



Volume -2 | Edition - 7 | November 2019

# entrepreneur

The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry



VCCI

EXCELLENCE AWARDS - 2019



# VCCI







## PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Greetings to all the members.

In the weeks following the Annual General Body meeting, VCCI President Sri D.V. Raju submitted his resignation to the Managing Committee citing personal commitments. Though the Managing Committee requested him to continue, Mr. D.V. Raju expressed his disability to continue. As the Vice President, I took over as the President. During the previous year, I was in charge of VCCI Youth Wing and was Chairman of the Awards Committee. I am proud to say that the Youth Wing was inaugurated with 38 young dynamic persons and that the award function was a grand success. I am glad to inform you all that 104 of our members witnessed the event.

In the last few months, quite a few programs were organised by the VCCI. For the remaining duration of this term, I will do my best to organise interesting and useful programs for the members. We have decided to represent trade problems to various Government departments. In case any member faces any issues of policy or implementation, I request them to bring it to the notice of the VCCI to enable us to take up the issues.

Regards

Kankatala Mallikharjuna Rao

### Editor

Mr. Ravi Godey

### Editorial Team

Mrs. Sandhya Godey

Ms. Ramani Gandhavarapu

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# ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

It was most wonderful time of the year for members reconnecting ties & meeting new ones!!!

The 7th Annual General Body meeting was held on 17th June, 2019, 6.30 p.m. at hotel Gateway Taj, Visakhapatnam. The event started with a short formal presentation of VCCI activities the year gone by. This was followed by a detailed presentation and the budget proposal for the financial year 2019-20. This event has a very good turnout of 104 members.



# AGM report

The year was packed with a large number of events and activities including seminars, workshops, International business trips, foreign delegates meet, a felicitation and CSR projects during the year.

## Some of the specific initiatives and highlights of work done in past year:

- The year began with Biotech startup opportunities seminar, and IPR seminar
- January, VCCI organized GST Conclave to create awareness on GST



- VCCI mounted a business delegation to South Korea in second week of April for expanding trade and investment opportunities and forging strong bonds with world economies. The delegation had the opportunity to interact with some key business leaders of South Korea

- As a part of CSR one of our VCCI esteemed members, donated a Medical Ambulance with all lifesaving equipment at a cost of over Rs.13 lakhs to ITDA Paderu

- VCCI Continued to produce quarterly newsletter - VCCI Entrepreneur, The endeavour to keep readers abreast of the latest happenings in the VCCI and provide them with insightful analysis on pertinent issues continued through the year.





## VCCI MEET WITH VMRDA CHAIRMAN SRI DRONAM RAJU SRINIVAS RAO



The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry (VCCI) President Sri. K. Mallikharjuna Rao, along with the Executive Committee members, met Sri. DRONAMRAJU SRINIVAS RAO and congratulated him on his appointment as chairman of VMRDA.

They urged him to develop the Beach Road and protect heritage sites.



## VCCI EVENTS

### RALLY FOR HERITAGE

A Rally that traversed from Kali temple to YMCA was organized by the city chapter of INTACH in association with The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry on Sunday, 21st July 2019 to spread the importance of conserving and protecting geological heritage sites and saving geographically important features. There is a massive potential to establish a geo-park in Visakhapatnam as the district has significant geological sites including Erra Matti Dibbalu recognized as one of the 34 National Geo- heritage sites



The rally was flagged off by Member of Parliament Sri. M.V.V. Satyanarayana and VMRDA Chairman Sri. Dronamraju Srinivas Rao

The rally received good response with about 370 people from different walks of life who turned up early in the morning on the beach road. Members from INTACH, officers from the Tourism and Archaeological Departments, cadets from the Navy, NCC and NSS along with members from VCCI and heritage lovers participated.





## Send off to GST Commissioner Sri Hare Ram, IRS held on 1st August 2019.

The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry bid farewell to Shri B. Hareram, IRS, Chief Commissioner, CGST and Customs, Visakhapatnam Zone on 1st August 2019 at Dasapalla Hotel. President Sri. K Mallikarjuna rao and VCCI members expressed their sincere gratitude

## Zee Business Dare to Dream Growth Matters Forum

Zee Business organized 'Dare to Dream' Growth Matters event in collaboration with The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Business tycoons from different backgrounds all came together and shared their success stories, business ideas, and corporate mantras for young entrepreneurs and tech innovators.

Kankatala Mallikharjuna Rao, President of VCCI participated in the program and shared his views about achieving business success. He also spoke about calculated risks in business and dynamic planning.

Many other industry voices like G.Pawan Kumar, MD, Sprint Exports, M. Nagesh, Director & CEO, Nekkanti Sea Foods, DT Raju, MD, Vijayanagar Biotech, Kankatala Anirudh, Deepika Gupta, Asst Professor, IIM, Visakhapatnam, and other key corporates also spoke at length and shared their ideas and success stories.

As part of this series where a select group of business owners and thought leaders attend this event and shared their views. Maximum of 30 participants are invited with the content of their discussion going on-air on Zee Business in a 30-minute episode.





Meeting with Hamriyah

# Free Zone Authority

VCCI Team met a delegation led by Mr. Saud Al Mazrouei, Director of Hamriyah Free Zone Authority, Sharjah on 09th August 2019 at Taj hotel and discussed in detail the incentives, facilities and other fast track business establishment procedures to explore business opportunities available in the Free Zone. Excellent logistical advantages, affordable cost of living, abundant leisure and tourist attractions, availability of low cost labour force and multitude of business incentives, exemptions and flexibilities make investing in this Free Zone a good business proposition.



## SABKA VISHWAS

(Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme, 2019  
Outreach Program

Recently the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs announced Sabka Vishwas (Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme, 2019, with effect from 01.09.2019, for all the Central Excise and Service Tax assesses to extend relief ranging from 40% to 70% on tax/duties and full waiver of interest and penalties.



For better understanding of the scheme, Visakhapatnam Central GST Commissionerate organized an outreach Programme in The Vizagapatnam Chamber of Commerce & Industry Conference Hall. Around 120 members attended the program and participated with active involvement and sought clarification on their queries which helped them to understand important aspects of the subject.

For Scheme details visit: [www.cbic.gov.in](http://www.cbic.gov.in)



# Doing Business in CANADA

## Interactive session with Mr. Vikram Jain,

Trade Commissioner, Consulate General of Canada

The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with AP Chambers of Commerce organized an interactive session with Mr. Vikram Jain, Trade Commissioner, and Consulate General of Canada on 12th September, 2019 to appeal to potential

investors from Andhra Pradesh. Welcoming the members to this meeting, Sri Sudhir, Vice-Chairman of AP Chambers, said that trade between India and Canada was at present at \$ 6 billion, technology sharing in the specific sectors like agriculture, effluent treatment and solar power could prove beneficial for both the countries.

Mr. Kankatala Mallikharjuna Rao, President of VCCI assured all possible help to the investor community with proper information and coordination with the Canadian embassy.

Mr. Vikram Jain showcased the investment potential and sought investments from the region in the sectors like ICT, Infrastructure, Education, Aerospace and food industries.

Mr. Jain interacted with the members of both the host organizations and said bilateral ties between Canada and India were increasing due to the good relationship between the two countries. Mr Jain stated that Canada, with its low corporate tax rate and trade agreements with the key markets of Europe, United states and Latin America, was well positioned as a base of operations and a target for international expansion, Jain urged the investor community to take advantage of their business friendly policies like transparent governance, liberal taxation system, and highly educated workforce.



## First steps for doing business in Canada

- Starting business: Planning: Assessing your readiness, choosing a business structure, market research and writing a business plan.

- Choosing a business name: Selecting a good name, checking if a name is taken, registering and protecting your business name.

- Registering your business with the government : Registering or incorporating your business, plus how to apply for a business number or tax account.

- Applying for business permits and licenses: Permits and licenses that you may need for your business from all three levels of government.

- Getting business support and financing : National and regional business support, including financing for immigrant and aboriginal entrepreneurs.

- For more details visit the official websites: [www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/](http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/) in /<http://www.india.gc.ca>



# VCCI EXCELLENCE

# AWARDS

2019

[www.vizagchamber.com](http://www.vizagchamber.com)

[www.vizagchamber.com](http://www.vizagchamber.com)



VCCI celebrates Excellence Awards on the special occasion of its AGM to recognize individuals and organizations that had demonstrated unique vision and achievement in support of our region's economy and betterment of the business community. VCCI honored the accomplishments and achievements of the organizations and their contribution to the economic growth. The winners were chosen from many applications received for the various categories of awards announced by VCCI. This year, in total 12 awards were presented in 5 categories. Each category was judged by a panel of independent jury members. The judging was transparent involved in pre-scoring and the jury discussed each entry in detail. The winners of VCCI Excellence Awards 2019 were announced and celebrated at an awards ceremony on June 17th 2019.

“

*Excellence is a journey, not destination and winning an award was important but sustaining it is more important.* ”

Mr Grandhi Mallikarjuna Rao, Founder Chairman, GMR Group was the Chief Guest of this special occasion. Speaking on the occasion, he mentioned that change was the only constant. He also advised that if there is no failure, there would be no learning. "A purpose driven journey will certainly help achieve success", He briefed about various stages of the corporate lifestyle. He then presented the awards to the awardees and interacted with them.



Inaugural address by VCCI Awards Committee Chairman  
Sri Kankatala Mallikharjuna Rao



# WINNERS OF



M/s K RAMABRAHMAM & SONS PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in HIGHEST VOLUME IN BULK CARGO HANDLING



M/s SRAVAN SHIPPING SERVICES PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in HIGHEST VOLUME IN NON- BULK CARGO HANDLING



M/s DEVI SEA FOODS LTD Awarded Excellence in BEST GROWTH STRATEGY AND HIGHEST TURNOVER



M/s FLUENTGRID LIMITED Awarded Excellence in DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY LARGE SCALE INDUSTRY



M/s GRANULES OMNICHEM PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in PHARMA COMPANY OF THE YEAR OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



M/s SM RENERGY PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY



STAR OF INDUSTRY





M/s DASPALLA HOTELS PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in  
MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRY



M/s EVOLUTYZ IT SERVICES PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in  
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY



M/s SEAWAYS SHIPPING AND LOGISTICS LTD Awarded  
Excellence in BEST CUSTOMS HOUSE AND SHIPPING AGENTS



M/s NEKKANTI  
SEA FOODS LTD  
Awarded Excellence in  
BEST ALL ROUND  
PERFORMANCE



M/s SPRINT EXPORTS PVT LTD Awarded Excellence in  
INNOVATION AND VALUE ADDED PRODUCT



M/s VISAKHA DAIRY Awarded Excellence in  
LARGE SCALE INDUSTRY



VCCI also recognized the untiring efforts of people contributing to the overall growth of our own Visakhapatnam by presenting those

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS



**DR. MEENAKSHI ANANTRAM**  
Founder & CEO- Razzmatazz  
Lifetime Achievement Award- Jade Of Hyderabad (Events Industry)



**MS. MALLIKA MANOJ GRANDHI**  
CMD- Manoj Vaibhav Gems N' Jewellers Pvt Ltd  
Forbes Top 50 Companies With Great Managers



**MR. G MURALI KRISHNA**  
Founder & CEO- Fluentgrid  
Forbes Top 100 Managers of India 2019



**Mr. I RAJA VARMA,**  
MD, Sunray Village Resort  
Best Eco Friendly Resort In Andhra Pradesh



**MR. P.V. NARASIMHA RAO**  
MD- Vizag Conventions  
Best Stand Alone Convention Centre-ap

VCCI presented **MEMENTO'S TO THE PANEL OF JURY MEMBERS** for their invaluable know-ledge base and insight in evaluating the submitted entries thereby creating benefit and value for participants by transferring their insights ideas, feedbacks, suggestions and deciding the award winners of VCCI excellence Awards 2019.



**Prof. P.Chandra Sekhar,** Director,  
Indian Institute of Management, Visakhapatnam.



**Sri. Ramalingeswara Raju,** General Manager,  
District Industry Centre, Visakhapatnam.



**Sri. KSMK Murty,** Chartered Accountant,  
Murthy Associates, Visakhapatnam

**Sri. Prabhir Raychaudhury,** Director, Rashtriya Ispat  
Nigam Limited (RINL), Visakhapatnam.

**Sri. RVS Rudraraju,** Director, RHI Clasil Pvt Ltd,  
Visakhapatnam.





EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS

EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS



VCCI Magazine - Entrepreneur is an integral part of VCCI.

Volume -2 edition -6 was released during the AGM by the Chief Guest.

## YOUTH WING INAUGURATION

The emergence of youth population in business culture and their need for assistance inspired VCCI to float its Youth Wing this year. VCCI Youth Wing with dynamic and most promising young entrepreneurs from Visakhapatnam made its debut and will create a clique that will come together under the mentorship of VCCI and gain exposure through a set of activities, including industrial tours, talks and overall guidance.



The VCCI Youth Wing was launched during the Awards Ceremony of VCCI. The chapter now has the strength of 40 inspiring young people dedicated to being the change.

The main aim of Youth Wing is to create a platform for taking up business related & other relevant issues of young entrepreneurs at Vizag and to promote business activities for young and budding tradesmen that includes events related to start-up social and business networking. Being a member they get the opportunity to connect to all the affiliated organizations in different cities & countries. The first general body meeting of VCCI youth wing was held at Hotel Vivana on 26.07.2019.



After AGM and VCCI Excellence Awards, VCCI hosted a cocktail reception and dinner. This fun and insightful evening was a resounding success.





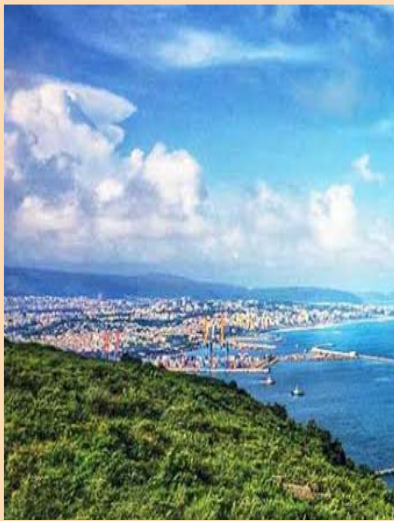
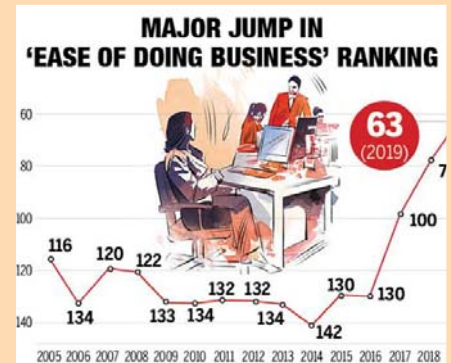


# LATEST UPDATES

## India jumps 14 places in Ease of doing business

On Friday, 24 October 2019, India has recorded a jump of 14 positions against its rank of 77 in 2019 to be placed now at 63rd rank among 190 countries assessed by the World Bank. In the last five years, India has improved its rank by 79 places in the rankings.

India has improved its rank in 7 out of 10 indicators and has moved closer to international best practices (Distance to Frontier score). Significant improvements have been registered in 'Resolving Insolvency', 'Dealing with Construction Permits', 'Registering Property', 'Trading across Boards' and 'Paying Taxes' indicators.



## Rs 186 crore fund allocated for Smart City projects in Visakhapatnam

Visakhapatnam was chosen to be developed, under the Smart City Mission, by the Central Government in 2015

In a bid to propel the Smart City projects in Visakhapatnam, the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department issued a Government Order (G.O) on Monday. As per the G.O, the State and Central Governments have released a collective fund of Rs 186 crore to the Greater Visakhapatnam Smart City Corporation Limited (GVSCCL)

## Andhra Pradesh bags Best State for Pilgrimage Tourism award

Andhra Pradesh has been awarded as the "Best State for Pilgrimage Tourism" for the year 2019-2020. This was bestowed at the South Asia Travel Awards ceremony at New Delhi. It is the third consecutive year for AP Tourism to receive an award at this annual event.





## Yarada comes up with Tourist Hub

In an announcement made by the VMRDA chairperson, Sri. Dronamraju Srinivasa Rao, on the occasion of World Tourism Day, he said VMRDA would develop a tourist hub at the top of the Yarada Hill and added that a DPR was being prepared by for approval. Also announced were the first phase of the Beachfront beautification project at a cost 35crore, Kailasagiri makeover project proposed at 50 crore, the Vizag beachfront project at a cost of 100 crore and the VUDA park development project at cost of 30 crore

## HSL collaboration with TAIS put on hold

The Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. has put its planned collaboration with a Turkish shipbuilding group on hold. HSL, which was set up by the Walchand Hirachand group in 1941, had chosen the TAIS group, of which the Anadolu Shipyard is a part, to build naval support vessels for the Indian Navy. The company was expecting to finalise its \$2.3 billion worth partnership with TAIS by September this year, but Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's comments on the Kashmir issue at the United Nations General Assembly in September had apparently given pause to the proposed agreement. The TAIS group was chosen after a global bidding process. Anadolu was to provide HSL the expertise in building the fleet support vessels, which was to be used to supply Indian Navy ships with critical material, including provisions. If the partnership agreement, which was approved by the Defence Ministry had progressed as scheduled, HSL was expected to begin work on the fleet supply vessels in the second quarter of 2020.

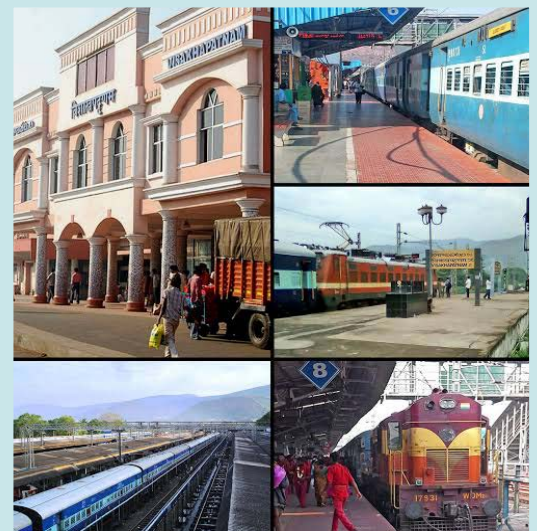


## Andhra Pradesh bags top honour at National Tourism Awards

Andhra Pradesh bagged the top honour at the National Tourism Awards 2017-18, which were presented by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu. A total of 76 awards were given under various categories this year. Andhra Pradesh bagged the Best State award for overall growth in tourism category.

## Visakhapatnam awarded Best Tourist-Friendly Railway Station in India

Visakhapatnam railway station has been awarded the National Tourism Award for the best tourist-friendly railway station in the country on the occasion of World Tourism Day. Visakhapatnam railway station has won the recognition for excelling in several aspects. The authorities have been applauded for the measures being taken to maintain the station premises and disposal of solid waste. The station has also fetched plaudits for the availability of basic amenities to passengers, capacity to accommodate about 1900 passengers at the same time, and connectivity to nearby tourists places.



# Immediate Past President MESSAGE



It has been an honour to serve as the President of The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry for one year. Though the term of office was for two years, my commitments have been increasingly time consuming and, over the past year, it became difficult for me to manage many aspects of my personal and business life. Hence I submitted my resignation to the board of directors of VCCI. Though the board tried convincing me to continue, at my insistence, they kindly accepted the resignation.

I thank the VCCI board Members and all the members for the unstinting support during my tenure. I am happy with how the progress VCCI has made during this year. We conducted several programmes including a visit to an industrial unit visit, GST Seminar with Mr. Bimal Jain that were useful for the trade. A 13 member business delegation visited Seoul on the invitation of the Indian Ambassador to South Korea as well as their Chambers of Commerce. The Youth Wing of VCCI was also inaugurated in the last 12 months. The Excellence Awards function was organised on a grand scale. Revenue for the VCCI also improved through various initiatives. This year the VCCI participated in national and international forums like the Global conclave of International Chambers organised by Gujarat Chamber of Commerce. In this meeting, I was fortunate to meet the Prime minister of India and present a note on the activities VCCI. I was one of the members of a panel discussion telecast all over India as 'ET Now'. The programme was appreciated by many people who watched it. We also signed number of MOU's with various national and international Chambers of Commerce during this year. Overall it is a very eventful year and gave me a lot of satisfaction.

The position I held on the Board for the past one year has taught me more than I could have hoped for and I enjoyed every movement serving the organisation. I once again thank all the members for allowing me to serve the organisation. I promise that I will always be available for the members and the VCCI. I look forward to the continued success of VCCI.

Regards

**D.V. Raju**

## New Members of VCCI

Baba Inspection & Technical Services Pvt Ltd	V. NagaJyothi	Managing Director	Service
Dot Designers	Ravikanth Veerepalli	Managing Partner	Architecture & Interior Design
Sri Rama Medical Syndicate	P. Jagannadham	Managing Partner	Pharmaceutical Distribution
Ravi Krishna Agencies	V Balakrishna Rao	Managing Partner	Pharmaceutical wholesaler
Xinthe Technologies Pvt Ltd	Sastry Y N Pallela	Director	IT, Software Development
Dr Iankapalli Bullayya College	Dr. G Madhu Kumar	Secretary & Correspondent	Educational Institute
Maple Software Pvt Ltd	G Siva Kumar / G Pawan Kumar	CEO /Director	software
Kantipudi enterprises ( Louis Phillippe)	K Venkateswara Rao	Managing Partner	Readymade garments
Data Pro Computers Pvt Ltd	Sai Prasad	Managing Director	Education
BDRC India Pvt Ltd	P Ramachandra Raju	Director	Battery Regeneration Service



# WOMEN'S EVENTS WING

## A Seminar on POCSO Act was held at Vignan Girls' School by the VCCI Women's Wing

President Dr Rekha Dutt introduced the necessity for children to know their rights in this regard. Empowering women would help them be bold and face challenges better, thus equipping them to be upright and strong future entrepreneurs and professionals.

Mrs Gowri, an Advocate and member of the Women's Wing spoke about the act in detail with real life ex-amples. Dr Sudha, also from the Women's Wing, counselled the girls about health issues.

G Malleswari, a police SI, offered to help them and informed the students that even complaints through a WhatsApp message would be accepted and acted upon. The girls were grateful and felt emboldened by this offer. They cleared all their doubts in a lively interactive session. The girls were aware of the need to protect themselves and prevent any problems. They agreed with the need to be productive citizens, who don't feel cowed down by offenders. The purpose of teaching the children was accomplished.

This was a good outreach program by the VCCI Women's Wing.



## Meet with Municipal Commissioner to make Visakhapatnam a plastic free city

The Women's Wing of VCCI wants to educate the business community and the society at large on ways to control the usage of plastic. By identifying feasible alternatives to plastic such as bio-degradable alternatives, they would like to encourage and promoting entrepreneurs who manufacture and market these alternate products. In this regard, Women's Wing members called on the Municipal Commissioner on 31st October 2019 and shared their interest to be a part of the initiative adapted by GVMC to make Visakhapatnam a plastic free city. The Municipal Commissioner welcomed the idea and asked the Women's Wing to submit a proposal to take the initiative forward. The Women's Wing is working on this project.



## Members Recognition

**Sunray Resorts** awarded a **Best theme based Resort** from Andhra Pradesh Tourism



ONE –DAY Awareness  
Programme/ Sensitization  
Programme on -



## CREDIT LINKED CAPITAL SUBSIDY SCHEME (CLCSS)

Micro, small & medium Enterprises Development institute, Govt. of India, Visakhapatnam in association with The Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Visakhapatnam organized an Awareness workshop on Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme at VCCI Conference Hall, Visakhapatnam on 19-09-2019 for the benefit of MSME's and Bankers.



The objective of the programme was to disseminate the scheme guidelines and technology upgradation of CLC-TUS in MSEs through institutional finance for induction in well-established and proven technologies in the specific sub sector. Products approved under the scheme would receive an upfront subsidy of 15% on institutional credit up to 1.0Cr. For identified sectors/ sub sectors/technologies on institutional finance availed by them for induction of well-established and improved.

The Guests of Honour of the function were Shri Y.Satyanarayana, DGM, SBI, Administrative office, Visakhapatnam, Ms. Gayathri Kampa, AGM, BOI, SMECC, and Shri. A.S. Ramayya, AGM, SIBDI from Visakhapatnam, and Shri. A.K.Balaji, President, VASSIWA, Visakhapatnam. The meeting was presided over by Shri. D. Chandrasekhar, Additional Industrial Advisor MSME, Hyderabad & Director General NIMSME, Hyderabad in the

presence of Shri Th.Baite, Director Incharge, MSME- DI, Visakhapatnam. Around 70 participants from MSME sector specially SC/ST Entrepreneurs and Women Entrepreneurs and bankers are present.

## Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) STUDENTS VISIT

A visit to a port town is arranged for the students of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade every year. The visit is offered to 2nd year MBA students to visit the ports, customs office, clearing and forwarding agents, export processing zones, Chambers of Commerce, Banks etc. In this context, IIFT students visited Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce & Industry on September 24th. VCCI organized a seminar for these MBA students to acquire first-hand knowledge on Port Operations, Custom Procedure, Shipping and the role of other trade facilitating agencies. Shri. G Veeramohan, Honorary Secretary VCCI and Shri Rolland Williams, Executive Committee, VCCI attended the program. Shri. Ashish Christian, Managing Partner of Marilyn Shipping & transports and Shri.Rajesh Kumar, Shipping & Logistics Consultant gave the students an overview of the shipping activities. About 40 students visited VCCI.





Interactive meet with

## Mr. Joel R Reifman,

US Consul General in Hyderabad

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FTCCI) hosted US Consul General, Hyderabad, Mr. Joel R Reifman for an interactive meeting on his maiden-visit to the city of Visakhapatnam on 13th October 2019. The delegation from the US Consulate comprised of Mr. Joel R Reifman, US Consul General, Mr Drew Giblin, Public Affairs Officer, and Sr. officer from US Navy, Mr. Siba Tripathy, Economic Specialist and Mr. Thirupathi Senthil, Public affairs associate.

The Consul General sought details on the various business developments of the state and has assured complete support to FTCCI in helping strengthen the bilateral trade between US and India. Mr. Reifman also stressed on the importance of Visakhapatnam emerging as a major economic destination for exports and as a focus city for the US.

VCCI was represented by its President Mr. Kankatala Mallik, Hony Secretary Mr. Veera Mohan, President of the VCCI Youth Wing Mr. C.V. Anirudh Rao, representative from IT Industry Mr. Muralikrishna G, Mr. Shiv Kumar from the Shrimp industry along with educationist Mr. Pydah Prasad. Several other trade and industrial organizations also attended the meeting. The attendees thanked the Consul General for his interest in Andhra Pradesh and requested him to focus on investments from US in the interests of Andhra Pradesh.



## Interactive Meet on Code on Wages and 'Code on Occupational safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill 2019



The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FTCCI) organized an interactive meet on 'Code on Wages 2019' and 'Code on Occupational safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill 2019' on 19th October 2019.

G. Bala Kishore, Director of factories and Kishore Chandra Das, HR (personnel), RINL, Vizag Steel Plant were the Chief Guests of the program.

The objective of the program was to impart awareness on the codes and make them compliance ready to understand the changes brought in the provisions of the previous Acts and how they impact the wage system of the organizations for easier adaptation of the Code by the stakeholders.

VCCI President Sri.K. Mallikharjuna Rao also spoke at the occasion.

# YOUTH WING EVENTS

## Meet with British Commission

10 members of the VCCI Youth Wing with either business interests in the UK or looking for opportunities with UK, attended an informal dinner with the team from the British High Commission. The Youth Wing was briefed on the advantages of doing business in UK and were assured complete support in setting up their businesses/operations. The team also invited the Youth Wing members to the UK.



## Round Table Meet with US Consulate

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FTCCI) in association with VCCI hosted the Vice Consul, Consulate General of the USA, Mr Benjamin R Levelius for a Round Table meet at the VCCI office. The Vice Consul sought to understand the challenges for doing business with USA and for obtaining a study visa.



Several representatives from various companies and associations such as ITAAP aired their views and put forward their requests. Mr G Veeramohan, Secretary, VCCI moderated the meeting. Mr C V Anirudh Rao, Co-Chairman, International Trade Committee represented FTCCI at the meeting.





## Meet with Shri Muttamsetti Srinivasa Rao, Hony. Minister for Tourism



The members of The Vizagapatam Chamber Of Commerce & Industry- Youth Wing had the privilege of meeting Shri Muttamsetti Srinivasa Rao, Hon. Minister for Tourism, Culture & Youth Advancement, and Government of Andhra Pradesh. The office bearers informed the Minister on the formation of VCCI - Youth Wing and explained the purpose of this first city specific professional youth forum in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The delegates expressed their interest in working with the Government along various verticals concerning youth advancement specifically on skilling and employment opportunities and requested the Minister to support the Youth Wing. The Minister appreciated the initiation of the Youth Wing

and assured complete support to it and directed the concerned officials to do the needful.

Shri. Srinivasa garu immediately connected the VCCI Youth Wing team with the head of the Andhra Pra-desh Society for Training and Employment Promotion (APSTEP). The Hon. Minister then suggested working together to formulate more events in the future. The Youth Wing will coordinate with the head of APSTEP in this matter.

## BIGSHIFT EVENT BY INC42

Inc42 hosted the BIG Shift event series at the AP Innovation Society, Vizag on 4th October, 2019.

The event brought together 50+ start-ups, investors and ecosystem enablers & influencers of the city's ecosystem under one roof for interactive sessions and panel discussions followed by Startup Pitches and networking.

**The VCCI Youth Wing was an ecosystem partner of the event.**

The session was to help the attendees in overcoming the challenges that they face in their startup journey. For the discussion, some of the most prominent start-up founders came together to shed light on how they had overcome their challenges. The panelists, Krishna Mohan Gadiparthi, Founder and President, In-spiredge IT Solutions, Sridhar Kosaraju, President-designate, iTAAP and Tirumala Rao Chamalla, President, Andhra Pradesh IT Society, were joined by Aditya Sabharwal, head-marketing and communications, ViS, as a moderator.

The discussion touched on various topics, from the importance of funding to the right focus and the right team and more.





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