

SICCI CONNECT

NOVEMBER 2020



Singapore Indian Chamber
of Commerce & Industry

ESTABLISHED 1924



SICCI CLINCHES TWO AWARDS

Awards were given out to businesses, trade associations, and public agencies at the Pro-Enterprise Panel – Singapore Business Federation (PEP-SBF) Awards 2020 held on November 20. The PEP-SBF Awards ceremony recognized the collaborative efforts of government agencies and businesses in enhancing Singapore's business environment.

The **Pro-Enterprise Partner Award** was presented to SICCI in recognition of our efforts to foster a pro-enterprise business environment in Singapore.

In addition, Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) awarded SICCI with the **Philanthropy (Corporate) Gold Award** for our support and contribution to them in 2019 on November 27 at CCF's Appreciation Night 2020.

With the contributions, CCF was able to deliver free psycho-social services for children and families affected by cancer, giving them the additional strength and resources in their difficult journey from diagnosis to treatment and aftercare.

TOPICS COVERED

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8. Future Opportunities for India-Singapore Cooperation Post COVID-19
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11. The Economic Times Global Business Summit Unwired 3.0
12. Women in Tech Leading the Way
13. New SICCI Members for October 2020

SICCI-SIET BURSARY AWARDS

Singapore Indian Education Trust (SIET) is an organisation dedicated to helping financially challenged but aspiring Singaporean Indian students to advance in their education through various financial assistance schemes. Every year, SIET gives out bursaries to more than 200 students from ITE, JC, POLY and Uni. SICCI is very honoured to be partnering with SIET to present SICCI-SIET Bursary Awards to the following three students to assist them in pursuing their tertiary education.

- **Ms Amrita Kaur D/O Ishwar Singh** - Bachelor of Business Administration (Accountancy) @NUS
- **Ms Mathangi D/O Elangovan** - Bachelor of Arts History @NTU
- **Mr Viswenkumar S/O Raj Kumar** - Bachelor of Engineering @NTU

SICCI congratulates and wishes them success in their academic pursuits!

MOU BETWEEN SICCI & UAESBC

On November 11, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and The UAE Singapore Business Council (UAESBC).

SICCI was pleased to be sign the MoU with UAESBC which ensures cooperation between our two organizations. This MoU solidifies SICCI and UAESBC's common desire to promote networking and information exchange for the purpose of strengthening trade and business relations between the UAE and Singapore.

The MoU was signed by Chairman of SICCI, Dr T Chandroo and Founder and President of UAESBC, Dr Brian Shegar. The ceremony was witnessed by SICCI Vice-Chairman and Chairman for Bilateral and International Trade nations, Mr. Maneesh Tripathi, SICCI Board Director, Mr. Kishore Jethanand Daryanani, and CEO of SICCI, Mr Johnson Paul, UAESBC EXCO Member, Mr P R Thakore and UAESBC Treasurer, Mr. Musdalifa Abdullah.



MEETING WITH 2ND MINISTER OF TRADE & INDUSTRY

On November 16, Chairman of SICCI Dr. T. Chandroo, Vice-Chairman of SICCI Mr. Chandra Mohan Rethnam, Vice-Chairman of SICCI Mr. Maneesh Tripathi, Treasurer of SICCI Mr. Hanif Moez Nomanbhoy and CEO of SICCI Mr. Johnson Paul met with 2nd Minister of Trade & Industry, Dr Tan See Leng.

Dr. Tan appreciated SICCI's efforts to support local businesses that have been affected by the pandemic, such as through the setting up of its COVID-19 Taskforce as well as advisory services provided by the SME Centre@SICCI and SME Centre@Little India.

They had a fruitful discussion on how SICCI can further tap on its experience and networks to help its members navigate complex overseas markets and seize growth opportunities with the setting up of the International Business Division.



CHAIRMAN'S ROUNDTABLE ON US ELECTIONS & FUTURE OF INDO-PACIFIC

SICCI Chairman's Roundtable - "US Elections and the Future of the Indo-Pacific" webinar session was held on November 17. Around 170 participants had attended the session.

The session was focused on the Indo-Pacific in the context of the changing dynamics of leadership in the US. To what extent would Indo-Pacific emerge as a strong economic and political architecture of the future particularly in the context of current US politics? What does Indo-Pacific mean to businesses in post-US Elections and Post COVID19?

For those who missed attending this fruitful webinar session, please watch the video recording on "Singapore Indian Chamber" YouTube channel!



SICCI & SMCCI COLLABORATES



On November 12, Vice-Chairman of SICCI Mr Chandra Mohan Rethnam, Board Director of SICCI, Mr Tushar Pritamlal Doshi, and CEO of SICCI Mr Johnson Paul met with representatives from the Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SMCCI) at their premises to better understand their scope of services and COVID19 initiatives.

SMCCI was represented by its President Mr. Farid Khan Bin Kain Khan, Executive Director Mr. Azrulnizam Shah, SME Centre Director Mr. Ahmad Mohamed and Director Mr. Abdul Kadir. The meeting touched on several key points of the secretariat and SME Centre functions in the two chambers of commerce as well as how the two chambers could work together to help the business community. It was a fruitful discussion and SICCI looks forward to working more closely with SMCCI in the future.

MOU BETWEEN SICCI & FLA



On November 18, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and the Franchising and Licensing Association (Singapore) (FLA).

SICCI had signed the MoU with FLA to ensure cooperation between our two organizations. The MoU was represented by Vice Chairman of SICCI, Mr Chandra Mohan Rethnam, and President of FLA, Mr Andrew Khoo and witnessed by SICCI Board Director, Mr Parthiban Murugaiyan and Chairman of FLA, Mr Robert Leong.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIA-SINGAPORE COOPERATION POST COVID-19

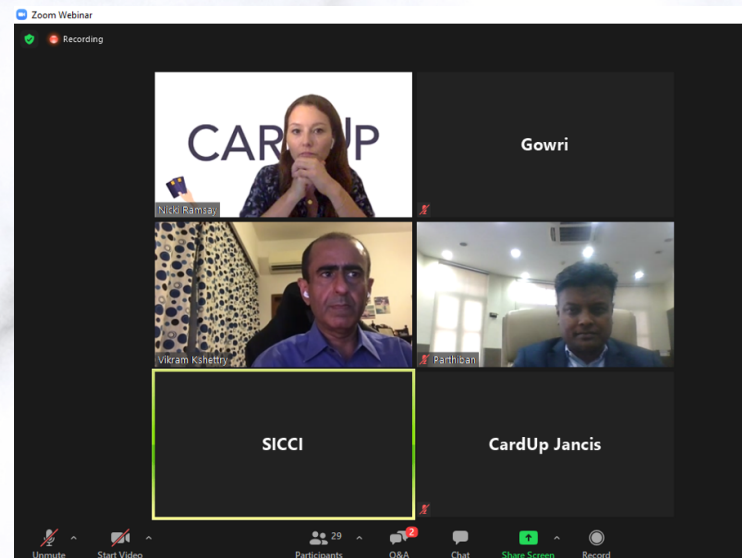
To promote trade and investment and explore emerging business opportunities between India and Singapore, ASSOCHAM organised an exclusive webinar with H.E. Shri P. Kumaran, Indian High Commissioner to Singapore, titled “Discovering Future Opportunities for India-Singapore Cooperation Post COVID-19” on November 9.

The aim of the webinar was to initiate a dialogue by bringing together businesspersons and industry experts from India and Singapore to discuss trade, investment opportunities, and joint collaborations between the two sides post COVID 19.

An exclusive panel of speakers comprising of leading experts and thought leaders from Government, Industry and think-tanks from both countries shared insights and updates on Indian & Singaporean economies and complementarities, India-Singapore trade & investment scenario, existing and emerging business opportunities, and the way forward post-COVID-19.

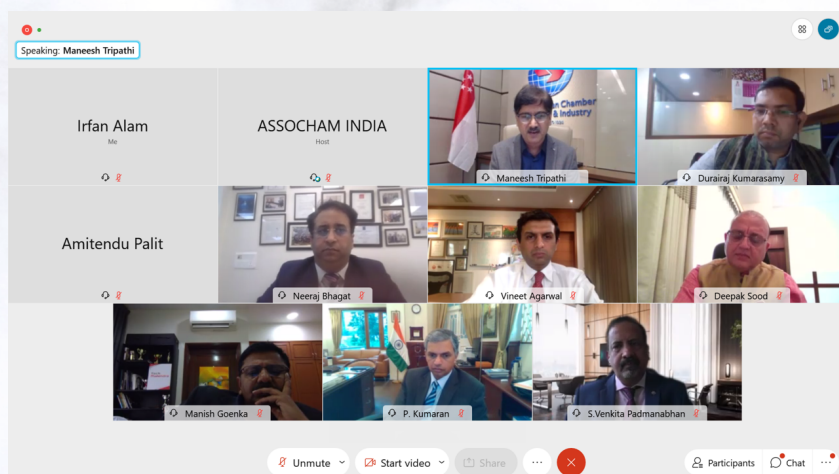
Mr Maneesh Tripathi, Vice Chairman SICCI shared insights on trade post COVID. He mentioned that Singapore can be a launchpad both for businesses looking for supply chain remapping and as a China plus strategy for ASEAN companies looking for a base.

NON-TRADITIONAL FINANCING FOR BUSINESSES POST COVID-19



On November 23, SICCI collaborated with CardUp and Visa to conduct a webinar entitled “Non-traditional financing options for businesses in the new normal.” We were privileged to have Ms. Nicki Ramsay, CEO of CardUp, and Mr. Vikram Kshettry, Visa’s APAC Head of B2B Partnerships as speakers for the event. SICCI’s Board Director, Mr. Parthiban Murugaiyan, was also there to give the opening address.

The webinar touched focussed on financing needs and difficulties faced by businesses not just during COVID-19. Our speakers spoke on the importance of businesses looking at alternative financing options beyond the usual loans and grants offered by banks or government agencies. They also explained how alternative financing and digital payment platforms could help businesses manage their finances. This webinar was a follow-up to SICCI’s webinar with Maybank on “Successfully securing business loans”, held on 9th October 2020.



HARYANA-SINGAPORE ROUNDTABLE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

IBD participated in the Webinar “Haryana-Singapore Roundtable Virtual Conference organized by the state government, ‘Invest India’ and ‘Enterprise Singapore on November 20 addressed by the Chief Minister of Haryana Mr Manohar Lal Khattar along with the Singapore High Commissioner to India, Simon Wong and Mr Prasoon Mukherjee, Chairman, IBD.

CEOs and top representatives of various leading companies of Singapore including Durapower, YCH Group, Agrocorp International, Transworld Terminals, Skill SG Ventures, Legend Logistics, Surbana Jurong, showed keen interest in expanding their units in the fields of logistics, warehousing, cold chain, transport hub, distribution facilities and manufacturing of electrical gadgets,” a government spokesperson said.



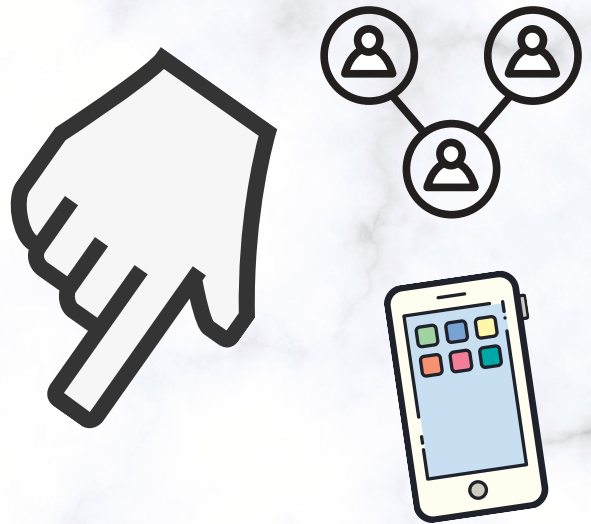
THE ECONOMIC TIMES GLOBAL BUSINESS SUMMIT UNWIRED 3.0

The Economic Times Global Business Summit Unwired 3.0 (Virtual Conference) was held on 23rd September. The summit was hosted by The Times of India Group, India's largest media conglomerate.

The deliberations saw top business leaders, academics, and policymakers discussing how to unlock the creative potential of businesses and economies to mitigate the negative impact of the COVID19 pandemic.

Mr. Prasoon Mukherjee, Chairman, International Business Division (IBD) steered the ASEAN region dialogue on this platform with Dr Shahzad Nasim, Advisor to SICCI who shared his insights on how India can engage ASEAN during COVID19.

STAY CONNECTED WITH SICCI!



WOMEN IN TECH LEADING THE WAY

On October 26, SHE@SICCI, Women's Wing of the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) hosted the Women in Tech Webinar titled "Gender, Humanity & Collaboration", is the first in a series of webinars celebrating women and their achievements in various fields. It was inaugurated and moderated by Ms Shobha Tsering Bhalla. The women who took part among the 100 women in Singapore honoured for Outstanding Achievements in Tech. About 70 participants attended the webinar and raised some burning issues on women's role in technology and in the industry. We profile these outstanding women professionals and entrepreneurs in this edition of the newsletter so that you can reach out to them.



MS RAMA SRIDHAR

A leader in financial services and fintech, Ms Rama Sridhar has led teams across the Asia Pacific in various roles with both MNCs and start-ups. Through her 32-year career, Ms Sridhar has been recognised for her strategic and commercial acumen as well as for her ability to drive transformational growth through digitalisation. Ms Sridhar is a sub-committee member of the Future Economy Council in Singapore. She also supports financial services innovation in less-developed areas of ASEAN through her work as a Board Member of the ASEAN Financial Innovation Network (AFIN). Ms Sridhar is also deeply committed to causes supporting women's growth through education, healthcare, mentoring, and more.

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DR AISHWARYA BANDLA

Dr Aishwarya Bandla heads the Translational Core at The N.I Institute for Health and is a Senior Research Fellow at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Her research group focuses on wearable bioengineering solutions for disease prevention in the oncology and neurology spectrum. Dr Bandla also chairs the IEEE Women in Engineering section in Singapore. The IEEE is a global network dedicated to promoting and encouraging women in engineering and science. As a circle leader in the Lean In Singapore community, Dr. Bandla motivates professionals to "pay it forward" by mentoring peers and young people. Dr Bandla was also recently featured in inaugural Singapore's 2020 100 Women in Tech list, which celebrates women who have significantly contributed to the tech industry and community in Singapore.

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MS SUGANTHI SHIVKUMAR

Suganthi Shivkumar is a Chartered Accountant of Singapore, CA (Singapore) under the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ICSA). She has extensive experience in auditing with KPMG and then running the Accounting and Finance department of a rig and shipbuilding arm of SembCorp. Ms Shivkumar has also lectured in the School of Business Management at Nanyang Polytechnic. She won awards as a regional trainer for Hyperion Software Asia and helped establish the company internationally. Ms Shivkumar has also been the Women's Wing Champion in Asia for several companies she worked for. At Qlik, she has been nominated to lead APAC in their D&I campaigns as part of a core global team.

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MS NEHA MEHTA

Multi award-winning Founder and CEO of Femtech Partners, Ms. Neha Mehta is a legal and finance professional with 12 years of experience in Asia and Europe. Ms Mehta is also a Chevening Scholar. She is among Asia's 50 Most Influential Women in Renewable Energy, 2020, Singapore's 100 Women In Tech and recently got featured again in the FinTech50 2020. Ms Mehta is the Team Lead for the £1.2 billion Prosperity Fund (PF) for the SEA (SEA), administered by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the UK government.

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NEW SICCI MEMBERS FOR OCTOBER 2020

CONTINEO CAPITAL PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: FINANCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES
MEMBERSHIP: ASSOCIATE CORPORATE

BENTEC COMPONENTS & TRADING PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: WHOLESALE TRADE
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

COMINCO PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: SECURITY SERVICES
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

ET TIMBERS PRIVATE LTD

INDUSTRY: WHOLESALE TRADE
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

NUTRISOURCE PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: WHOLESALE TRADE
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

OECL (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: FREIGHT FORWARDING SERVICES
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

REDVISTA SINGAPORE PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANCY
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

TK CORPORATE SERVICES PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: FINANCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

VETSUPP LIFESCIENCES PTE LTD

INDUSTRY: WHOLESALE TRADE
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

KENNETH PEREIRA

INDUSTRY: LEGAL SERVICES
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

PUNIT OZA

INDUSTRY: MARITIME ARBITRATION
SERVICES
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

SHAMIQ HUSSAIN

INDUSTRY: SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

UJJAL NANDI

INDUSTRY: WHOLESALE OF METALS
MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL