

SICCI CONNECT

SEPTEMBER 2020



Singapore Indian Chamber
of Commerce & Industry

ESTABLISHED 1924



SINGAPORE'S NATIONAL DAY 2020 OBSERVANCE CEREMONY ORGANIZED BY SHE@SICCI

For Singapore's National Day 2020 Observance Ceremony (NDOC), The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) distributed 55 hampers to single mothers to commemorate the nation's 55th birthday! This was organised by SHE@SICCI which was launched on the same occasion.

Guest of Honour, Member of Parliament Mr. Vikram Nair and SICCI's Chairman Dr T Chandroo graced this event.

The Donation of Food Hampers is aimed at helping single mothers and struggling local women entrepreneurs. As the Chairman of SHE@SICCI, Ms. Shobha Tsering Bhalla, member of SICCI's Board of Directors, gave a speech explaining its new identity as a social enterprise. Other members of the SHE@SICCI committee include Mr. Kishore Daryanani (Vice-Chairman), Ms. Purnima Kamath (Vice-Chairman), Ms. Drishti Bablani (Secretary), Ms. Dipika Chopra (Chief Strategist), and Ms. Chitra Devi (Treasurer).

TOPICS COVERED

SICCI

1. NDOC by SHE@SICCI
2. SCTF Walkabout
3. SICCI Meets with Sri Lankan High Commissioner
4. Webinar with Arcstone and Invest India
5. MoU Between SICCI and IBC
6. Chairman's thoughts on Uzbekistan President's Speech

SME Centre@SICCI & SME Centre@Little India

1. Webinars Conducted

IBD

1. Bangladesh Webinar
2. Business Opportunities



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SICCI COVID-19 TASK FORCE'S LITTLE INDIA WALKABOUT

The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) set up a SICCI COVID-19 Task Force (SCTF) in May 2020 to serve as the voice of the Indian Business community during these unprecedented times.

In its continued efforts to reach out to even more SMEs, the SCTF conducted a month long series of walkabouts at Little India, aiming to reach out to about 300 SMEs. A press meet was organized on 29th August with SICCI's Chairman Dr T. Chandroo, Vice-Chairman Mr Chandra Mohan, Board Directors Mr Parthiban Murugaiyan, Mr JK Saravana, and CEO Mr Johnson Paul.

The event was featured in Tamil Murasu, Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Lianhe Zaobao, Tamil Seithi, Thalam India Beat, Ethiroli, and Oli 96.8FM Mediacorp.





COVID-19 TASK FORCE

**BUILDING BUSINESSES
BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

SICCI-Helps

Business Transformation

Business Advisory

- Government Grants
- Covid-19 Support Packages
- Social Media Marketing
- Branding

Manpower Upgrade

Manpower Related Advisory

- Skills upgrade workshops/courses
- Virtual working
- Productivity improvement
- Payroll automation
- Absentee payroll
- Government subsidies

Digitalisation

Digital Transformation

- Automation through Digitalisation
- E-commerce
- E-invoicing
- Smart payment

Do you need assistance in these following areas?



Financial Support

Financial Advisory

- Government funding schemes
- 'SICCI-Helps' special promo code can be used with partnering banking & private institutions to enjoy special interest rates and processing fees
- Useful websites and contact details for government supported business assistance

Mental Health Support

SICCI-Cares

- We provide mental well-being support for individuals and staff in businesses during COVID-19
- Free counselling, outreach and free training sessions on mental health

How to reach SICCI Covid-19 Task Force (SCTF)?

[+65 9654 1346](tel:+6596541346)
covid-19@sicci.com
www.sicci.com/SCTF

SICCI'S CHAIRMAN MEETS SRI LANKAN HIGH COMMISSIONER

SICCI Chairman Dr T Chandroo and CEO Mr Johnson Paul met the Sri Lankan High Commissioner, Her Excellency Shasikala on 4th September.

SICCI has signed an MoU with the Apex Business Chambers in Colombo. Her Excellency highlighted the demand for investments in Agri/Aqua culture, ICT, Construction sectors. SICCI is looking forward to helping Singapore companies to do business in Sri Lanka.



SICCI'S WEBINAR WITH ARCSTONE AND INVEST INDIA



The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI), in conjunction with Arcstone and Invest India organised a webinar entitled “Digital Manufacturing Transformation: Visibility, Control, and Optimisation” on 2nd September 2020.

This initiative was the brainchild of SICCI's Bilateral and International Trade Committee. Mr Maneesh Tripathi, SICCI Vice-Chairman, Mr Kishore Daryanani (Board Director) and Ms Purnima Kamath (Board Director) had organised this “niche” webinar, keeping in mind the need to enhance productivity in Singapore's Manufacturing segment which contributes approximately 23% to Singapore's GDP.

It was a focused webinar addressing the need for productivity enhancement and cost reduction initiatives in the sector via technology and digital solutions. Arcstone agreed to provide a free and unlimited license of the software to SICCI members who attended the session. The session was vibrant with many questions for the panel.

Dr T Chandroo, Chairman SICCI gave a keynote address. At the webinar, Mr Farhat Khan, First Secretary of Economic Affairs, High Commission of India, gave a special address. The other speakers were Mr Wilson Deng, CEO of Arcstone and Ms Sai Sudha, Assistant Vice President of Invest India.

SICCI'S CHAIRMAN SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON UZBEKISTAN PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AT 75TH UNGA

Dr T Chandroo, Chairman of Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) and CEO of Modern Montessori International shared his thoughts on the highlights of the Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's Speech @ 75th UNGA. The President's address was on establishing a Centre for Transport & Communications Connectivity and to tackle poverty.

This is accessible at: http://www.indiplomacy.com/2020/09/24/opinion-uzbekistan-president-speech-75th-unga-establish-centre-for-transport-communications-connectivity-and-tackle-poverty/?fbclid=IwAR1KsiwxGXzMDzP3-L8_a3le4sZbvK2KSIV2eeA8FGxMGcrRwezUt7cYo10

MOU BETWEEN SICCI AND IBG

On 22nd September 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and The India Business Group (IBG) via video conferencing.

The MoU was signed by the Chairman of SICCI Dr T Chandroo and Founder and President of IBG, Business Guru - Vikash Mittersain. The ceremony was witnessed by Board Directors of SICCI and IBG. The opening address was given by the Vice-Chairman of SICCI Mr. Maneesh Tripathi who steers the Bilateral and International Trade Nations Committee of SICCI. He reaffirmed SICCI's commitment to work with trade associations worldwide to provide connectivity and business leads to its members. The ceremony ended with closing remarks from SICCI Board Director Ms. Purnima Kamath.

The MoU confirms IBG and SICCI's desire to enhance the development of trade and business relations between India and Singapore. The partnership will contribute towards the development of the Singapore-India trade and investment corridor.



WEBINARS HOSTED BY SME CENTRE@SICCI AND SME CENTRE@LITTLE INDIA

SME Centre@SICCI and SME Centre@Little India organised the following capability development webinars on 9th September which reached out to around 300 participants.

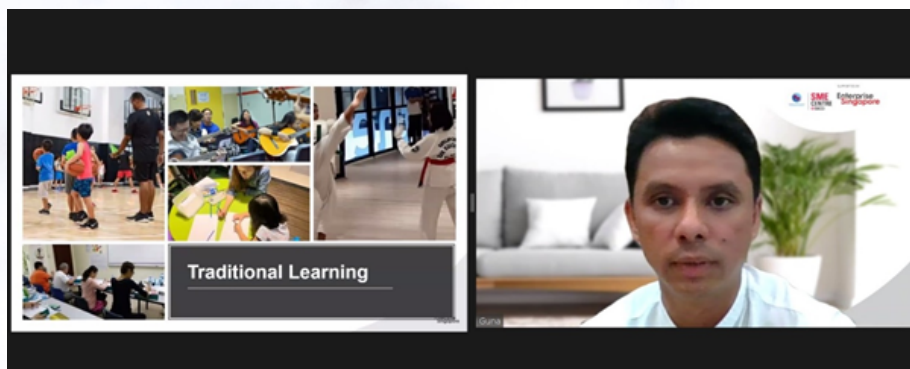
1. Social Media Ad Strategies for SMEs to Take Advantage of in the Crisis Market

This webinar was organized to leverage Social Media Marketing as COVID-19 has led to new digital opportunities for businesses. The speakers shared strategies that SMEs can use to survive, grow and thrive in the market during this current crisis.



2. How Education Companies are Adapting to the New Normal with Digital Solutions

Along with Enterprise Singapore (ESG), SME Centre@SICCI and SME Centre@Little India organised this webinar for the Education Sector. Speakers shared how supporting e-learning tools such as School Management Systems and Learning Management Systems help automate critical business processes, resulting in improved productivity and significant cost-savings. Participants heard the success stories of SMEs who have adopted such solutions.



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND INVESTMENT INSIGHTS IN BANGLADESH WEBINAR

International Business Division (IBD) was a supporting partner in the GlobalConnect@SBF Webinar "Business Opportunities and Investment Insights in Bangladesh" held on 27th August 2020.

GlobalConnect@SBF is an initiative of the Singapore Business Federation (SBF). The webinar was co-organised with Enterprise Singapore (ESG), Bangladesh High Commission, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and Public Private Sector Federation (PPPA).

The webinar provided an overview of Bangladesh's economic outlook, ongoing developments, and current opportunities. Chairman of IBD, Mr Prasoon Mukherjee delivered the opening speech at the webinar, encouraging Singapore SMEs to tap on the opportunities emerging in Bangladesh. He mentioned that Bangladesh's large population, with its sizeable and youthful labour market as well as fast growing consumer market, makes the country an appealing proposition to investors. A moderated panel discussion highlighted the industry growth areas and various business opportunities in key sectors such as:

- Agribusiness
- Agrobusiness
- IT/Skills Development
- US\$30 billion Ready-made Garments sector
- US\$4 billion Pharmaceuticals sector

**NEW BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Indian Traders looking for Importers for Copper Products:

- ## 2. Indian Traders looking for Independent Investors:

- ### 3. Indian Traders looking for Importers for Construction products:

- 4. Indian Company looking for Market Channel Partners to Growth Promoters to promote their Nanotechnology-based products:**

- ## 5. Indian Traders looking out for Importers in Agro-food

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DIVISION