



Volume - 2 | Edition - 8 | February 2020

entrepreneur

The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry

VIZAG:
EXECUTIVE
CAPITAL

UNION
BUDGET
2020-21

CONTENTS

2. VCCI News

VCCI Events

3. Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for MSMEs - Awareness Programme
4. VMRDA Perspective Plan 2051- Interactive Session
5. Meet with JC GST
5. GST New Returns - seminar
5. Hon'ble Prime Minister at ASSOCHAM AGM - Live telecast meet
6. Doing Business in USA focusing on SelectUSA- Interactive Session
6. Logistics Sector- Stakeholders Meet
7. Driving Access to Finance: Role of CIBIL score and report- workshop
7. Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization by UNIDO & DPIIT- interactive Meet

8-9. Is Vizag ready to become executive capital?

10. VIZAG in the News

VCCI Events

11. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture interactive session
11. Trade and industry on Union Budget 2020 - Deliberations

12. Highlights Of Union Budget 2020-21

Womens Wing Events

13. Interactive Session with MBA Students at IIAM, Vizag

Youth Wing Events

14. Factory Visit
14. Insights and perspective on Investments in Silicon Valley
15. Meeting with Mr. Manoj Desai, Commercial Consular for South India, Department of Commerce, United States of America.

15. VCCI News

Editor

Mr. Ravi Godey

Editorial Team

Mrs. Sandhya Godey

Ms. Ramani Gandhavarapu

VCCI NEWS



Meet with Shri Ashish Wig, Chairman PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry



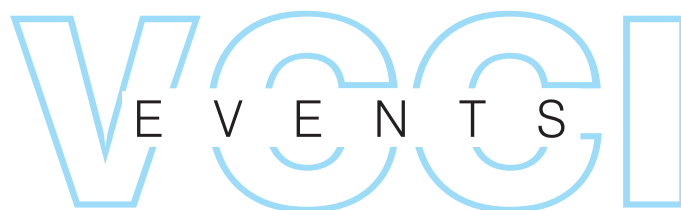
Meet with Shri Raj Kumar Singh ji Honble Minister of Power minister of New and renewable Energy



Meet with Shri Kishna Reddy Minister of Home Affairs

NEW MEMBERS OF VCCI

Firm Name	Authorised Person	Designation	Business Activity
TATA International Limited	Ravindra Dutt S Tiwari	Manager FXA	Metals Trading and Exporter
CHF India Foundation	Ranjeet Kumar Ambastha	Executive Director	Social Business
SVBC Gold	Kodidasu Satyanaryana	Managing partner	Gold business
Pollocks School	Sandeep Chitra	Director- Administration	Educational Institution



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS FOR MSMEs

- AWARENESS PROGRAMME



An awareness programme was organized by The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Visakhapatnam in association with Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Development institute, Govt. of India. The awareness programme also saw participation from 75 people from the MSME Sector as well as young student entrepreneurs.

The programme proved an insightful forum for discussion on issues and challenges of IPR. The seminar comprised talks by eminent personalities including the Chief Guest Dr.H.Purushotham, CMD,

National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), who said that managing innovation better than competitors is one of the main objectives of a business that wishes to survive and thrive in today's economy, and therefore IPR plays a vital role in encouraging innovative people and rewarding them for their ideas. He also said that this also drives productive growth.

Mr. Hanumantayya, President of Laghu Udyog Bharathi, Visakhapatnam stated that the intellectual property system protected innovation and allowed the owner to have exclusive use of his mark with respect to the same or similar goods. Dr. Dayananda Murthy C.P, Director, Academic Affairs and Research, Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University (DSNLU), spoke on the Indian Patent System, Patent Drafting, and Filing & Copy Rights. He also spoke on exclusive rights of patent granted by the Government for an invention for a limited period of time in consideration of disclosure of the invention by an applicant. He further mentioned that a patentee enjoys exclusive right to prevent the third party from an unauthorized act of making, using, offering for sale, selling or importing the patented product or process within the country during the term of the patent. Shri G.V.R.Naidu, Asst.Director Incharge, Br.MSME-DI, summarized the sessions and presented the detailed scheme guidelines of MSMEs.

President VCCI and Chairman AP Chambers also spoke during the meeting.

VMRDA PERSPECTIVE PLAN 2051.

INTERACTIVE SESSION



Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) is in the process of preparing the Master Plan and Zonal Development plans for areas under its jurisdiction. The plan will provide sector-wise goals, policies and strategies in line with government policies for spacio-economic development of the region.

M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt Ltd., New Delhi an engineering consulting company has been entrusted with this project. The prospective plan addresses the future development through regional growth strategies, economic growth strategies, broad population forecast & distribution, broad structural plan, transportation strategies, resource

conservation, coastal zone regulations, disaster management strategies and action plans.

In this aspect VMRDA proposed an interactive stakeholder consultation workshop to aid discuss, understand and obtain varied resolute inputs from concerned stakeholder's /NGOs/ Association /User groups. VCCI was represented by its President who shared his ideas with the audience.

MEET WITH JOINT COMMISSIONER GST

VCCI Managing Committee had a meeting with Joint Commissioner of GST Sri. N. Srinivasa Rao to represent various issues faced by the business community of Visakhapatnam.

The VCCI President submitted that every week the business people were receiving amendments/notifications from the GST Authorities and it was becoming a herculean task for small traders to understand and follow these changes. The Secretary of the VCCI requested the JC to arrange a help line by the GST Department. Responding to the concerns raised by the representatives of VCCI, the JC said the Government was trying its best to simplify the GST returns and from April 2020 a single sheet returns form would be available to the assesses. He also said that The GST Office now had an assistance wing at their office to help the assesses in all GST related matters. He also said that the assesses can email any of their doubts to 'gstcellvsp@gmail.com' and the assessee will get the clarification within 48hours. The JC also offered that he was ready to address trade bodies to clear their doubts and requested VCCI to organize a meeting. The



treasurer of VCCI thanked the JC for being so helpful and assured him that the message would be conveyed on to all VCCI members.

After the meeting The Joint Commissioner Sri N. Srinivasa Rao released the VCCI Magazine 'Entrepreneur' November Edition and appreciated the efforts made by the editor of the magazine Mr. Ravi Godey.



GST NEW RETURNS - SEMINAR

A Seminar on Analysis of recent Changes, E-Invoicing, Landmark judgments in Goods and Service Tax (GST) and New Returns under GST' was organized by VCCI. Around 75 members attended the seminar. The session was very useful to key managerial personnel, Entrepreneurs of Industry and Trade, Finance managers, Accountants, professionals and Tax consultants, Academicians and Commerce and Management graduates to have a practical understanding of GST New Returns.

The welcome speech was delivered by Hony. Secretary of VCCI, emphasizing the need of the seminar and the

advantage of new GST returns.

CA Anil Kumar Bezawada partner in M/s. Hiregange & Associates, Visakhapatnam was the keynote speaker in the program. He addressed that the GST Council in its 37th meeting and recommended the introduction of "New Return System" from April 2020. He also clarified the various changes and explained how the new return worked and also explained about the Objectives of E-invoicing and E-invoice generation, process flow and tentative procedure for applying E-invoice.

Mr. Rajesh Maddi, a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and Associate Member of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India was also a speaker at the seminar. He

stated about Simplified New returns under GST and presented the impact of New Systems are in the terms of revision of payment in vendor agreements. Systems and software could be aligned with his view. He discussed about types of returns, Advantages, Challenges and Issues. The session concluded with the interactive Q&A session several participants participated in the discussion and clarified their queries.



HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER AT ASSOCHAM AGM - LIVE TELECAST MEET

The Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) celebrated its Centenary Year by holding an Annual Session and Conference on 20th December 2019 at Delhi. On the said Event, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was the Chief Guest and address the industries of India on "New India-Aspiring USD 5 Trillion Economy". The address was telecasted live on Doordarshan and ANI Channels. As the address of Hon'ble Prime Minister was for the industry and business community of our country, it was decided that all the Chambers/Associations across the country

would hold the live telecast viewing for its members in their respective Chambers/Associations. VCCI arranged a small conference in its premises for its members and also screened the live telecast of the address by Hon'ble Prime Minister. VCCI Managing Committee and number of Industrialists remained present to listen to the address of Hon'ble Prime Minister on "New India-Aspiring USD 5 Trillion Economy".



DOING BUSINESS IN USA FOCUSING ON SELECT USA - INTERACTIVE SESSION

A interactive session on Doing Business in USA focusing on Select USA was organized by Indo -American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) AP & TS in collaboration with Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and AP Chambers at YMCA Board room, Visakhapatnam

'Select USA' is a U.S. government-wide program led by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

In this program, Mr. Manoj Desai, Commercial Consular for South India and Mr. Theodore Immanuel, Office Director & Commercial Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service addressed and interacted with the participants.

The objective of the program was to reach out to the wider business community in the region and brief them about doing business in USA and sharing details about the Select USA Program where all the states of US were represented. Approx. 30 persons from various business houses attended the meeting. VCCI Executive board members Mr. Williams and Mr. Ravi Godey attended.



LOGISTICS SECTOR - STAKEHOLDER MEET

A Stakeholder meet was held at VCCI to discuss bottlenecks in the logistics sector with representatives of Stevedore Association, Container Lines Association, Custom House Association, Shipping Agents Association as well as private terminals like Vedanta etc.

The meeting was part of the National Integrated Logistics Action Plan by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, which focuses on improving and simplifying the logistics processes in the country.

As a first step to achieve this, a study to map the actual processes and steps at the micro level is being undertaken at various ports including Vizag port. The study will detail out the process of export and import through the selected ports and identify the bottlenecks for the trading community and suggest measures to improve these bottlenecks. In this regard, Asian Development Bank led a team for visit to Vizag on behalf of Logistics division, Ministry of Commerce.

The stakeholders listed out many of the bottlenecks that were listed officially as well as those that were not official and had detailed discussions with the team from the Ministry so that the policy could be made keeping in mind ground realities.



DRIVING ACCESS TO FINANCE: ROLE OF CIBIL SCORE AND REPORT - WORKSHOP



Driving access to Finance role of Credit Information Bureau India Ltd. (CIBIL) Score and report workshop was organized by The Vizagapatnam Chamber Of Commerce & Industry in partner with FICCI and initiative partner TransUnion. Ms Payel Ghosh, Manager TransUnion CIBIL was the keynote speaker in the session. She noted that understanding the importance of CIBIL Score and Report in their financial life would help an individual in developing credit histories into a "reputation collateral" for themselves and their businesses which in turn will lead to economic growth and overall development of the nation.

She had given detailed information about 3 digit numeric summary of credit history and also discussed about the major factors like payment history, high credit utilization, multiple enquiries, Credit Mix that affect the CIBIL score and discussed the role of CIBIL and had detailed information on the credit availed, such as home loan, automobile loan, credit card, personal loan, overdraft facilities as well as understanding of CIBIL report and CIBIL score with special focus on CIBIL MSME Rank.

The workshop aimed is to educate members and bring awareness on the importance of maintaining a good credit history for availing easier, faster and cheaper access to credit both for self and business development of what goes into the making of their personal and commercial credit report and score. The workshop saw good participation. The sessions were highly interactive and informative.

INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION BY UNIDO & DPIIT

- INTERACTIVE MEET

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Govt. of India and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) launched their flagship initiative UNIDO India Country Program (CP) in collaboration with Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and organized an interactive session on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization in Visakhapatnam on 18 February 2020. VCCI Managing Committee had participated in the interactive session.





IS VIZAG READY TO BECOME EXECUTIVE CAPITAL?

With the announcement of the three capital structure by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, with Visakhapatnam as the Executive Capital, the announcement was met with a lot of excitement by businesses, real estate developers and the young generation. It was also laced with resistance to the idea by the old timers.

While one set of residents viewed this proposed change of status from a laid back, peaceful city to a place that would provide opportunity for growth and development, others see it as a slide into chaos and struggle for the limited resources.

Putting all this presumptions and assumptions aside, the one question on everyone's mind is - Is Vizag well prepared to become an Executive capital'?

Thinking logically and facing facts, Vizag is the only cosmopolitan city in residual AP that has the potential to be the engine of growth for the state. The economic vibrancy needed can be created in Vizag in a much shorter time than in a green field project like Amaravati. Despite the fact that the new Executive Capital will not be a Green field development but a mix of judicious use of existing infrastructure and resources in addition to development of new areas with a well-defined plan analyzing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) in the existing scenario. Notwithstanding the reality of the situation, the mere thought of a capital leads to expectations from citizens of a world-class city with state-of-the-art infrastructure that also brings in social cohesion and local inclusiveness. They also expect it to set a precedent of how urban development should be initiated and implemented.

The development plan should cover the total area which is planned for the capital. The planning area should be divided into few layers. The topography of the city should be analyzed in context of regional development, existing development, climatic factors, flora and fauna, water resources, transport network etc. Large areas should be brought under tree plantation, arrangements should be made for water conservation and waste water recycling, over and above all of this the Government should involve local residents, stake holders and experts in evolving the plan.

The capital city should be planned taking the following points into consideration

GREEN CITY CONCEPT



Where ever possible, crisscross green walkways should be proposed and should be connected from one end of the city to the other to promote pedestrian and non-motorised transportation (NMT) movement. The green belt which acts as a natural air purifier for the city also to be included in the plans.

All water bodies have to be retained and even the smallest ones, including natural streams, ponds and lakes, should be provided with a buffer of 25 m. keeping the

climatic conditions in mind, detailed natural drainage analysis based on the sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) model should be prepared to retain water in streams, ponds and lakes throughout the year.

HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE

The planning of the city is expected to accommodate housing for EWS and LIG with 25 per cent of area in the residential sectors reserved for the above economic classes. The infrastructure should be created utilizing state-of-the-art technologies yet conserving the natural resources. Plan to develop a city where the development of the city should be on self-sustainable financing model.

The planning of infrastructure should be Information and Communication Technology-friendly and should be as per Smart City implementation plan, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping of all utilities and addition of SCADA (Supervisory control and data acquisition) system.



TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

The transportation network for the Capital should be based on the concept of accessibility, affordability, equitable and safe mobility and Last Mile Connectivity. Four lane and six lane city level roads should be constructed within the city to avoid traffic congestion. Metro covering the total city area and the suburbs with last mile connectivity is essential for healthy growth of the city.

POWER & WATER SUPPLY

The focus should be to make power supply available 24x7, reduce transmission and distribution loss and promote renewable energy resources.

A water treatment plant has been set up and treated water is being supplied to the residents since 2015. The existing system is being upgraded and the SCADA system is being set up to increase the system efficiency by future provision of 24x7 fully pressurized water supply system, real-time monitoring, automatic meter reading and its integration with billing software.



GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

The economic sustainability is also very important for a city. Taking the job creating sectors into consideration the planners should provide sufficient land for development.

PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

Any planning without citizen's participation is futile.

The citizens are urging the Government to prepare a comprehensive plan Involving residents of Vizag and give Andhra Pradesh and India a great capital city.



VIZAG IN THE NEWS

DATA CENTRE PARK BY ADANI

Adani's who had given a detailed project report and requested for 500 acres of land for a project they envisaged that would bring in about Rs 70,000 crore of investment over a 20 year period for a first-of-its-kind 100% renewable energy powered data center project in the world. Recently the new Government of Andhra Pradesh asked the Adani Group to submit a guaranteed investment plan with commitment. Adani group expressed their inability to give guarantees on the proposed investments. Adani has now conveyed to the Andhra government that it would confine their investment to around 80 acres of land with an investment plan of around Rs 3,000 crore for over a period of two years. In line with the Central Government's new policy on Data center parks, we can expect a world class Data Center Park shortly in Vizag.



INDIAN NAVY TO INDUCT 24 MULTI-ROLE CHOPPERS IN EARLY 2021, ENC TO GET 12

The Indian Navy is set to induct 24 MH-60R Multi-Role Helicopters (MRH). Half of these helicopters - that is 12 - will be stationed at Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command (ENC).



These helicopters are a replacement for the Sea King 42/42A helicopters. As part of the Indian Navy's commitment to the 'Make in India' initiative, the OEM (original equipment manufacturer) M/s Lockheed Martin would also be discharging offsets through the transfer of technology to Indian offset partners for the manufacture of products and services. This would enable the absorption of niche technology, skill development and manufacture of eligible products or services leading to a generation of employment, skilling of MSMEs and indigenous production of products for buy-back by the OEM.

INDIAN RAILWAYS PLANS TO START A NEW VIZAG- ARAKU TOURIST TRAIN

A dedicated regular train between Visakhapatnam and Araku Valley is likely to be on track soon. This, if it becomes a reality, will be the first tourism project under the aegis of South Coastal Railway (SCoR) which is slated to begin operations from the upcoming financial year.

The possibility of this project depends on two factors. First, if Visakhapatnam becomes the executive capital of Andhra Pradesh and second, if Visakhapatnam becomes the zonal headquarters of SCoR.

Currently, tourists are dependent on the 58501/58502 Visakhapatnam to Kirandul passenger train to go to Araku from the city. During the peak season, the railways run special trains from Visakhapatnam to Araku to meet the rush.

SPICEJET LAUNCHES FIRST CARGO FLIGHT FROM VISAKHAPATNAM

Marking a historic moment, SpiceJet launched the first dedicated cargo flight from Visakhapatnam on Tuesday, 25 February. The flight was



flagged off in style with a water cannon salute.

The Andhra Pradesh Air Travelers Association (APATA) had earlier requested the introduction of cargo flights from Visakhapatnam given the immense potential. The Association had noted that a considerable volume of cargo was being sent to Chennai and Hyderabad airports via roadways, due to a lack of cargo flights from Visakhapatnam. The new cargo flight, therefore, is expected to boost the transport of cargo from Vizag, especially in the areas of seafood and pharmaceuticals.

PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE - INTERACTIVE SESSION

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture visited Andhra Pradesh led by Mr T G Venkatesh, Chairman, and Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. Coinciding with their visit, CII Andhra Pradesh organized an Interactive session with Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture at Vizag Conventions, Visakhapatnam. VCCI Executive members along with other members participated in the interactive session with the Parliamentary Standing Committee for the overall development of the region, promote tourism and issues pertaining to parking facilities and transportation in Visakhapatnam



TRADE AND INDUSTRY ON UNION BUDGET 2020

- DELIBERATIONS

"Trade and Industry Interaction Meet on Union Budget 2020" was organized by VCCI in association with FICCI to demystify budget implications on the industry



CA. Arun Agarwal, Director- Indirect Tax. KPMG was the speaker for this session. He said the present budget had high expectations from various target groups especially from the industry perspective.

Mr. Vijay Gilda, Director - Direct Taxes also addressed the gathering and said that Indications suggest that the focus would be on various structural reforms which could accelerate the economic growth. It also assumes significance in view of the slowdown of the economic growth which warrants series of course correction measures.



The Seminar had include an interactive Q&A session. Questions were raised in the session on various issues and the queries were clarified by the speakers.

The objective of the Session was to facilitate in-depth interaction on various announcements and implications of the Union Budget 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS OF UNION BUDGET 2020-21

Change in income tax rates: The income tax rates have been changed. The table below compares the current tax rates with the proposed tax rates. Note that the new personal tax rates are optional and may only be availed if the person satisfies certain conditions, such as if they do not claim certain exemptions or deductions. These include standard deductions, leave travel allowance, house rent allowance, interest payment on housing loan, and deductions under Chapter VI-A (investments in provident fund, insurance premium, donations to charities, etc.). Once the option is exercised, it will be applicable for all subsequent years.

Income	Current tax rate	Proposed tax rate
Upto Rs 5 lakh	Nil	Nil
Between Rs 5 lakh and Rs 7.5 lakh		10%
Between Rs 7.5 lakh and Rs 10 lakh	20%	15%
Between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 12.5 lakh		20%
Between Rs 12.5 lakh and Rs 15 lakh	30%	25%
Above Rs 15 lakh		30%

Option for lower tax rates: The Income Tax Act was recently amended to give an option to domestic companies to avail of 22% tax rate if they did not claim certain deductions. The list has been expanded to include other deductions, such as those under Section 80G (donations to charities). Also, a similar facility has been provided to co-operatives.

Benefits to corporates: Currently, domestic manufacturing companies have an option to pay income tax at the rate of 15% if they do not claim certain deductions under the Act. This benefit has been extended to domestic companies engaged in electricity generation.

Dividend Distribution Tax: Currently, companies have to pay a tax of 15% on dividends distributed by it to shareholders. This has been removed and the dividend income will now be taxable in the hands of the recipient.

Limit on deductions for social security contributions: Currently, there is no combined limit for the purpose of deductions on the amount of contribution made by an employer towards a recognized provident fund, an approved superannuation fund and the National Pension Scheme. A combined ceiling of Rs 7.5 lakh is being introduced on deductions which may be claimed towards such contributions.

Residence in India: The Income Tax Act, 1961 specifies various conditions for determining the resident status of an Indian citizen or a person of Indian origin. Earlier, a person was considered a resident and had their global income taxable in India, if they are in India for more than 182 days. This has been reduced to 120 days. In addition, any Indian citizen who is not liable to tax in any other country or territory by reason of domicile or residence shall be deemed to be a resident of India.

TDS on e-commerce transactions: TDS of 1% will be levied on e-commerce transactions.

Housing incentives: Currently, an exemption is provided on profits or gains arising out of building affordable houses if the project was approved by March 31, 2020. Further,

an additional tax deduction of up to Rs 1,50,000 is provided on interest paid on loans for self-occupied house owners if the loan was sanctioned by March 31, 2020. The deadline in both cases has been extended to March 31, 2021.

Tax changes for start-ups: Start-ups are allowed to get a full tax waiver on profits for any three consecutive years out of their first seven years, if they are incorporated between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2021, and their turnover does not exceed Rs 25 crore. The waiver has been extended to start-ups for any three years out of their first ten years. In addition, the turnover threshold has been increased from Rs 25 crore to Rs 100 crore.

Further, the tax on ESOPs (stock options) held by employees of start-ups will be payable only on the earliest of the following events:

- (i) Expiry of 4 years from the end of the assessment year.
- (ii) Sale of the options.
- (iii) Till the employee leaves the company.

Excise: The rate of central excise duty on certain tobacco products such as cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and tobacco extracts has been increased. For example, the rate of duty on chewing tobacco has been increased from 10% to 25% per kg. Further, crude petroleum has been included at a rate of duty of Rs 50 per tonne.

Customs: Customs duty has been raised on some items such as tableware and kitchenware, footwear, fans, and toys.

Health cess on customs: A health cess will be levied (in addition to customs duty) on certain medical devices, such as X-ray machines, imported into India. This cess may be utilized for the financing of health infrastructure and services.

Obligations on charities: Charitable organizations get an exemption from taxation under Section 12AA, and donations to them get exemptions under Sections 10(23C), 35, and 80G. From now, the approvals under these sections

will be valid for a maximum of five years. Any entity having these approvals has to get them re-issued.

Commodities Transaction Tax: Currently, the commodities transaction tax on commodity derivatives is 0.01%. The Bill creates three tax rates:

- (i) 0.01% payable by the seller on sale of commodity derivatives based on its price or price index.
- (ii) 0.0001% payable by the buyer on the sale of an option in goods resulting in the delivery of the goods.
- (iii) 0.125% payable by the buyer on the sale of an option in goods resulting in cash payment.

Indian Stamp Act, 1899: Stamp duty will not be charged in the case of transactions in stock exchanges and depositories established in international financial centers set up under the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005.

Sovereign wealth funds: Income arising out of investments made by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and other notified sovereign wealth funds in certain infrastructure facilities will be exempt from tax. This exemption is available if the investment was made before March 31, 2024, and with a minimum lock-in period of three years.

The Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988:

The Act constitutes an adjudicating authority on issues related to benami properties. The qualifications for the Chairperson and members of the authority are that they must have been:

- (i) A member of the Indian Revenue Service as Commissioner of Income-tax or equivalent,
- (ii) A member of the Indian Legal Service as Joint Secretary or equivalent.
- (iii) The Bill states that an individual qualified for the position of District Judge may also be the chairperson or a member of the authority.

Removal of tax exemptions on certain allowances: Certain exemptions on facilities to current and former members of the Union Public Service Commission and the Election Commission such as rent-free residence, conveyance allowance, and medical facilities are exempt from tax. This exemption has been removed. Introduced Tax Collected at sources (TCS) on tour operator @ 5% for the buyer who provides PAN Card and 10% for the buyer who doesn't provide PAN Card

AP Government and people expected a lot from the Union budget. Responding to the budget announcement, The AP Finance minister pointed out the following

- * The center did not allocate funds to our state as per the State Reorganization Act.
- * There was no clarity on bridging the revenue deficit.
- * No package for the 7 backward districts or industrial incentives was announced.
- * There was no mention of reimbursement of funds for the Polavaram project.

**AP in
Union Budget
2020-21**

WOMENS WING EVENTS

INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MBA STUDENTS AT IIAM, VIZAG

VCCI Women's Wing is actively making strides in organizing events promoting business insights and business potential. It has delved into many areas of civic and training activities too. A speaker session for MBA students was conducted at IIAM, Vizag. The speakers were Ms. Anila Narla and Ms. Satyaprema, both successful business women of the city. Ms. Anila Narla spoke about the abundant opportunities in the field of animation and said that it is one of the highly paid fields. Ms. Satya Prema shared her experiences and the ups and downs she faced when she started her business. A lively interactive session followed, with students actively voicing queries. The committee members of the Women's Wing and the Principal of the institution were present on the occasion.



YOUTH WING EVENTS

FACTORY VISIT

VCCI Youth Wing have visited the Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd., plant in Kantakapalli on 14th Dec 2019. Sarda Metals is one of the major Ferro Silico producers in Andhra Pradesh. Besides being an integral part of the Ferro Alloys industry in the state, they also have a captive thermal power plant in the same premises. Sarda Metals and Alloys Director Mr. Neeraj Sarda made a presentation about the Sarda group and about Sarda Energy & Minerals Ltd., plant which is located in Raipur. After the presentation the members visited the coal stacking area with its state of the art handling facilities and an atomized power plant, which is also one of its kind.



Finally, they visited the Ferro Alloys plant where they were shown the functioning of the furnace with a brief explanation on how Silico Manganese is produced. Lunch for all the members was hosted by Mr. Neeraj and mementoes were given to all the members.



INSIGHTS AND PERSPECTIVE ON INVESTMENTS IN SILICON VALLEY

The VCCI Youth Wing conducted a workshop on Angel Investing with special focus on investments in the Silicon Valley. VCCI Youth Wing hosted the General Partners Jason and Tim of Pioneer Fund, a silicon-valley based Venture Capital Firm which invests only in Y Combinator Start-ups. Y Combinator is the world's most sought-after Accelerator. Pioneer launched a Future-of-India co-syndication opportunity to invest into Indian companies in the last batch of YC. This partnership was a dedicated SPV for the YC batch (Investments include Digi-Prex, Green Tiger, Vahan among others).

Y Combinator has been at the forefront of molding companies over the years and have 15 unicorns and over 70+ companies valued greater than \$100M as part of their portfolio. Some of the most well-known YC companies include Airbnb (\$30B), Dropbox (\$10B market cap, NASDAQ: DBX), Stripe (\$9B), Instacart (\$4B), Cruise Automation (\$1B acquisition by GM within 1.5 years of YC), Coinbase (Revenue of \$1B in 2017), Reddit, Quora



among others. Some Indian companies from YC are Meesho, Razorpay, Cleartax, Drivezy, Supr Daily, Innov8 among others. YC has been the only global platform that has consistently produced winners almost every year. YC startups are among the world's most sought after companies, with allocations in their funding rounds being extremely competitive.

This is one of VCCI's initiatives to promote the Startup Ecosystem at Vizag by exposing the local entrepreneurs to the pioneers of the Venture Capital World. The workshop saw good participation and it has been decided to conduct more such events in the future.

MEETING WITH COMMERCIAL CONSULAR FOR SOUTH INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, USA.

Mr. Manoj Desai, Commercial Consular for South India, Sri Lanka & Maldives, Department of Commerce, Government of USA visited Andhra Pradesh for the first time since his arrival in India. The main focus of the U.S. Commercial Services (USCS), Department of Commerce, is to enhance and facilitate bilateral Trade & Investments between the regions, to strengthen the relationships and ties between both the countries in the field of Trade & Commerce. The Youth Wing hosted them at the VCCI Board Room to discuss the best practices and understanding the opportunities available for US companies in Vishakhapatnam and to enhance bilateral trade and investment activities..



VCCI CONFERENCE HALL

VCCI conference hall was revamped with a whole new look. The renovated hall is now equipped with a central air conditioner, portable projection screen with high resolution projector and quality sound and lighting system. It is suitable for seminars, business meetings, training programmes, conferences, small group work discussions. With a capacity of 100 people, the hall is available for members and non-members for meetings and seminars.

VCCI NEWS



VAIBHAV
VISHESHA®

Inspired, Hand Crafted &
Curated Jewellery



An uber exclusive jewellery boutique

Only at: **3rd floor, Vaibhav Jewellers,** Visakhapatnam, Ph: 666 7777

Shop Now @ www.vaibhavjewellers.com