

SICCI CONNECT

FEBRUARY 2021



Singapore Indian Chamber
of Commerce & Industry

ESTABLISHED 1924



ROUNDTABLE DIALOGUE SESSION WITH MINISTER MS JOSEPHINE TEO

On 4th February 2021, a roundtable discussion with Minister of Manpower Josephine Teo and the heads of several Trade Associations and Chambers (TACs) was convened ahead of the Government Budget announcement. It was to engage TAC partners at the start of the year to reflect on Ministry of Manpower's (MOM) efforts and discuss on manpower-related priorities. Chairman of SICCI, Dr T. Chandroo had attended this session and shared his views together with SICCI Member and Managing Director AZBIL Southeast Asia, Ms Anju Jaswal.

Supported by the labour movement and business community, MOM aims to press on with its efforts to match Singaporeans with quality jobs and building capabilities through the National Jobs Council.

TOPICS COVERED

1. Roundtable Dialogue Session with Minister Ms Josephine Teo
2. Opening Ceremony of SCCC Shared Webcast Facility & MOU Signing Ceremony
3. Post-Budget 2021 Dialogue with NMP Ms Janet Ang
4. CATALYSE 2020 Prize Presentation Ceremony
5. Webinar Series on India Union Budget 2021
6. Singapore Budget 2021 Webinar
7. PDPA Webinar
8. Featuring Profiles of SICCI New Members
9. New SICCI Members for Jan 2021

**Register or Renew your SICCI
Membership Now!**

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OPENING CEREMONY OF SCCC SHARED WEBCAST FACILITY & MOU SIGNING CEREMONY

On the first day of Lunar New Year, Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCCI) launched the shared webcast facility and MoU Signing Ceremony. Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Trade & Industry, graced the opening ceremony at Trade Association Hub and witnessed the signing of MoU between SCCCI and five Trade Associations (TAs). The five TAs were Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI), Ministry of Trade & Industry (MTI), Business China Singapore, Malay Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SMCCI), Food Manufacturers' Association (SFMA) and Textile & Fashion Federation (Singapore).

Chairman of SICCI, Dr T Chandroo and CEO of SICCI, Mr Johnson Paul attended the launch, where Chairman signed the joint MoU. SICCI looks forward to working closely with SCCCI in the near future.



POST-BUDGET 2021 DIALOGUE WITH NMP MS JANET ANG

The Singapore Business Federation (SBF) organised a Post-Budget 2021 Virtual Dialogue Session with NMP, Ms Janet Ang on 18th February 2021, to discuss salient aspects of the budget announcement by Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat.

NMP Ms Janet Ang shared that COVID-19 has given the impetus for many companies to "pivot" to new business models and to look for new revenue-generating activities. In addition, she noted that Budget 2021 carried the critical stimulus for technology, skills and capital. The time for Singapore companies and industries to push ahead with their transformation efforts, taking advantage of government support and industry collaboration, is therefore "NOW".

Vice Chairman of SICCI, Mr Maneesh Tripathi represented SICCI and shared his insights at this session.

The areas of discussion included the recovery outlook and new areas of growth. There were extensive discussions on the need for private-public partnerships and the need for labour force upgrading. Participating TACs offered feedback and their wish list for Budget 2021.



CATALYSE 2020: STARTUP WITH A HEART PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

CATALYSE 2020: Startup with a Heart was a six-month initiative done in collaboration with Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI), People's Association Indian Activity Executive Committees Council (Narpani Pearavai) Youth (NPY), SINDA Youth Club (SYC), Tamils Representative Council Youth Wing (TRC YW) and Young Sikh Association (YSA). The event sponsors were Aspiring Entrepreneur Network (AEN) at SICCI and Lee Foundation.

The objective of the initiative was to instill an entrepreneurship culture in youths, specifically Indian youths, so that they can develop socially relevant enterprises that creates community resilience. The event was jointly curated to enable young entrepreneurs to embark on an entrepreneurial journey with CATALYSE 2020.

There were four phases to the engagement. The first was a series of masterclasses that funnelled the selection of teams and equipped them for the eventual competition. This was followed by a mentorship phase which helped potential contestants to curate their pitch with the help of serial entrepreneurs and innovators. The third phase was an e-competition organised on 20th December 2020 which was attended by some 150 youths online where 16 teams pitched their ideas to renowned judges. This preceded an e-conference graced by Dr Janil Puthuchear, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communication and Information, Ministry of Health. Dr Janil, together with panellists, mentors, and participants discussed about "the future of" start-ups and social enterprises.

20 February 2021 marked the culmination of the fourth and final phase of the initiative - the prize presentation ceremony. The event was held at Global Indian International Smart Campus and it was live streamed on SICCI's Facebook page. There were six Business Plan Excellence and six Merit award winners of the competition - Category A for those from 12 to 17 years of age and Category B for those above 18 years of age.

Our sincere thanks to Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mr Alvin Tan for gracing this occasion. In addition, thanks to those who attended the event physically and virtually. Once again we will like to congratulate all the winners of this competition.



WEBINAR SERIES ON INDIA UNION BUDGET 2021



SICCI & SBF - India Union Budget 2021

SBF Union Budget Seminar was conducted on 5th February 2021. The South Asia Business Group (SABG) of Singapore Business Federation (SBF), supported by International Business Division (IBD @ SICCI), conducted a seminar to provide key highlights of the budget, foreign direct investment opportunities and a panel discussion on key sectoral business opportunities in India for Singapore investors.

The event was graced by His excellency, High Commissioner of India to Singapore, Mr P. Kumaran, CEO Invest India, Mr Deepak Bagla, and business luminaries from Singapore and India. Mr Prasoon Mukherjee participated in the event in his dual capacity as Advisor, SICCI and Vice-Chairman of SBF South Asia Business Group.

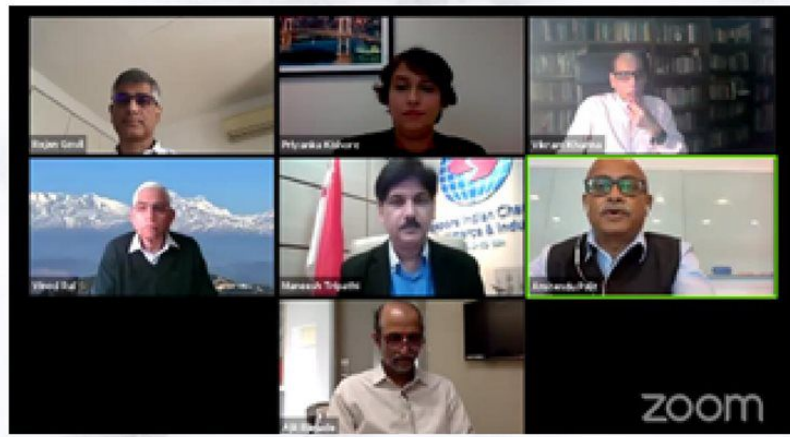


India Union Budget 2021 organised by ESG, Dhruv Associates and SICCI

On 9th February, Dhruva Advisors Singapore, Enterprise Singapore, High Commission of India in Singapore, SICCI and FICCI jointly hosted a webinar session on Feb 9th, 2021 to deliberate on the impact of the Indian Budget 2021 tax proposals on the foreign investors and the Indian economy.

The speakers included His Excellency, Mr P Kumaran, Global Markets Director ESG, Mr Tay Lian Chew, Chairman of SICCI, Dr T. Chandroo, Chairman and CEO of Edelweiss Group, Mr Rakesh Shah, and CEO of Dhruva Advisors, Mr Dinesh Kanabar.

Dhruva Partners – Mr Dinesh Kanabar, Mr Mahip Gupta and Mr Niraj Bagri led the session and industry experts provided their in-depth insights on key policy and tax announcements.



SICCI & ISAS - India Union Budget 2021

The session was conducted on 10th February, discussing the key features of the Union Budget in line with the key challenges for the economy, expectations of investors and the upcoming prospects for specific sectors.

Led by a group of distinguished experts from industry, business, policymakers and academics from Singapore and India, the roundtable discussed on whether the budget had the capacity to address key priorities.

The roundtable deliberated on the likely impact of new investments into India from the perspective of Singapore and regional investors. Vice Chairman of SICCI, Mr Maneesh Tripathi shared an investor perspective of the Budget relevant to the Singapore SME's.



SICCI & Nexdigm - India Union Budget 2021

On 18th February, the session covered key areas that companies should be aware of while investing in India. The webinar included sections on entry strategies, key tax considerations for different entity types, profit repatriation strategies as well as state-level incentives and policies that can drive growth.

Board Director of SICCI, Mr Zahabar Ali shared his insights on the India Tax Landscape for Indian Diaspora in Singapore. He mentioned that the introduction of many tax reforms for NRI have provided for a greater freedom to international companies to invest in the Indian market.

SICCI & CIMR WEBINAR

SICCI in collaboration with Chetna Institute of Management and Research (CIMR) organized an International conference on "Harnessing India's Resources" to make India Self-Reliant in collaboration with ASEAN countries. This Conference aimed at exploring the trade and investment opportunities in North- Eastern region of India and Singapore.

India and Singapore have a history of close commercial and cultural ties. India is now Singapore's largest South Asian trading partner.

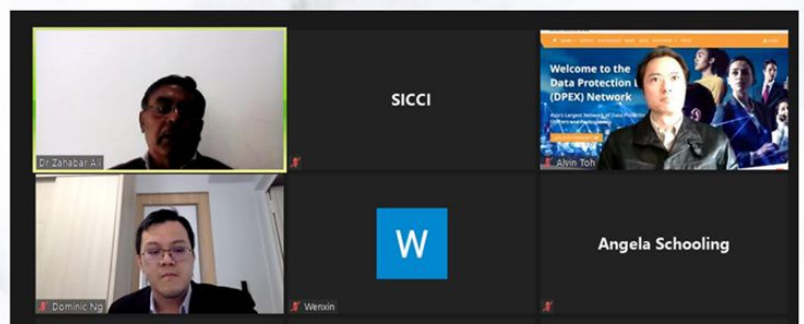
Mr George, Board Director, SICCI was a distinguished speaker in the conference along with other eminent speakers in the panel who mentioned that strengthening the SME is very crucial but they need to refine and align to new political and economic realities. He mentioned that the students of CIMR should focus on these SMEs rather than limit their focus on start-ups.



PDPA WEBINAR

On 26th February 2021, SICCI in partnership with Straits Interactive Pte Ltd and IMDA organised a webinar entitled "PDPA Advisory-Beefing up Data Protection & Privacy in your organisation for the New Normal".

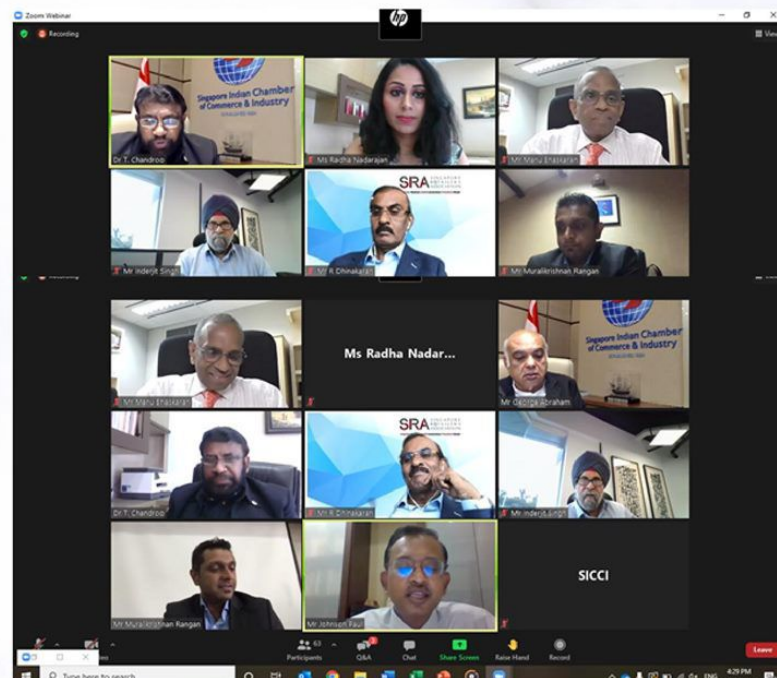
Dr Zahabar Ali, Assistant Treasurer & Board Director, SICCI gave the opening address. Mr Alvin Toh, Chief Marketing Officer, Straits Interactive shared on the key considerations impacting organisations on this COVID-19 pandemic and what it means to companies when it comes to business planning, governance, risk management and compliance. Mr Dominic Ng, Data Protection Certifications Manager, IMDA shared on Data Protection Trustmark and what it means to a business who attains it.



SINGAPORE BUDGET 2021 WEBINAR

Budget 2021 is about support for workers, businesses, and the vulnerable, with a focus on environmental sustainability. Budget 2021 provides immediate support with the S\$11 billion COVID-19 Resilience Package along with the S\$24 billion package to build a vibrant business community, provide financial capital and develop Singapore's workforce. Together, these measures will guide Singapore in navigating through challenges and opportunities on a journey of new possibilities.

On 25th February, Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) organised Singapore Budget 2021, webinar. SICCI brought together a group of entrepreneurs to discuss the key takeaways for Singapore companies. The session was chaired by Dr T Chandroo, Chairman, SICCI and moderated by Mr Muralikrishnan Rangan, Board Director, SICCI. The panelists were Mr Manu Bhaskaran, Partner, Centennial Asia Advisors, Mr Inderjit Singh, CEO of Solstar International Pte Ltd, Mr R. Dhinakaran, Managing Director of Jay Gee Group and Mr George Abraham, Chairman of GA Group and Board Director of SICCI. The session discussed specific problems facing SMEs and how the Budget could accommodate the needs of SMEs in the post Covid19 scenario.



FEATURING PROFILES OF SICCI NEW MEMBERS

Featuring few of latest new members who have joined the SICCI Family! Do join SICCI in welcoming them.



Mr Karthik V, Operations Director of ByBiTech Services Pte. Ltd.

Mr Karthik is an enthusiastic Building Information Modelling (BIM) Leader with great experience and exceptional insight. He started his career as a site supervisor and always had a vision to explore new technologies. He completed his Masters in Computer Applications and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree. His desire to advance his career helped him to secure an opportunity to work in Singapore as a BIM Modeller.

Mr Karthik is currently partnering and working as Operations Director at ByBiTech Singapore. Launched in 2012, ByBiTech is a Professional BIM Solutions company in Singapore, with innovative visions in the technocratic arena. ByBiTech is a leading, next-generation BIM Technology Company with strong business commitments in BIM solutions, BIM Consultation, BIM Implementation & BIM Training and a host of cutting-edge technology services.



Viji Jagadeesh, Managing Director of JVKM Group of Companies, Singapore

Ms Jagadeesh is the Founder & Managing Director of JVKM, Mitraa and Jupiter Group of Companies in Singapore, which aims to help businesses and entrepreneurs to start their businesses, companies & investments in Singapore and operate successfully. She is a successful entrepreneur, businesswoman, public speaker, corporate trainer, debater, and philanthropist.

With over 18 years of experience in Singapore, Ms Jagadeesh is a pioneer for her visionary approach, high profile networking and providing one stop solutions for all her clients. JVKM services range from Audit & Accounting, Corporate Secretarial, Book-keeping & Back Office, Corporate / Personal Tax & GST, Employment Agency & HR, Government Agency Licensing, Office Automation / Web Design, Real Estate Agency under Orange Tee & Tie and providing whole range of Real Estate & Property Management Services, Due Diligence & Business Brokerage.



Mr Milind Pappu from NIPRO

Mr Pappu has experience in the management of medical devices/disposable business in Middle East, South East Asia, Iran, India, Africa and Australia markets. Glass tubing/vial/ampoule business in India. Based in Singapore, his current focus area is the setting up of dialysis centres in India.

NIPRO corp is a Japanese Global Company in the business of Medical Devices, Consumables and Pharmaceuticals. NIPRO has done significant investment in India through manufacturing facilities and sales offices. We are now in the business of setting up Dialysis centres that would provide world class quality at affordable prices. We are seeking individual and institutional investors who will be interested in the setting up of centres can be managed by NIPRO and Nephrologist.

FEATURING PROFILES OF SICCI NEW MEMBERS (CONT'D)



REDHILL

Mr Jacob J. Puthenparambil, Founder and CEO of Redhill World

Mr Jacob is the founder and CEO of Redhill, a fast-growing independent public relations and communications agency. Redhill was named one of the fastest-growing agencies in the world by The Holmes Report and PProvoke in 2019 and 2020, as well as one of Singapore's fastest-growing companies in 2021 by The Straits Times and Statista. The agency currently has over 14 offices across 17 countries. Its clients include MNCs, start-ups, venture capital funds, government agencies, and non-profit organisations.

Mr Jacob has over 20 years of experience in communications, journalism and government. Prior to founding Redhill, his diverse career included roles at the Government of India's Ministry for External Affairs, NetworkWorld, the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), and Burson-Marsteller. He has been mentoring start-ups in Southeast Asia since 2013 and is a mentor at Singapore Management University's Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (IIE). He is a member of Entrepreneur's Organisation, Milken Institute's Young Leaders Circle and Co-Chair of the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) in Singapore. He is also a TÜV SÜD-certified Singapore Expert Management Consultant and accredited member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR), UK. In 2021, Jacob was recognised for his contributions to the communications industry by PProvoke's Innovator 25 in APAC.



Ms Hema Shetty

Ms Hema Shetty has worked in the Financial Services industry and is currently an AIA Financial Services Consultant. She has served companies by facilitating their group insurance and employee benefits plans. She has also served the insurance needs of individual employees as required.

Ms Hema takes pride in providing clients with quality insurance coverage and ensuring that employees are well-informed of the need to have adequate coverage.



Signify

Mr Jitender Khurana, Leader of the Emerging Southeast Asia businesses in Signify

Signify is the world leader in lighting for professionals and consumers and lighting for the Internet of Things. Our Philips products include interactive and connected lighting systems and data-enabled services. We deliver business value and transform lives in homes, buildings and public spaces. With 2020 sales of EUR 6.5 billion, we have approximately 38,000 employees and are present in over 70 countries. We unlock the extraordinary potential of "light" for brighter lives and a better world. We achieved carbon neutrality in 2020, we have been in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index since our IPO for four consecutive years and were named Industry Leader in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Mr Jitender Khurana is the Leader of the Emerging Southeast Asia businesses in Signify (formerly known as Philips Lighting). Building upon 18 years of experience, Jitender has amassed diverse experiences across diverse geographies stretching across Europe, Middle East and, most recently, Singapore. Mr Jitender began his career with Philips Lighting in Dubai in 2007, serving as the Indoor Lighting Leader for the Middle East & Turkey. He next took on an international posting in Philips Lighting BV, Eindhoven, where he was in charge of strategic product development and marketing for the Professional Lighting category.

In 2013, Jitender took on an expanded role in Singapore, heading "Signify's international business and managing the international key accounts team for APAC and as country leader for Signify Singapore, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Brunei. In this role, he leads both the strategy and execution of B2B and B2C businesses related to connected lighting technology and services. Under his charge, he leads a culturally diverse team of 55 employees comprising 9 nationalities across 4 countries.

NEW SICCI MEMBERS FOR JANUARY 2021

SIGNIFY SINGAPORE PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

AJ JETTING PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

EZEE PTE. LTD.

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

JVKM CORPORATE SERVICES PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

REDHILL WORLD PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

SUPREME ROVER PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

TECH ONSHORE MEP-PREFABRICATORS PTE LTD

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

BYBITECH

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY CORPORATE

SURESH AGARWAL

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

HARIDAS MENON

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

PETER AYAPILLAI

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

HEMA SHETTY

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

MILIND PAPPU

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

SHARAD SOMANI

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

VETRISELVI RAJAMANICKAM

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

AARTI SABHANEY

MEMBERSHIP: ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

STAY CONNECTED WITH SICCI!



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