members also called upon number of Government officials in the Ministries of Defence, Telecom, Consumer Affairs, Health and Tax administration to brief and share issues pertaining to U.S. business in India. Amcham also welcomes the steps suggested by DIPP to improve business climate in India, namely announcements on labour laws, reduction in number of taxes, single window clearance etc.

Once again, I encourage you to take time to browse through our website and portal – a great resource for businesses to look for upcoming events and Committees that may help you in seeking marketing and networking opportunities.

As we approach the festive season - On behalf of Amcham and my personal behalf, I take this opportunity to wish all our members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2015.

U.S. CITIZEN SERVICES & CONSULAR INFORMATION UNIT OUTREACH – USA to GO

In an effort to dispel some of the myths and mysteries surrounding visa travel to the United States, and to reach American citizens living in India, the US Embassy in New Delhi is now offering two types of on-site briefings at Delhi-area companies. One presentation is tailored to non-American employees who are interested in traveling to the U.S. for business or pleasure. The Consular Information Unit will visit your Delhi-area office to offer information and guidance on:

- Visitor visas
- · Education in the U.S.
- Completion of a visa application
- · Avoiding visa scams

A second presentation is specific to American Citizen employees and those with American Citizen family members. It would include information on how to:

- Apply for or renew U.S. passports
- Get documents notarized
- Get certified true copies of U.S. passports or U.S. visas
- Document their child as a U.S. Citizen (provided at least one parent is a U.S. citizen and they meet the requirements for transmitting U.S. citizenship)
- Vote from overseas
- Apply for Social Security benefits
- Get assistance and information on what to do in case there is an emergency, crime or death of a U.S. citizen relative
- And many other services offered by our American Citizen Services Unit to American Citizens here in the New Delhi Consular District

These meetings have been extremely popular throughout India, particularly with large, multinational companies, which not only attract U.S. workers to India, but also send a fair number of Indians to the U.S. to work and live. The response to these meetings has been so overwhelmingly positive that they have often spawned regularly-scheduled annual briefings for employees, and multi-city DVC's of the briefings.

There is no charge for either of these briefings.

Please contact CIUND@state.govto arrange a USA-to-Go meeting at your office or if you have any questions about the program, or if you would like to make an appointment for your company.

Delhi

2nd July 2014 - Meeting with Ms. Sibani Swain, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Amcham recently hosted a meeting with Ms. Sibani Swain, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Corporate Affairs where select members of the committee (mainly the IT sector) had a discussion on Provision of Corpus, Consideration of Volunteer hours, Continuity of existing initiatives, Developing entrepreneurial skills, vocational skills, Worldwide fund routing and Global NGO consideration. The discussions were fruitful and the meeting was followed up by interactions with the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IIFA).



Amcham hosted an interactive roundtable discussion with Mr. Arun Kumar, Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service and Assistant Secretary for Global Markets U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration.

The focus of the meeting was manufacturing challenges in India. The discussion was led by Mr. Rustom Desai, Chairman,







Amcham Manufacturing Committee and Managing Director, Corning India and Telecom Operations. Mr. Desai gave a presentation on "U.S Economic Engagement with India- Focus on Manufacturing'.

US Ambassador Kathleen Stephens also joined. The other participating US Embassy officials at this meeting were: Holly Vineyard, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asia, U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Rochelle Lipsitz, Senior Director – Industry & Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, John McCaslin, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Michael Delaney, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for South Asia, USTR, Dawn Shackleford, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for India, USTR.

15th July 2014 - Infrastructure Session – DG US Foreign Commercial Services & Assistant Secretary

Amcham held an interactive roundtable discussion with Mr. Arun Kumar, Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service and Assistant Secretary for Global Markets U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration. The focus of the meeting was infrastructure challenges in India and was hosted by Fluor Daniel. A presentation was given by Mr. Arun Kumar Jain, Chairman, Amcham Infrastructure Committee and Managing Director, Fluor Daniel. The presentation covered the background of





infrastructure projects in India, investment opportunities, issues and challenges.

The discussion focused on creating an infrastructure consortium targeting 4-5 projects such as smart cities, energy, transportation, safety/security, agriculture, and environment. A government to government collaboration on standards was also proposed.

15th July 2014- Meeting with USTR

Amcham held an open forum (hosted by DuPont) with USTR. USTR came to India to lay the groundwork on the Trade Policy Forum which is potentially scheduled for October in New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rajinder Sharma (Director, E. I. DuPont India Private Limited and Chairman – IPR Committee, Amcham).

The delegation from USTR included - Mr. Michael J. Delaney, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for South Asia, USTR and Ms. Dawn Shackleford, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for India, USTR. Mr. Delaney emphasized the positive pro-growth and pro-employment new government. He focused on trade facilitation and a bilateral investment treaty. While acknowledging the overall policy of the paralysis of the previous government, where laws were not optimally written and not properly enforced, there is excitement for the future. Mr. Delaney expressed that there



seems to be good news for FDI. Potential problem with a prime ministerial government appears to be that the final word from any particular ministry is not the necessarily the final word from the PM.

Committee members from the following sectors –Pharma, Medical Devices, IT, Telecom, IPR were present to state their trade-related challenges.

16th July 2014 - Amcham Manufacturing Committee meeting with Amitabh Kant, Secretary DIPP

Amcham hosted an interactive roundtable discussion with Mr. Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). The focus of the meeting was manufacturing opportunities and challenges in India. The discussion was led by Mr. Rustom Desai, Chairman, Amcham Manufacturing Committee and Managing Director, Corning India and Telecom Operations. Mr. Desai gave a presentation on "U.S. manufacturing investment in India-Opportunity for step-change". The other participating DIPP officials were - Additional Secretary Shatrughan Singh, Joint Secretary Atul Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary Shubhra Singh and Joint Secretary D.V. Prasad. Amcham was requested to submit a note to DIPP mentioning the issues and concerns of individual member companies.

16th July 2014 - Anti-Corruption Informational Series Benchmarking and Disseminating Best Practices.

Topic: "Hidden Costs of Corruption". Speaker: Ms. Alexandra Wrage (President -TRACE International)

Ms. Alexandra spoke about the "Hidden Cost of Corruption". The various points covered were on Hidden Costs of Bribes in Business, Local Community and Global Community.

16th July 2014 - Amcham HR Committee Meeting

The Second Meeting of the Amcham HR Committee for the year 2014-15 was held on 16th July 2014 in Mumbai. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Anuranjita Kumar, Chair-Amcham HR Committee. The Committee hosted a guest speaker, Ms. Nohid Nooreyezdan, Senior Partner, ABZ & Partners. Ms. Nooreyezdan presented on 'Sexual Harassment at the Workplace'. Ms. Nooreyezdan's session was very informative and brought to light the various grey issues that existed under this Act. The session was followed by an interactive discussion where Committee members discussed the Committee's way moving forward.

24-25th July 2014 - CII Invest North

Amcham was an Institutional Partner for the CII Invest North Conclave. Mr. ZubinIrani, President, UTC was driving this initiative. Led by Mr. Richard Rekhy, KPMG as the knowledge partner for the event.

Invest North 2014 was a conclave to showcase investment opportunities in the northern states. It was is a good opportunity for Amcham members to interact with government officials from the northern states.

At the event, Mr. Aubrey Daniels, Regional Director, Amcham Tamil Nadu Chapter, spoke at the panel discussion on "Global Engagements for Growth."

28th August 2014 - Interactive session with Joint Secretary (Americas)

From the Government side, the following members were present: Mr. Vikram K. Doraiswami, Joint Secretary (Americas), MEA, Mr. Rajeev Arora, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Mr. D.V. Prasad, Joint Secretary, DIPP, Mr. K.K. Sinha, Adviser, DIPP, Ms K. Nandini, Director (Americas), AMS Division, MEA, Representative of Department of Health.

Amcham members briefed officials of the MEA and other economic ministries on the opportunities and challenges in Agritech, Medical Devices, Data Analytics, Infrastructure, Space Technologies, Skill Development, Defence, Homeland, FDI in e-commerce, Telecom, Taxation, Locomotives, Healthcare

31st July 2014 - Interactive Session with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker

Amcham met over an interactive session with Secretary Penny Pritzker, U.S. Secretary of Commerce. The U.S. team led by Commerce Secretary Pritzker laid great emphasis on infrastructure projects and the role expected from high technology companies from the U.S. The U.S. Government has offered financing of pilot projects in the energy sector, specially relating to energy efficiency, smart grid and smart city projects. The emphasis and focus has clearly shifted to addressing fundamental concerns of the Indian economy, namely, energy, railways, aviation, water resources and related infrastructure topics. It was expected that Secretary Pritzker and Deputy Secretary Poneman will address the economic aspects under the U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue for which the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. John Kerry, while he was visiting India. CEOs of American companies led by Mr. Banmali Agrawala, Chairman of Amcham and President & CEO of GE South Asia, briefed Secretary Pritzker on infrastructure project opportunities opening up for U.S. MNCs. The focus of the interaction was on energy, civil aviation, telecom and other infrastructure related projects.







31st July2014 - ECP hosts Roundtable with Deputy Assistant Secretary Daniel Poneman

The U.S. team led by Commerce Secretary Pritzker laid great emphasis on infrastructure projects and the role expected from high technology companies from the U.S. The U.S. Government has offered financing of pilot projects in the energy sector, specially relating to energy efficiency, smart grid and smart city projects. The emphasis and focus was on addressing fundamental concerns of the Indian economy, namely, energy, civil aviation, telecom railways, water resources and related infrastructure topics. Secretary Pritzker and Deputy Secretary Poneman addressed the economic aspects under the U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue. CEOs of American companies interacted and briefed Secretary Pritzker on infrastructure project opportunities for U.S. MNCs.





Mr. Venkatesh Valluri, Chairman, U.S.-India Energy Cooperation Program (ECP) emphasized that technological solution for energy efficiency, smart grid and smart cities resides with American companies which are world leaders in these sectors. Industry leaders felt that perhaps larger consortia of U.S. businesses focused primarily on key infrastructure development projects would make for a more concerted effort, and also the US funding agencies should evolve integrated outreaches which are in sync with these plans. The idea was endorsed and well accepted across both sides.

1st August 2014 - Meeting with Mr. Rakesh Garg, Telecom Secretary, GOI

Mr. Amit Sharma, Chairman, Amcham's ICT Committee, and Executive Vice President, President Asia, ATC Tower Company of India Pvt. Ltd., accompanied by the Co-Chairmen of the Committee, Mr. Naveen Tandon, Director – IEA, AT&T Communication Services India Private Limited, and Mr. Vivek Vasishtha, Country Leader - Governmental Programs, IBM India Pvt. Ltd., and the Executive Director of Amcham, Mr. Ajay Singha, met with Mr. Rakesh Garg, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, on 1st August 2014 in his office and discussed issues relating to telecom sector. The Telecom Secretary asked for a detailed note from Amcham.

7th August 2014 - Amcham Defense Committee Meeting

Amcham Defense Committee members met to discuss the specific language changes made to the Offset policy document, Update on Amcham meeting requests with MoD, Amcham/FICCI Defense Committee meeting, AMCHAM-KPMG Offsets guidebook, AMCHAM US Aerospace & Defense leave behind, Amcham Annual Doorknock, Washington DC – October 2014

9th August 2014 - Amcham hosted Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel for an interactive session with Senior U.S. and Indian Leadership and Industry CEOs

During the Secretary's visit, defense industrial cooperation was featured significantly on the agenda of both Governments and both sides worked to renew the agreement and strengthen ways to cooperate on defense trade and co-production.

The U.S. industry Representatives were: Pritam K. Bhavnani, President India & High Growth Regions, Honeywell Aerospace & AMCHAM Defense Committee Chair, Phil Shaw, Chief Executive, Lockheed Martin India, William Blair, President, Raytheon Asia & USIBC Defense Committee Representative, Thomas Swaren, Vice President for Export and Sales, BAE Systems, Platforms & Services, BAE Systems Inc., Pratyush Kumar, President, Boeing India & Vice President, Boeing International, Inderjit Sial, President & Managing Director, Textron India





9th August 2014 - Amcham hosted Frank Kendall, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and Mr. Puneet Talwar, Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military affairs for a closed door interactive session with U.S. industry leaders.

Amcham members joined the roundtable to seek clarifications on Defense Trade and Technology Initiative (DTTI). This close door briefing provided the Defense committee members a platform to share inputs to discuss the path towards enhanced future collaborations. Other Government officials joining the discussions were: Dr. Amy Searight, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia Mr. Alan







Shaffer, acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for research and engineering and Matthew Warren is the Director, International Armaments Cooperation.

19th August 2014- TERI- AMCHAM interactive session on "Smart Cities- Policy Briefs- A white paper"

TERI with Amcham and ECP organized a join consultation session on Smart Solutions for Sustainable Cities in India (Smart Cities). It was proposed that inputs will be sought from the Industry, Government and academia which would form the basis for TERI to develop a working-paper on "Smart Solutions for Sustainable Cities in India (Smart Cities)", with the contribution from Amcham and ECP inputs.

19th August 2014 - Interactive Session - U.S. Congressional Delegation

Amcham met a Congressional Delegation from the U.S. visited India to become better informed on the scope and potential for U.S.-India economic cooperation, strengths and weaknesses, and how to bolster the relationship by influencing U.S. legislation.

The visiting U.S. Congressional Delegation included: Representative Mr. Steve Chabot (R-Ohio), Member, House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC); Chair of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and Representative Mr. Luke Messer (R-Indiana), Member, HFAC; Member, House Financial Services Committee (HFSC)

Among the many requests presented to the Congressmen, highlights included:

- Commitment in the energy sector by PM Modi is very optimistic.
- Value of Ex-Im Bank and how it has contributed to success for many companies in India
- Need for US companies to compete with Japan in terms of financing projects



- Medical device tax
- · Compulsory licensing remains a concern
- India plans on building 200 airports and modernizing 50 existing airports
- Proposed the idea of a joint committee between US and Indian government to get capital flowing
- Concern regarding imposing trade barriers on US technology
- The need for an institution of framework between both governments

20th August 2014 - Anti-Corruption Informational Series Benchmarking and Disseminating Best Practices.

Topic: Third Party Due Diligence. Speakers: Mr. Gregory Shultz (Managing Director, The Compliance Table) and Mr. Michael Harrington (Senior Managing Investigator - Mintz Group)

Mr. Gregory Shultz and Mr. Michael Harrington spoke about "Third Party Due Diligence-Integrating in-house technology and outside services providers". Discussions revolved around the various benefits of using technology to monitor third party relationships, Sampling a Technology Workflow, Engaging Outside Providers, Cost-Effective Scope of Work and Human Sources

26th August 2014 - Amcham Defense Committee Meeting

Amcham Defense Committee members met to Review of the specific language changes made to the Offset policy document and Prepare for upcoming meetings with MoD - DG(Acq) and JS(DOMW)

28th August 2014 - Discussions organized by Amcham on the Post Election Scenario

Amcham, in collaboration with the European Business Group (EBG) and the British Business Group (BBG), hosted a panel discussion to cover the post-election scenario in India. In a very animated and lively discussion, panellists shared their insights on "100 Days – The Story So Far". The session was moderated by Mr. John Elliot, renowned British journalist and author. The panel of experts included -Anil Padmanabhan, renowned journalist, Deputy Managing Editor, The Mint, Ashok Malik, senior Indian journalist and columnist and Gardiner Harris, South Asia Correspondent, New York Times

17th September 2014 - Anti-Corruption Informational Series Benchmarking and Disseminating Best Practices.

Topic: "Proactive Compliance Measures to Prevent and

Detect Failures in your Anticorruption Compliance Program and Mitigate Corruption Risks". Speakers: Ms. Julia K. Bailey (Managing Director-BDO Consulting) & Ms. Nidhi Rao (Director – BDO Consulting)

Ms. Julia K. Bailey, Managing Director – BDO Consulting (Ex Hoenywell) spoke about how companies should use a "holistic" approach when creating anti-corruption processes and policies that include involvement of all aspects of the corporation, not just the law department (e.g., supply chain, finance, audit, risk management, security, business development, etc.)

18th September 2104 - Amcham Meeting with Deputy USTR

Amcham held an open forum with the Deputy USTR. Over the last couple months USTR has visited India to discuss trade barriers and lay the groundwork for the Trade Policy Forum which is scheduled later this year in New Delhi.

The visiting delegation included Ms. Wendy Cutler, Deputy, USTR and Ms. Dawn Shackleford, Deputy Assistant, USTR Highlights of the trade barriers discussed included:Lack of transparency, Intellectual property rights, Lack of consultation, Commercial interchangeability, Import checklist, Labelling challenges, Taxation, Import of electronic equipment and Digital data policy





19th September 2014 - A call was held to finalize the draft of the EY document that outlines the scope of its engagement

with ECP plan of activities and future course of action. The draft has been circulated through all stakeholders for inputs and is under due process of diligence with USTDA for their funding consideration.

24th September 2014 - Conversation on Competition

Amcham's pharma and medical devices committee members participated in an informal discussion on competition policies and practices hosted by the U.S. Embassy at the American Center.

The evening brought together economists, lawyers, thinkers, regulators, policy analysts and industry leaders to interact with several U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) officials visiting Delhi for a training seminar on "Competition Investigations & Merger Review in the Healthcare Industry" with the Competition Commission of India.

26th September 2014 - Amcham Defense Committee Meeting

Amcham Defense Committee members met to review AMCHAM recommendations on offset document, AMCHAM Recommendations/amendments to the DPP, Aero India 2015, Update on the Amcham/Siati coordination and plan of action

7th October –10th October 2014 – AMCHAM Door Knock to Washington D.C.

The Annual Amcham Door knock delegation to Washington DC took place from 7th-10th October 2014. The main purpose of this program was to inform and sensitize U.S. policy-makers on issues impacting U.S. investments in India. Our effort was greatly appreciated by the USG and brought us in the forefront of advocacy efforts on behalf of U.S. companies operating in India. The delegation informed U.S. policy-makers on the key challenges faced by U.S. companies in India. Our discussions with the USG covered Taxation, Defence, Aviation, Energy, Healthcare, Infrastructure, Manufacturing, ICT and E-payments. The delegation called upon Mr. Arun Kumar, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets and Director General of the Foreign Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Mr. Puneet Talwar, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Ms. Nisha Biswal, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Ambassador Robert Holleyman, Deputy United States Trade Representative, Dr. Amy Searight, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Department of Defense, Mr. Mark Brunner, National Security Advisor, Office of Senator Mark Warner, Ms. Holly Vineyard, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Asia, Mr. Vinai Thummalapally, Executive Director, SelectUSA, Mr. Rory MacFarquhar, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for International





Economics, National Security Council Staff, Executive Office of the President, Mr. Matthew Warren, Director, International Armaments Cooperation, Ambassador Timothy Roemer, Senior Director & Strategic Counselor, Global Political Strategies, APCO Worldwide (former US Ambassador to India), Ms. Lee Zak, Director, United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), Ms. Elizabeth Littlefield, President & CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation and Mr. Fred Hochberg, Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the U.S.

15th October 2014 - Anti-Corruption Informational Series Benchmarking and Disseminating Best Practices.

Topic: "Landscape of business courtesy guidelines in India – discussion on best practices and challenges faced by MNCs". Speaker: Ms. Ritu Jain, Chief Compliance Officer – South Asia, General Electric Company.

Ms. Jain covered the following points during her presentation: Discussion on key terms (such as business curtesy and governments), Overview of Acts, rules and guidelines in India, Compliance risks associated with business courtesies, Challenges of doing business and Best practices

15th October 2014 - ECP Board Meeting

The bimonthly ECP Board Meeting was held to review ECP activities and discuss way forward for project development activities under Smart Cities initiative launched by the Government of India. USTDA's Regional Director Henry Steingass

highlighted the various avenues that ECP could be engaged in, and with TDA support, could initiate dialogues with the identified priority State Governments. Based on the study that Knowledge partners-Ernst and Young will be conducting, state govt 's will be approached with a holistic strategy presented by AMCHAM-ECP companies that helps them lead to a better defined vision of the Smart Cities objectives and its parameters and provide (US companies') support on achieving the defined vision. US FCS and Econ Sections representatives also presented the US Government's position and plans to help take these plans forward for the three identifies Smart cities (to be developed with US collaboration) viz Allahabad, Vizaq and Ajmer.

29th October 2014 - Interactive Session with U.S. Ambassador Kathleen Stephens

U.S. Ambassador Kathleen Stephens invited Amcham for an interactive session on Indo-U.S. relations post PM Modi's visit to the U.S. on 29th October 2014 at Roosevelt House, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi.From Amcham, the interaction was attended by Chairman BanmaliAgrawala along with 30 other Amcham members.

There was a consensus that Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. was extraordinary and the leaders of both the countries established a good rapport with each other. The U.S. Government was keen to support the new Government and take the Indo-U.S. relations to a higher trajectory. Participants agreed that the Indian Government was pushing ahead reforms and investment climate was positive. However, there were still some challenges such as fairly complex tax structure, lack of infrastructure, implementation of policies, IPR, FDI in e-commerce, etc. Besides discussing the Indo-U.S. cooperation in setting up smart cities in India, members discussed Indo-U.S. cooperation in infrastructure, energy, defence, civil aviation, manufacturing, and skill development.

Kolkata

10th July 2014 - Live View Budget session at Hyatt Regency sponsored by E&Y

Amcham Eastern Chapter and E&Y organized a discussion on the various aspects of & impact of the Union Budget 2014 presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr Arun Jaitley. The Budget session was opened by Mr Suranjan Bhanja, Chairman, Amcham Eastern Chapter. Other speakers were Prof. Dipankar Dasgupta -Economist, TV Panellist and Columnist, Mr. Shib Bhowmik - Country Head – Joy Global (India) Ltd), Mr. K.P. Sengupta -Director – Data Core Systems and Ms Britta Leick-Milde- General Manager, Hyatt Regency, Mr Dinesh Agarwal-EY Tax Partner . Mr. Sidhartha Jain - EY Tax Director, discussed the indirect tax implications of the Union Budget 2014. Mr. Surajit Banerjee, the immediate past president Amcham Eastern Region, gave the vote of thanks.





23rd July 2014 - Executive Committee Meeting hosted by Data Core

6th August 2014 - Events and Membership sub-committee hosted an interactive session with high tea with the Avis Viswanathan Author of "Fall Like A Rose Petal". Sponsored by Hyatt Regency.

27th August 2014 - Talk on Cancer - its Spread, Awareness, Control and Cure by Dr. Mammen Chandy, Director Tata Medical Hospital Hosted by PWC organised by the Knowledge and Education subcommittee

129th August 2014 - Executive Committee Meeting hosted by EY

5th September 2014 - Seminar on "CSR – The Blue Horizon of Community Development"

Amcham Eastern Region and it's HR & CSR Subcommittee organized a seminar on September 5, 2014 on "CSR – The Blue Horizon of Community Development." With new regulations under the modified Indian Companies Act emphasising on CSR activities and making some initiatives mandatory, there has been some confusion and misunderstandings about the actual provisions introduced. The event aimed to provide clarity about various provisions as well as share the best practices being followed by leading organisations in the same space, and to encourage American Companies to get more involved in CSR activities and also to facilitate them on carrying out the same.

15th September 2014 - IT/ITes subcommittee meeting at Atlas

29th September 2014 - Executive Committee Meeting hosted by Cognizant





13th October 2014 - All Chambers Breakfast Meeting for Promoting Better Infrastructure in Eastern India

Amcham Eastern Region and its IT/ITeS Sub Committee organized an All Chamber Breakfast meeting to discuss promotion of better infrastructure in Eastern India, and specifically how the establishment of a Cable Landing Station (CLS) in the Eastern region would be beneficial for the growth of Eastern India.

18th October 2014 - Annual Get-together hosted by Minister of Commerce & Industry Dr. Amit Mitra

The Minister for Commerce & Industry hosted the annual get-together for Heads of Industry, Diplomatic Missions, Honorary Consuls, Business Chambers, Ministers, Secretaries of Departments and members of the Art and Entertainment community, to meet the Chief Minister of West Bengal Kumari Mamata Banerjee in an informal gathering. The get-together he said was a celebration of Durga Puja, Kali Puja, Diwali, Eid and the upcoming Christmas season. Minister Mitra used the occasion to speak about the Steering Committee that has been set up by the Government, comprising Secretaries to the Government and business leaders and pre-dominantly business driven sector specific committees

Mumbai

6th June 2014 - 'A Step by Step Walking Tour of the US Visa Processing System GSS- Global Support Strategy for Visa Services'

The Visa tour was held on Friday, 6th June '14 at the US Consulate in Mumbai, BKC, Bandra (East). The former CG Mr. Peter Haas welcomed all the participants and the session began with a brief presentation on the new US Visa process. Amcham members received an experiential learning of the US visa process and a personal tour. A few testimonies were shared by the participants to conclude the event.

18th July 2014 - Amcham India – FTI Consulting Partnership organized an Interactive Session on 'The World of Corporate Intelligence: Fact and Fiction'

The two Guest speakers at this event were Mr. Stuart Witchell, Senior Managing Director and Co-Leader, Global Risk and Investigations practice, FTI Consulting & Mr. Anuj Bugga, Managing Director, Global Risk and Investigations practice, FTI Consulting. While Mr. Stuart Witchell shared his field experience in the South-East Asia continent, Mr. Anuj Bugga presented the Indian scenario. The interactive session concluded with a round of Q&A's with the participants.





25th July, 2014 - Supply Chain & Logistics Committee meeting

The roadmap for the year was shared with the new incoming members. Mr. Kumar Kandaswami, Senior Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd. explained the functioning and outcome of the model for "Risk Management Framework". The members took ownership of the project they are best equipped to contribute, with their ideas and plans. Mr. Prashant Deshpande, Indirect Tax Leader, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd. shared the new information on Border check posts in Maharashtra.

19th Sept 2014 - Supply Chain & Logistics Committee meeting

The meeting began with a brain-storming session on "Indian Customs – Issues/ Challenges" moderated by Mr. Nikhil Kush, Co-chair, Amcham SCL Committee & South Asia Supply Chain Leader, E.I. Dupont India Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Rakesh Mehta shared his rich experience in the industry followed by an intense discussion on several issues. Mr. Neil Anshuman Basu, Outgoing



Chairperson, Amcham SCL Committee & Executive Director, SCM Programs Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Manish Pansari presented on the importance of skilled professionals and the criteria for recruitment. The meeting concluded with a plan to conduct an event next year.

9th & 10th Oct 2014 – Amcham India 'The CLO Chief Learning Officers Summit India'

The CLO Chief Learning Officers Summit India was supported by Amcham India and was held on the 9th & 10th of October. The Summit offered a unique platform to participate in engaging discussions with a special focus on Organizational Learning issues, as well as an opportunity to explore the challenges that exist in talent management. It was a potential platform for all aspiring young leaders and entrepreneurs to sharpen their skills but also an opportunity to listen to some of the stalwarts in the industry presently.

The Guest of Honor Mrs. Rajashree Birla, Chairperson, The Aditya Birla Centre for Community Initiatives and Rural Development and the plethora of speakers included Vinod Rai, Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India, KV Srinivasan, CEO, Reliance Commercial Finance, Dr. Nitin More, Head of L&D, APAC, Facebook and many more.

14th October 2014 - Interactive Discussion over High Tea with Mr. Thomas L. Vajda, Consul General, US Consulate Mumbai

To commemorate the introduction of the new Consul General of the Consulate of the United States in Mumbai; Amcham India in partnership with The Consulate of the United States in Mumbai and J W Marriott held an Interactive Discussion over High Tea with Mr. Thomas L. Vajda, Consul General, US Consulate. CG Vajda expressed his openness to help advocate and build bridges with the respective governments and also expressed keen interest in personally promoting CSR activities and participation in field visits/ events/ etc. There was a healthy discussion on US-India Technology Summit, FDAs, several taxes on goods, Renewable energy and also in addition to all this he mentioned there will continue to be high level visits of US Officials to India in the coming months.





Hyderabad

10th July 2014 - Amcham Hyderabad meeting with USTR representatives

Amcham Hyderabad Board Members had a luncheon meeting with MrMike Delany, the Assistant U S Trade Representative for South Asia and Ms Dawn Shackleford, the Deputy Assistant



US Trade Representative to India. Topic on issues faced by American Companies in India across various sectors - such as IT, intellectual property rights, healthcare, manufacturing etc were discussed.

11th July 2014 -Amcham event "Budget Connect"

Budget Connect – the post budget Seminar was held Hyderabadin association with Ernst & Young. Mr. Jayesh Sanghvi, Partner, Ernst & Young welcomed the gathering, while thanking Amcham for being part of this session. Jayesh spoke on the Budget Backdrop – Key Policy Announcements, Direct Tax Proposals, Indirect Tax Proposals. He presented a macro view of the Key Performance Indicators. Under the Key Policy Announcements, he spoke of the introduction of Infrastructure Investment trusts for infrastructure projects,





Recapitalization of public sector banks in a phased manner through sale of shares to retail investors, Foreign Direct Investment, Liberalize the ADR/GDR regime to allow issuance of depository receipts on all permissible securities, Dividend and Income Distribution Tax.

20th September 2014 - 2nd AMCHAM Healthcare Conference

The 2nd AMCHAM Healthcare Conference was held at Westin Mindspace. The theme of the Conference was Equity in Healthcare – Affordability, Accessibility, Availability and Awareness.











The Conference was divided in three sessions spanning over the day - Healthcare Delivery, Healthcare Financing and Healthcare Technology.

September – December 2014 - AMCHAM Sports 2014

The AMCHAM Sports 2014 took off with Cricket on September 13, 2014 with two matches at the Vijay Anand Grounds and 4 matches on September 14, 2014 at NFC and ECIL Grounds. Sponsors were DST World wide Services, D E Shaw and S&P Capital IQ. Basket ball was held at the C A India Premises on September 20, 21 and 27. Wellsfargo emerged winners and C A India the runners at the basketball tournament. Athletics for both men and women took of on September 28, 2014 at the Gachibowli Athletic Stadium. The participants were competing in various categories 100 m, 100 x4, Javelin, Shotput, Discuss,

























Throwball was held on October 11 and 12 at L B Stadium. Deloitte emerged winners while Oracle were the runners up and S&P Capital IQ were in the 3rd place. Volleyball Men began on October 12th and is ongoing.

Bangalore

May to July 2014 - Amcham & Rotary Bangalore completed organizing blood donation camps and promoted Rotary Bangalore's Stem Cell Registry India (SCRI) initiative at all AMCHAM member companies. Highlights of the event - 8,586 donors in 2014 compared to 3,344 units in 2013, 1,130 Stem Cell Registry India Registrations, TIMKEN is donating a sum of INR 2,22,000 based on the cost of INR. 3000 per head for HLA typing for the 74 employees

29th July 2014 - Meeting with Mr. Daniel Poneman, Deputy Energy Secretary and his delegation.

Mr. Daniel Poneman, Deputy Energy Secretary and his high-level delegation met with AMCHAM companies at Bangalore. Mr. George Sibley, Acting Counsel General, Chennai Consulate; Mr. Samuel Rothenberg, Political/Economic Officer; Ms. Ariadne BenAissa, U.S. Department of Energy and other Consular staff were present. The discussions focused on the U.S.-India collaboration on clean energy and the ways the two countries can partner to build a sustainable, clean energy future for both nations. It also touched on energy initiatives between India and the U.S.

7th August 2014 - AMCHAM-EY Human Capital Forum 2014

The AMCHAM-EY Human Capital Forum included esteemed representatives from industry, along with EY Partners, who shared their experiences through the panel discussions. This half a day session witnessed thought leaders deliberate on





topics like: Are we at par with other countries on personal tax rates, benefits and reforms, Social Security developments, business travellers, creation of global talent, to name a few.

22nd August 2014 - Meeting of the AMCHAM members with the Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Mr. Kaushik Mukherjee

The Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Mr. Kaushik Mukherjee, met with Amcham members IBM, Intel, GE, Timken, Exxonmobil,





3M, Nike, Accenture, PwC, Deloitte, Goldman Sachs, Textron, Amazon, Deloitte, Exeter, Grant Thornton, Oracle, Target, Amway, and other companies were present. Mr. Sanjay Koul, Chairman AMCHAM Karnataka, and Managing Director, Timken India welcome the Chief Secretary and made a presentation on the valuable contribution of U.S. companies to the state.

On questions regarding infrastructure like chaotic traffic situation and the problem of ferrying employees through cabs, suggestions from the CM included improving infrastructure and completion of Metro.

Other topics like 100 Smart Cities program, customs issues, tax regulation, new company law and the sexual prevention act, FSSAI regulations and how IT/ITES is now being deemed essential services in Karnataka, new CSR law, law enforcement, a cleaner Bangalore, and labour laws was discussed.

In summary, the Chief Secretary said that the government was willing to offer 500 hectares on the Bangalore-Pune highway with world-class facilities and power supply, water, and all amenities for any company interested in the project. He also said that he would try and resolve any issue that companies faced to the best of his ability and invited companies to drop by to his office at any time.







11th September 2014 - Meeting with the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr. Siddaramaiah

Amcham members called upon Honorable Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr. K. Siddaramaiah, on September 11, 2014. Heads of top U.S. companies such as Yahoo, Goldman Sachs, Exxonmobil, HP, IBM, Textron, Morgan Stanley, Amazon, United Technologies, Praxair, Timken, Northern Trust, Quaker, Grant Thornton, Exeter, ADAPT, Fluor Daniel, Becton Dickinson, Stanley and Decker, and Carrier were present. From the government side participants were Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, Mr. Kaushik Mukherjee, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, Mr. Narasimha Raju, Principal Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Karnataka, Ms. Ratnaprabha, Commissioner of Industries, Government of Karnataka, Mr. Maheshwar Rao, CEO, Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB), Mr. Mohan Chakravarthy, Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre, Mr. K. S. Shivaswamy. The Chief Minister and

the GoK senior officials assured the U.S. companies that they would help resolve any challenges that they faced to investing in Karnataka.

11th September 2014 - Dinner with National ExeComm members, U.S. Consulate Officials, and GoK bureaucrats

The American Chamber of Commerce, Karnataka Chapter held an exclusive dinner for the AMCHAM National ExeComm members, CEOs of other U.S. companies, U.S. Consulate officials and Government of Karnataka Bureaucrats on September 11th. Among the U.S. Consulate officials present were: Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America, New Delhi, Mr. John M. McCaslin, Acting Consul General and new Consular Chief, U. S. Consulate, Chennai, Dr. Lawrence Mire, The new Non-Immigrant Visa Chief, U. S. Consulate, Chennai, Ms. Lindsay Rothenberg, The new Commercial Consul, U.S. Consulate, Chennai, Mr. John Fleming. Among the important Government of Karnataka officials present were: Principal Secretary, Commerce and Industries,





Ms. Ratnaprabha, Commissioner of Industries, Government of Karnataka, Mr. Maheshwar Rao, CEO, Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB), Mr. Mohan Chakravarthy, Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre, Mr. K. S. Shivaswamy, Mr. Sanjay Pant, Commissioner of Service Tax, Domlur, Bangalore, Mr. Rakesh Bhaskar, Director of Income Tax – Transfer Pricing, Nrupthunga Road, Bangalore, Mr. Rajiv Tiwari, Commissioner, Service Tax

18th October 2014 - AMCHAM-Timken Golf Tournament 2014

The AMCHAM-Timken Golf Tournament was held at Prestige Golfshire, Bangalore. 110 golfers participated – among them were CEOs of American companies, top management of Indian companies and government bureaucrats.













Timken India co-hosted the tournament. Cisco, Textron, and Ritz Carlton were the main sponsors.

18th October 2014 - AMCHAM-Timken Golf Tournament 2014 Prize Distribution dinner

The prize distribution dinner was held at the Mysore Hall of the ITC Gardenia. The top management of U.S. companies,







government bureaucrats, and Consulate officials were be present at the occasion.

The U.S. Ambassador to India, Ms. Kathleen Stephens was the Chief Guest. The new Consul General, U.S. consulate Chennai, Mr. Philip Min was also present at the occasion along with other Consulate officials and government bureaucrats.

Chennai

28th August 2014 - Amcham breakfast meeting of CTO's, CIO's and Project Delivery Heads on 'Enterprise Risk covering key aspects of Information Technology related risks and respective challenges'

Amcham Tamil Nadu chapter & Deloitte held a meeting of CTOs, CIOs & Project managers on 'Enterprise Risk covering key aspects of Information Technology related risks and respective challenges'. The meeting was to help companies build value by taking a risk intelligent approach to manage financial, technological and business risks.

The speakers were Mr Ravi Veeraghavan, Partner – Internal Audit and Mr Kalaiselvi Murthy ,Sr Manager. They spoke on the various business risks, such as Governance, Regulatory, Internal Audit, Technology, Third Party Assurance, Contracts, Cyber Security, Physical Security etc. they said that there are proprietary solutions which can assess, analyze & improve the effectiveness & efficiency of governance, financial and operational control processes and offer recommendations to improve operations and assist their clients with enterprise risk and compliance activities through customized service offerings.

22nd August 2014 - Amcham Breakfast Meeting to introduce members to the new officers at the Consulate

Dr. Lawrence Mire, Acting Consul General and Consular Chief, Mr Ben Ousley Naseman, Acting Consular Chief and Deputy Consular Chief, Ms Lindsey L. Rothenberg, Non Immigrant Visa Chief Nelson Wu, American Citizen Services Chief, Mr Elliot Fertik, Fraud Prevention Manager & Mr John Fleming, Principal Commercial Officer, met with Amcham Tamil Nadu Chapter members. Mr. Vivek Vanmeeganathan, Chairman of the Chapter stressed that Amcham has a great working relationship with the Consulate and both organizations would like this to continue. He assured the Consulate officers that Amcham is keen to support the Consulate on all its programs.

Dr. Lawrence Mire said he looked forward to working with Amcham. He added that US India relations are on the upswing and that trade relations was set to grow from the US\$ 100 bn mark to US\$ 500 bn. He referred to the remarks made by Vice President Biden and Secretary Kerry in this connection during their visit to India. He also mentioned that President Obama was eagerly looking forward to the September visit of Prime minister Modi to the US.Dr. Lawrence Mire then introduced the team of officers who have assumed their responsibilities at the mission in Chennai.

18th July 2014 - Impact Analysis of Union Budget 2014 presented by Deloitte

A session was held by Amcham and Deloitte on 'Impact analysis of the key budget proposals from a direct and indirect tax perspective and Impact of the changes on business environment & foreign investments'. The topics covered in this analysis were Direct and Indirect taxation, Transfer Pricing, Advance Pricing Agreements and Business Taxation. The participants were CFO's, Tax Managers and Finance Professionals from Amcham member companies. The speakers were Mr Rajesh Srinivasan, Partner - Tax, Mr Krishnan Parameshwaran, Director – Transfer Pricing, Mr L Sayee Mohan, Director – Indirect Taxes and V P Mani, Director – Business Tax

4th July 2014 - A Workshop on Connected Thinking in Core Engineering at the National Productivity Council - NPC facility

The participants of this workshop were Principals / Deans / Vice Chancellors of select educational institutes of excellence, representatives of Amcham member companies, government representatives and NPC faculty. The Workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Harbhajan Singh IAS, Director General - NPC, Dept of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi and Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency. Mr. Vivek Vanmeeganathan, Chairman, Amcham TN Chapter addressed the participants and outlined the purpose of the workshop and Amcham's role

in promoting skill development.

Mr. Ajit Mathai, Director at Deloitte and Amcham's Lead on the Project made a presentation detailing the concept and flow of this project on Connected Thinking in Core Engineering. Dr. M. Thiagarajan, Dean at Anna University addressed members and explained the importance of skill building and urged the academia representatives to support this program.

All participants were taken on a guided tour of the facility. During the post lunch session, Mr. Kumar, Director -Manufacturing Services at Deloitte, made a presentation on the growth of manufacturing in india and stressed that both capacity building and skill development was essential to the growth of this sector. Mr. Rajan Aiyer, Country Manager of Trimble Navigation addressed members and mentioned that technology was being introduced at all stages of development and technical skills are an absolute must to take advantage of the digital revolution on skills in agriculture, infrastructure development, mining, surveying and in any engineering project.

A job-oriented and practical five-day certificate course has been designed for pre-final year and final year students from the mechanical, electrical and instrumentation departments.

Delivered through a combination of case studies and practical training models, the course will be delivered by NPC's industry experts and supported by industry practitioners from AMCHAM's member companies.

11th July 2014 - A session by Amcham Tamil Nadu chapter on 'Analysis of the Union Budget 2014 presented by KPMG'

A session was held by Amcham and KPMG on Analysis of the Union Budget 2014. The presenters from KPMG Chennai were Mr. M G Ramachandran, Executive Director who presented on Corporate and International Taxation, Mr. Roopesh Rao, Director, who presented on Transfer Pricing & APA and Mr. Srinath, Senior Advisor, who presented on the salient features in the Budget with respect to Indirect Taxation.



AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN INDIA

Established in 1992, the American Chamber of Commerce in India (Amcham India) is an association of American business organizations operating in the country.

Amcham India has around 500 members, spread across the nation. The Chamber enjoys a close relationship with the U.S. Embassy, which supports its objectives and helps in fulfilling them. The incumbent U.S. Ambassador to India is the Honorary President of Amcham.

Mission

Amcham's principle objectives are to:

 Promote activities that encourage and stimulate investment by U.S. companies in the country.

- Support the business operations of its members.
- Encourage bilateral trade between India and the U.S.

These primary objectives are fulfilled by:

- Providing a forum for U.S. based business organizations to discuss and identify common issues, economic and commercial interests in India and /or the U.S.
- Instituting Sectoral Committees which implement the primary objectives in their respective sectors.
- Reviewing policies and procedures in various sectors that affect the members as well as growth of foreign direct investment.

Affiliations

Amcham is affiliated to the following Chambers:

- Chamber of Commerce of U.S.A in Washington, D.C.
- Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (APCAC)
- AMCHAM's in other countries.

Regional Chapters

Amcham's National Secretariat is based in New Delhi with six Regional Chapters in Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai.

American Chamber of Commerce in India

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