



BUILDING BUSINESSES | BUILDING COMMUNITIES



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## National Day Observance Ceremony



On the 6th of August 2021, the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) organized the National Day Observance Ceremony and a dialogue session with Guest of Honour, Mr Vikram Nair, Member of Parliament, Sembawang GRC. The event was joined by Dr T Chandroo, Chairman, SICCI, the Directors of SICCI Cares, Ambassador Kesavapany, Mr Ameerali Abdeali, Mr Devendran; SICCI Directors, Mr Maneesh Tripathi and Mr Kishore Daryanani, Vice Chairmen, SICCI; Mr George Abraham, Treasurer, SICCI; Ms Shobha Tsering Bhalla, Chairperson SHE, Mr Johnson Paul, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), SICCI together with other Board of Directors of SICCI.

The event was also joined by presidents from various Singapore Indian Organizations. They were: Mr Hernaikh Singh, President, Khalsa Association; Mr G Thurasingham, President, Yathavar Association; Mr. Harikrishnan Muthusamy, President, GOPIO and President, Tamil Language and Cultural Society; Mr Sarabjeet Singh, President, Young Sikh Association; Mr Danapal Kumar, President, Singapore Tamil Teachers' Union; Mr. Brijesh K Shukla, The Singapore North Indian Hindu Association; Mr Venkata Rathnaiah, Kannada Sangha (Singapore); Mr. Vashdev A Khialani, President, Singapore Sindhi Association and

Mr Raja Mohamad, President, Singapore Kadayannallur Muslim League for their participation. The event began with all the participants singing the national anthem and reciting the pledge. In his welcome speech, Mr Chandroo emphasized that Indian organizations in Singapore have played a critical role in upbuilding the Indian community there. He thanked them for their selfless service to the nation. In addition, he believed that this event was historic in that it was the first time that so many leaders from different Indian organizations were coming together to observe National Day. It was his wish that participants would take away something positive and useful from the dialogue with MP Vikram Nair.

Dr T Chandroo, Chairman SICCI said that "As an organization, SICCI is dedicated to helping businesses in Singapore achieve greater heights and go global. As we mark our 56th National Day, the Chamber will continue its efforts to serve the business community with diligence and dedication. Progress is never complete, just as the work of building a nation cannot be considered complete. We thank our leaders, Singaporeans, and all residents for their contributions to making Singapore what it is today."

A number of questions were raised about promoting women's entrepreneurship, reopening the economy, and building community spirit.

## National Day Observance Ceremony (cont'd)

Vikram Nair commented that SICCI's initiative for celebrating the 56th National Day with other Singapore Indian organizations represented a step in the right direction toward achieving community cohesiveness. Mrs Shobha Tserling Bhalla, Chairman, SHE@SICCI, asked if there were any special strategies for women entrepreneurs as their businesses were deeply affected by the pandemic. The majority of small and micro-businesses run by women are based at home. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has restricted movement, causing parents, spouses, and children to stay at home. Home-based operations have been burdened as a result. Many people don't know where to go when they need monetary assistance or to resolve trade problems.

He responded that women entrepreneurs can receive the same grants as men entrepreneurs such as rental relief and payroll benefits regardless of the type of business they are running. Moreover, he said, the government has been working hard to ensure that community caregiving facilities such as childcare and daycare facilities, and schools are still available to make life more convenient for those taking care of their homes. Moreover, he said that the government also provides a variety of financial assistance to help reduce the burden on homemakers and small business owners.

A question was also asked about SICCI's efforts to assist Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). Dr T Chandroo stated that In 2019, SICCI had created a council called the Covid Task Force that was responsible for SMEs who were affected by Covid. Over 3000 inquiries were received on how the chamber could help companies in need via a dedicated hotline and email. Additionally, SICCI worked closely with ESG and private banks and institutions; staff provided administrative support for grants, etc. SICCI has always promoted digital transformation for SMEs. During the current pandemic, many companies have taken advantage of grants for digitalization, even if they weren't ready for it pre-covid. Several major changes need to be made with the way businesses and businessmen do business in order to survive a pandemic and to fit the needs of the current times. He concluded that eventually businessmen and entrepreneurs must have a new business model to survive.

Mr Vikram Nair shared that the government will take several precautions to reopen the economy before entering a new phase. This was dependent on the vaccination rate, especially among the elderly. According to him, the reopening of borders will take longer as the vaccination regimes must be recognized by countries and travel bubbles must be established. The "D" variant had presented a curveball in the recovery process.



**The Chairman, Dr T Chandroo, Board of Directors and Staff of SICCI would like to wish everyone a Happy National Day!**

## National Day Observance Ceremony

# Mr Vikram Nair's Speech

## MP Sembawang GRC

Dr T Chandroo, Chairman of SICCI Board Directors of SICCI,  
Members of the various Indian organizations,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

A very good afternoon and I am happy to join all of you for today's National Day Observance Ceremony. This year's theme for our National Day celebrations is "Together, Our Singapore Spirit" – which truly reflects today's turnout as we have members from the various Indian organisations and the Chamber gathered here today to celebrate the nation's 56th birthday.

As we celebrate our National Day, it is also a timely moment to reflect on how the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) has evolved and grown with the nation. Established in 1924 as the Indian Merchants Association, SICCI is one of the three ethnic chambers in Singapore that has and continues to play a crucial role in the development of the Indian business community in Singapore.

As the leading business chamber representing the Indian community in Singapore, SICCI has evolved to become an important and useful platform for our members to learn, collaborate and exchange business ideas as well as unlock their business potential locally and globally. Today, it is also making significant efforts in nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs in Singapore.

SICCI has always supported the Government's initiatives to help firms, especially SMEs grow in areas such as skills upgrading, productivity, internationalization and more recently, digital transformation. SICCI has always encouraged the Singapore Indian business community to explore various opportunities globally. SICCI is well-placed to assist Indian businesses especially SMEs in their efforts to internationalize their business. I would like to commend SICCI for taking a progressive approach in helping companies and SMEs sharpen their competitive edge and remain viable in these changing times.

Likewise, SICCI has been known for giving back to society. It's contribution to technical education through a scholarship fund since 1969 to MOE and later ITE is worthy of mention. SICCI supports the SIET-SINDA Fund and has 24 years of giving to the National University of Singapore. It has raised funds for women entrepreneurs in dire need at the wake of COVID19 and for the Children's Cancer Foundation.

More recently SICCI has raised a million dollars to support the humanitarian crises in India. SICCI had also set up a virtual command centre to coordinate procurements from the Singapore Red Cross, IIM, private corporates, and individual donors who bought medical supplies and equipment for their loved ones in India.

In working with several other Singapore Indian organisations, SICCI has created a new momentum for the community, and I wish to commend the leadership of Dr T Chandroo, Chairman SICCI and Directors of SICCI Cares, namely Amb Kesavapany, Mr Ameer Ali Abdeali, and Mr Devendran. As its next big thing, SICCI will be initiating the Federation of Singapore Indian Organisations (FSIO) to establish a common platform for advocacy and community integration. It hopes to work with Indian organisations in Singapore to help build socio-economic equity in the community and in society at large. With this, I wish everyone a very Happy 56th National Day.

Thank you.



Mr Vikram Nair  
MP, Sembawang GRC

[Watch the full ceremony here](#)



## Webinar Highlights: GST Amendment Act 2020 and its impact on SMEs



A webinar on the GST (Goods and Services Tax) Amendment Act 2020 and its impact on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) was held on August 3, 2021, at 2.30 p.m. SGT. The webinar was beneficial for those seeking insights into the changes in GST regulations.

During the webinar, Dr Zahabar Ali, the session chair, explained the agenda's focus on the GST Amendment Bill 2020's impact on SMEs and how fraud will be monitored by the new law. It is noteworthy that the IRAS has already collected almost \$1 billion due to errors from GST registered traders, excluding investigation cases, which proves that GST is not a 'simple tax.'

During his presentation, Mr Singh recommended that businesses hire a tax agent who is accredited by Singapore's Tax Accreditation Body. There are approximately 100,444 GST-registered businesses, but more than half a million ACRA-registered businesses. When comparing GST penalties arising from GST Audits, random audits, or on an industry basis, he mentions that they exceed \$150 million.

A GST registered trader should consider documentation as a key consideration. Communication needs to be backed up in some way. Even WhatsApp communication must be documented and stored for at least five years. Furthermore, he suggested that new suppliers obtain an ACRA Business Profile and check on the ACRA website to determine whether they are in compliance with the amendments. Two important questions are replicated here:

[Watch the full webinar here](#)

**An employee incurred expenses on behalf of a company, and the tax invoice was addressed to the employee. If the company reimburses the employee, can it then claim the GST input?**

If the expense is less than \$1,000, a receipt is sufficient for the input tax claim. Please make a copy of the receipt as they usually fade in a very short period of time. The expense must be accompanied by a tax invoice addressed to the business if it is over \$1,000. Failure to do so prevents the claim of input tax.

**Does GST apply to a trading company whose purchases and sales are outside of Singapore?**

Singapore exempts purchases and sales of goods not imported into the country. Singapore's Free Trade Zone or a Bonded warehouse can house the goods, which are subsequently exported. GST is not payable to Singapore Customs as these transactions are outside their jurisdiction. In other words, you are not subject to GST.

[Click here for more FAQs](#)



### GST Services@SICCI

We are here to guide and help companies resolve all their GST related queries and problems. Contact us and we can match you with our experienced GST consultants.

Contact us now!  
65080145 | [puja@sicci.com](mailto:puja@sicci.com)

### Our services:

- GST Training
- GST Consultancy/Local Agent
- GST Filing
- GST Health Check
- GST Schemes
- GST De-registration

## Webinar Highlights: Alternative Real Estate Investment Opportunities in Singapore

On the 16th of August, a webinar on “Alternative Real Estate Investment Opportunities” in Singapore was held. The event was chaired by Mr. Kishore Daryanani, Vice Chairman of SICCI, and Honorary Consul General of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It featured speakers from ZACD and 5 Pillars Pte Ltd.

Deepak Kumar, Consultant, Mr. Siew Chen Yei, Deputy CEO & Group CFO, Han Xiang Feng, Executive Director Investment Management, Keith Wan, Director Head of Investment Management, and Mr. Mark Oh spoke from ZACD. Mr. Raja Mohamad Bin Maiden Managing Director of 5 Pillars Pte Ltd also joined in.

Mr. Kishore opened the meeting following the welcome by Ms. Verma. The topics discussed ranged from possible ROIs to various areas of real estate investment, the role of real estate investment firms, risk allocation, and government initiatives. During the Q&A session, the speakers engaged the audience. The session was closed by Mr. Kishore Daryanani thanking the audience and speakers.



[Watch the full webinar here](#)

## Webinar Highlights: How to Expand and Grow Your Business Through Franchising



Together with the (FLA) Franchising and Licensing Association Singapore, SICCI held a webinar on 25th August 2021 entitled “How to Expand and Grow Your Business Through Franchising.”

A brief opening statement was delivered by Dr. Chandroo, Chairman of SICCI. SICCI Board Director, Mr Parthban (Moderator), Mr Dickson Low, Vice-President of the FLA, and Mr Albert Kong, CEO of Asiawide franchise consultants, attended the roundtable. The webinar was attended by over 70 guests.

Dr Chandroo welcomed everyone and thanked FLA for partnering with SICCI. Franchises and licensing account for

18% of Singapore domestic retail sales volume, generating a turnover of about 7 billion dollars, and foreign franchises account for the bulk of that. He described some of his own experiences with franchising at Modem Montessori International and noted that SICCI has established the International Business Division to help SME companies expanding overseas.

This webinar lasted a little over 2 hours and covered various topics, including why franchising is so popular with entrepreneurs, what types of fees are associated with franchising when it's a good time for franchising, and many more.

[Watch the full webinar here](#)

## MoU Signing with SGTech

The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SGTech, a premier trade association for the tech industry in Singapore on the 19th of August, Wednesday.

The signing was attended by Chairman of SICCI Dr T Chandroo, Vice-Chairman of SICCI and Chairman of Incubation and Start-up Committee, Mr Maneesh Tripathi, Chairman of SGTech Mr Wong Wai Meng, SGTech Chairman of Cloud and Data Chapter Mr Gunasekharan Chellappan and Mr Song Jie, Ms Sua Wan Xin, Mr Wilson Tan and Ms Yean Cheong from SGTech.



Mr Maneesh explained that SGTech is capable of creating great solutions, while SICCI is capable of creating a go-to-market strategy and reaching out. This MoU was designed to meet those objectives.

Dr T Chandroo greeted everyone and started his speech by thanking Mr Wong Wai Meng and Mr Gunasekharan Chellappan. He said that SICCI is already in talks with SGTech regarding a project called the 'Little India Cloud' and he hopes to work together so that the outcome of this programme is achieved.

Mr Wong Wai Meng said that he was delighted to find a partnership with SICCI. SGTech was also pleased to kickstart the Little India Cloud initiative and empower businesses to take up cloud tech so that they are not left behind especially during this pandemic. And he is confident that the partnership will take them far.

Mr Gunasekaran added that they needed to start looking into revolutionizing and digitalizing pestle and mortar businesses and for that SGTech will be going about in a three-prong approach. Firstly, they will be working with various government bodies to help business learn about cloud, data literacy as well as where and how to get help and funding. Secondly, the organization will also help businesses learn how to operate on cloud (E.g., How to carry out e-commerce or e-delivery in cloud, etc). And lastly, they will also help with the training if a business is ready to start going into cloud but not sure how to.

Mr Maneesh also said that Chairman Dr T Chandroo envisioned a trade fair and expo with all States of India and Union territories. Any business or organization that has an interest in a particular state in India can contact the relevant party right away in this meetup. Mr Maneesh suggested that SGTech could be SICCI's technology partner for this event as they are a 'one-stop shop' for technology and that different states in India have interests in various technology solutions. Mr Wong then replied that this is a fantastic idea and will be glad to work with SICCI on this.

[Watch the full ceremony here](#)

## MOU Signing with OATA

The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed another Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with OATA (Overseas Agro Traders Association) on the 19th of August 2021, Wednesday.





## MOU Signing with OATA (cont'd)

OATA Myanmar is a representative of Foreign owned Agro Trading Companies having a base in Myanmar and their collective interests in the buying, selling and shipping of beans, pulses and other tertiary agricultural commodities produced in Myanmar.

The event was attended by Chairman of SICCI Dr T Chandroo, Board Director of SICCI Mr Rajan Bagaria, President of OATA Mr Vatsal Lilani and Directors of Singapore Pulses Federation Limited (SPFL) Mr Hitesh Jain and Mr Sunil Patwari.

Mr Rajan Bagaria said that SICCI being one of the oldest trade associations in Singapore with a 96-year history, and with the majority of SICCI members being agricultural commodity traders, the collaboration with OATA becomes all the more significant. OATA plans to work with SICCI on the trade front to expand activities and pioneer the development of the pulse industry in local and international markets.

Chairman Dr T Chandroo said that the MoU aims to support the exchange of bilateral trade and investment-related information and trade delegations, promote Singapore as an important trade hub, and raise awareness on the contribution of pulses to food security and nutrition. The cooperation will also provide for the organization of exhibitions, conferences, and similar events on mutually agreed terms.

[Watch the full ceremony here](#)

Mr Vatsal stated that through this MoU, one of the areas that SICCI could definitely assist OATA is in the outreach to various arms of governments in countries like India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Africa, etc where SICCI has significant influence and had built a tremendous platform over the years.

After the signing of the MoU, Mr Hitesh Jain ended the session by saying that apart from being involved in business, OATA is always keen on intervening and helping anyone with problems relating to trade, banking or anything else during this testing time.



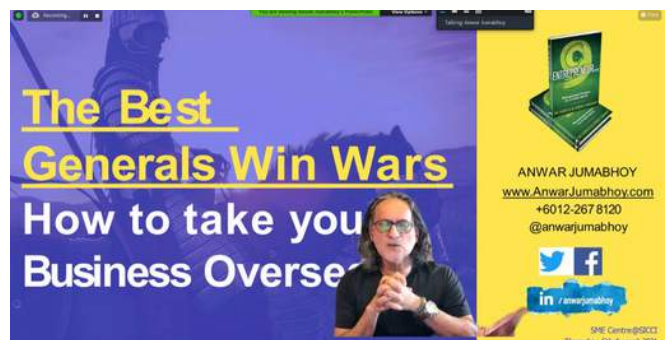
## SME-Centre Highlights:

### The Best Generals Win Wars: How to take your Business Overseas!

The SME Centre at SICCI hosted a webinar, "The Best Generals Win Wars: How to Take Your Business Overseas!" as part of their Internationalisation efforts on 5th August 2021. The webinar was well received by the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) community and it showed that businesses are on the lookout for global opportunities.

The webinar was joined by esteemed speakers, Mr Anwar Jumabhoy, Principal Consultant, ProfitAbility Business Simulations SE Asia and Mr R Gunalan, Manager for Business Advisory, SME Centre@SICCI. They shared valuable insights on how to deepen global market presence, identify unique value propositions and learn how to map the way a business operates in the target market.

Despite its seemingly counterintuitive nature, the webinar concluded with a clear message that while local businesses are feeling the effects of the pandemic, it may be the perfect time for many firms to expand abroad.



## Webinar Highlights: Turkey: The Regional Hub to connect Europe and Asia

The SICCI and Turkey Investment Office organized a webinar titled, "Turkey: The Regional Hub to Connect Europe and Asia" on the 13th of August to provide an overview of the Turkish economy and opportunities in the post-COVID-19 era, especially in the agro-food sector.

SICCI Vice-Chairman Mr Maneesh Tripathi opened the webinar with his welcome remarks and introduced all the speakers. Speakers included Ms Yasemin Esenlik, Overseas Office & Activities Manager, Turkey Investment Office; The Senior Vice President and Head of Sesame's business unit at Olam International, Mr Sanjeev Sharma; Ms Muge Dagli Durukan, Commercial Counselor at the Turkish Embassy; Industry expert Mr Halit Duran and Singapore Country Advisor Mr Emre Buyukkilic from the Turkey Investment Office.

Participants learned about the Turkey Investment Office and its role, Olam International's journey in Turkey, trade agreements between Singapore and Turkey, opportunities in the agro-food sector in Turkey, and the process of setting up a business in Turkey. A Q&A session moderated by Mr. Buyukkilic followed the presentations, during which the speakers discussed recent Agri-tech trends and dividend income repatriation from Turkey. Mr Kishore Daryanani, Vice-Chairman, SICCI, and Honorary Consul General of the Democratic Republic of Congo gave a vote of thanks for the information shared by the speakers.

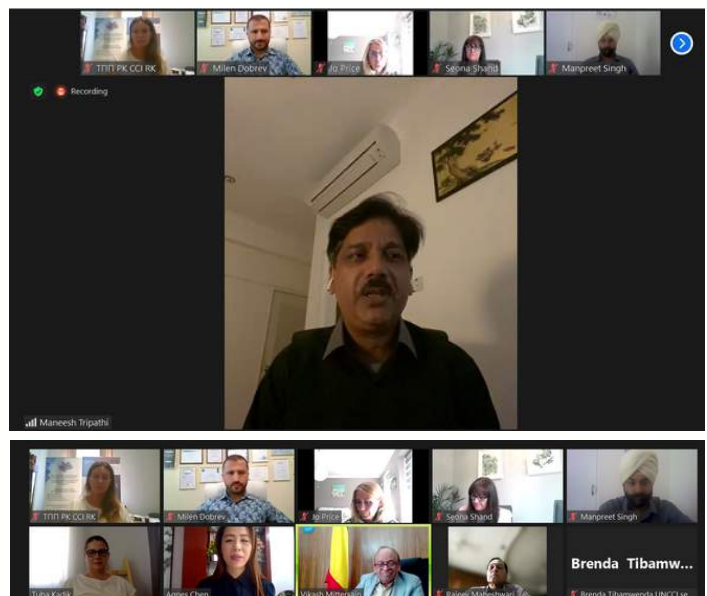
[Watch the full webinar here](#)



## Around the world: IBG 7th Presidents Roundtable Meeting

The India Business Group (IBG)'s 7th Presidents Roundtable Zoom meeting was held on 17th August 2021. Presidents from different International and Domestic chambers were present. Mr Maneesh Tripathi, Vice-Chairman of Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) joined in the meeting. The agenda for the meeting was to discuss Logistics and Infrastructure.

Mr Maneesh talked about Infrastructure and how Singapore is planning to create a smart business district called Punggol Digital District (PDD). The district will include many technology-incorporated infrastructure such as Plug and play facilities, electric vehicles, shared offices, facilities that incorporates artificial intelligence and more. He added that creating a smart nation is quite an onerous task but creating smart districts is more feasible. Moreover, he talked about Singapore's primary focus on big data, facial recognition software, blockchain and collaboration platforms (SaS Services).



He also mentioned that the Chamber has close to 500 members and the extension of approximately 8,000 members through SICCI Subsidiaries such as SMEC@SICCI. SICCI could extend partnerships and alliances via this platform for other Chambers through the Startup and Innovation Sub-Committee.



## SICCI Chairman, Dr. T Chandroo's speech as the Guest of Honor for the Opening Ceremony of the GOPIO Youth Conference 2021 on 3rd July 2021.

Distinguished Guests, friends and especially our young leaders who are here.

I would like to first and foremost congratulate GOPIO Singapore Chapter for hosting GOPIO International Youth Conference 2021, a landmark event that we are truly privileged to have in Singapore. As we prepare for a post-COVID world, the theme "Leaders of New Tomorrow" is timely and apt. In all industries, there is a global reboot/reset underway, and I believe that tomorrow's leaders won't necessarily succeed with yesterday's ideas. Therefore, we must prepare our youth for a different tomorrow. Three main challenges I call NEW, NOW, and NEXT will be discussed, as well as three main questions:

- a) How can youth develop and assume leadership roles?
- b) How can they gain a foothold in the business world?
- c) How can they advance in education, business, and vocational training?

The NEW- I believe the world has entered a new phase of recovery, but the impact of COVID 19 must not be underestimated. Our daily lives are impacted by the realities of new diseases, and we must be vaccinated regularly in order to stay healthy. ZOOM has become an integral part of our daily communications, and masks have been adopted as fashion accessories. Even as we move toward hybrid work environments, working from home will remain a constant feature. Digitalization has become a necessity, not an option. Travelling entrepreneurs have been grounded at home as the idea of digital nomads, which started pre-COVID19, has completely collapsed.

Mobile workers who travel frequently are commonly referred to as digital nomads.

How can youth take a leadership role and thrive in this new environment?

In the new world order, "green" is here to stay. Leaders of the future must be technology savvy and share their knowledge about environmental protection. You may think that as a young person you are not ready for a leadership role, but those companies of yesterday aren't familiar with technology or the values of the "green movement." Today's young people are more acquainted with technology, especially digital technology that is driving the economy. IOT, apps, and devices are too complex for older businesses, requiring the leadership of the young to help them leap into the future. The new environment has also led to startups with young people taking the lead. People like Ojas Batra of Hive Group (16years old), Ishan Kapur, the Diana Award social action winner (15years old) and Tilak Mehta, founder of Papers N Parcels (13years old).

In addition, youngsters like Sharavan and Sanjay Kumaran (16 and 18 years old), founders of GoDimensions, are shaping tomorrow's technological world. In fact, they serve as inspirations for the global diaspora youth. However, today's youth can play a significant role in protecting the environment, promoting human diversity and cultural diversity, and establishing a corruption-free bureaucracy in the world of tomorrow. I am confident that you will become leaders of tomorrow if you can provide reverse mentoring to companies that want to reinvent themselves in this way.

I now want to talk about the immediacy of the NEW and, therefore, of the NOW. NOW is the time for the youth to get involved in business and entrepreneurship. To gain a sense of the business world, you should take part in internships, mentorships, or other active engagement opportunities. When it comes to entrepreneurship, you should not wait until you have completed your education. Entrepreneurship should be part of your learning process, and you have to learn as you go. If you are a student, you should be interning with companies during the holidays or doing unpaid work in web content development, marketing, or social media monitoring for companies on the weekends. You would be in great demand in these areas during and after the COVID period. Moreover, you may be able to acquire skills in data management and soft skills that you may not be able to learn at school.

Singapore University of Technology and Design offers CAPSTONE projects where students are asked to solve a problem given to them by a company or group of companies. During the process, they develop innovative solutions that can result in breakthroughs or new business concepts. Games have been developed for solving corporate problems or developing corporate organizations. Likewise, they can get involved in Chambers of Commerce (TACs) such as GOPIO and SICCI. It will open up many opportunities for fruitful interactions and help build your confidence to handle higher management. This is the NOW that you need to pay attention to as time and tide wait for no man.

con'td in the next page.

Finally, NEXT. A man never steps in the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man. The famous Greek philosopher Heraclitus said this. You need to keep learning in a constantly changing world. In order to get better, you must be willing to learn more every day. Singapore has launched Skills Future, which offers resources for people to enhance their education, careers, and businesses. Knowing the skills frameworks for the different industries could help you prepare. Having the ability to learn independently is essential. Learning as much as possible by yourself is more beneficial than relying on a teacher's instruction. People who adapt quickly to changing circumstances survive even under the most adverse circumstances. It is only possible to be resilient if you are able to learn on your own. You need more than just "WHAT" to succeed in the workplace. Knowing "WHO" and knowing "WHY" is also vital. In the school of life, you will learn not so much "what" as much as "who" and "why". Vocational training will allow you to acquire deep technical skills, but they can only be applied well if people work together as a team and understand the context (who and why) in which they can be applied.

I am pleased to open this conference, which takes place today, tomorrow, July 10 and 11. You will discover the "leader within" and I pray that you will cultivate it to the fullest extent possible to make tomorrow's society better. It isn't about what "rights" you have, but about what responsibilities you are willing to assume. PERFECTION is not the aim of leadership, but giving, and I would like to conclude my remarks with a little tale.

An Indian water carrier wore two large pots around his neck, hanging from either end of a pole. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always supplied a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, and the porter delivered only a jug and a half full of water to his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its performance.

But the poor broken pot was ashamed of his own imperfection and unhappy that he could only accomplish half of what he had been made for.

After two years of what he considered a bitter failure, the pot said to the water bearer, "For two years I have only been able to deliver half my load because this crack in my side causes the water to leak all the way back to your master's house. Because of my shortcomings, you are not getting full value for your efforts."

The water bearer took pity on the old, cracked pot, and in his compassion said, "When we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the way." As they walked up the hill, the old, cracked pot noticed that the sun was warming the beautiful wildflowers along the way, and this cheered him a little. The porter said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That is because I have always known about your weakness and exploited it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day when we walked back from the creek, you watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to adorn my master's table. Without you being who you are, he would not have this beauty to adorn his home."

The moral of the story is that we all have unique flaws. We are all broken pots. In this world, there is no such thing as waste. You may feel, like the broken pot, that you are useless or inefficient in certain areas of your life, but somehow those mistakes will prove to be blessings in disguise. Leaders can turn broken pots into positive outcomes for society.

Thank you!

## Around the world: Weaving the globe with Handlooms

SICCI Board Director and Treasurer Mr George Abraham spoke at the event, "Weaving the Globe with Hand looms", organized by The Kamala Club on 30th August 2021. Various distinguished guests from the hand loom industry attended the event. Mr Abraham praised India's heritage hand looms as timeless traditions, diverse cultures, and unparalleled craftsmanship. Even though it originated as a village craft, it evolved into a cottage industry that showcased ingenuity and expertise unique to India.

He talked about ASEAN's growing textile industry competing with China and India in a market dominated by them and the need to work with the ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries to connect ASEAN factories who manufacture apparel. A major theme of his talk was how



India has influenced the history and the culture of ASEAN countries, especially the costumes of the women. Working with young ASEAN designers would broaden the possibilities for using hand looms in fashion attire, handicrafts, and costume jewellery.

# Feedback

## FICCI Annual Expo 2020-21: SICCI Singapore Showcase

Tell us about your experience in participating in the SICCI Singapore Showcase at FICCI Annual Expo 2020-21.

Our Experience was very good. The event gave us an opportunity to showcase our Company to much larger audience in very short span of time.

**What is your message to other SMEs during this Covid-19 times?**

Embrace latest technology to reach to your customer.

**How would you like the Chamber to help you in your internationalization drive?**

More such events and interaction with other similar chambers in other countries shall help us to go global.

Mr Gyanendra,  
CEO, Info Trust Singapore Pte Ltd

**Tell us about your experience in participating in the SICCI Singapore Showcase at FICCI Annual Expo 2020-21.**

1. As Pixibit we were able to experience the virtual interaction of the FICCI Singapore pavilion.
2. Easy to navigate approach is ideal.
3. The opening session was very engaging.
4. The Rajestan session was filled with realistic information.
5. we are keen to explore virtual tourism, Online Interactive Training and Digital School.
6. Karnataka session we did present ourselves within the time given.
7. Able to get our leads with few partners in Tamil Nadu, Virtual preschool training, and E-books development.
8. Pre-setup help by Mr. Gupta is commendable. Thank you.
9. The masterclass is very practical but as an SME, we yet to understand India better.
10. we are ready to create, produce and deliver, live streaming and virtual content and hope there will be a business lead happens.

Mr Gunasegran,  
Director  
VR/AR Trainer  
Pixibit Pte. Ltd.



Singapore Indian Chamber  
of Commerce & Industry  
ESTABLISHED 1924



**Tell us about your experience in participating in the SICCI Singapore Showcase at FICCI Annual Expo 2020-21.**

We would like to thank Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, for hosting the "SICCI Singapore Showcase at FICCI Annual Expo 2020-21", and providing us valuable support during this event. This platform has allowed us to connect with government officials from Karnataka, Rajasthan, Telangana, which has given us resources and networking opportunities to develop relationship with Indian business organizations. We look forward to attending future events such as this. Special thanks to the SICCI and FICCI teams for the smooth running of this event.

**What is the market entry potential for your business in India? Which would be the choice of States that you would consider?**

Our business model is flexible and open door for Indian Vendors, who would like to enter in to Singapore Market and showcase their products. Ninaad Global will facilitate on local logistics and Singapore relationship as product ambassador for long-term sustainability. We are currently discussing with vendors of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. As per discussion during event, we like to develop similar linkages with other states like Karnataka and Telangana, with unique products of respective states.

Mr and Mrs Desai  
Ninaad Global Private Limited

## CONTACT US



INTERNATIONAL  
BUSINESS  
DIVISION

for help with your Internationalization Journey

<https://ibd-sicci.com/>



## Our Journey

Mr. Kirpa Ram Sharma, formerly the Vice Chairman of SICCI and a serial entrepreneur with more than 4 decades of trading experience, donated a copy of "**Our Journey**" to the Chamber in August 2021. The limited edition of the 90th Anniversary Commemorative book published in 2014 was signed by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.



## Message

*I*would like to congratulate the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) on its 90th anniversary. Established as the Indian Merchants' Association in 1924 to champion the cause of traders, SICCI has helped businesses to connect to Southeast Asia, India and beyond. It built a strong network of Indian business communities in the region and opened up trade and investment opportunities in India. SICCI is also working with their sister chambers in Singapore, the Chinese and Malay Chambers to share contacts and experiences in their different countries of expertise, taking advantage of our multi-racial and multi-cultural context to help our businesses go overseas.

SICCI has always championed SMEs. When I chaired the Economic Committee in 1985, they submitted a paper that detailed the problems faced by SMEs and made useful recommendations. Today, SICCI continues to help Singaporean SMEs find opportunities in India, the Middle East and Africa. The SME Centre @ SICCI is recognised as one of the best-run SME Centres in Singapore.

I wish SICCI a happy 90th anniversary and many more good decades to come.



Mr. Lee Hsien Loong,  
Prime Minister

## "Our Journey" - 90th Anniversary Commemorative Book published in 2014

It all began when a group of small, dedicated businessmen gathered in 1924 to form SICCI to better protect, promote, and unite the interests of Indian businessmen. Initially known as the Indian Merchants Association (IMA), the organization stood at the nexus of Indian business endeavours in Singapore.

In 1935, the IMA changed its name to the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) under the presidency of Mr. R Jumabhoy J P. Two years later, in 1937, the ICC became a company under the Companies Ordinance. Singapore was then part of the Straits Settlements.

A few years after Singapore declared independence in 1965, the ICC's reorganised itself as the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce (SICC). This was in 1971 and the name change was to better reflect the evolving nature of its work and role in the community. Another name change occurred in 1991, transforming the Chamber into the **Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI)**.

SICCI continues to assist its members and partners in achieving new heights of business excellence. You can now download a copy of SICCI's "Our Journey" at

<https://www.sicci.com/our-journey/>

## Two youths raise funds for the Covid-19 relief efforts in India.

**Interview with 2 youths who raised over \$1000 for the India Covid Relief Fund.**

SICCI CARES has raised over a million dollars for India's COVID relief fund, thanks to 650 generous donors. Two of the youngest donors are 16-year-olds from School Of The Arts (SOTA) Singapore, **Kavya Zutshi and Sanjana Lakshmi**. A reasonable sum of money was contributed by them through their own fundraising campaign.

In order to learn more about what motivates young changemakers, we spoke with them briefly.

**SICCI:** How would you have liked your donated funds to be spent?

**Sanjana:** We set out with this project with the intention of raising money for various organizations and care centres in India while battling this disease, and of course supporting the patients who are suffering from it. Singapore is different from India in several important respects, including the fact that India has almost 1.4 billion people, and that the impact of the virus has been detrimental to Indian citizens and their daily lives.

**Kavya:** We also greatly appreciate the work that SICCI has done in organizing the funds and relief as this has helped young change-makers like us to help disadvantaged people outside of our immediate community. As a result, we know our SICCI donations, no matter how small, could make a tremendous difference in helping appropriate care centres and hospitals in India, thereby helping the community better face the pandemic.

**Sanjana:** And in the light of all of this we actually don't have any specific requirements as to how our funds should be used, but we do hope that these donations can go a long way and help the people in India whether this means purchasing crucial infrastructure and items such as oxygen, masks, vaccinations, whatever it is - just to help the people.

**SICCI:** What would you like to say to the beneficiaries of your donations?

**Kavya:** I really want to say that in these difficult times, especially, we hope that you can take care of yourself and your family whenever the opportunity arises. Do get vaccinated, since we can all act together as a global community to combat this virus. We know that the pandemic and lockdowns caused by it have adversely affected everyone.

**Sanjana:** I would like to remind all of you that your mental and physical well-being does come first, and it is of the utmost importance, so you ought to take care of yourself, especially if you have children. Eat healthily, rest, and just stay safe.

**SICCI:** What are you passionate about? Do you have any hobbies?

**Sanjana:** As both of us are from the School of The Arts (SOTA) Singapore, we have a passion for theatre, and we have been developing our skills over the past few years and have put a lot of effort into honing these skills. I believe that makes our passion even more enjoyable. Kavya also really likes cycling, and sometimes she drags me along while she cycles. Boxing is something I've enjoyed for years, and it started out as a way to protect myself, but I found it to be a good outlet for releasing stress.

**SICCI:** Have you done such donations or fundraisers before?

**Kavya:** One thing we did that has lasted both last year and this year is Project Pluto, where we went to Singapore's many low socioeconomic status society centres to help build the confidence of children. My team and I created booklets for them,



Sanjana Lakshmi & Kavya Zutshi



<https://www.instagram.com/heartcore.2021/>

and we hosted workshops with them. We produced videos as well. We could just go there to see what we can do to help them feel more empowered and to believe in themselves. Our project was aimed at achieving that goal.

**SICCI:** Is there anything you would like to say to the people - mainly in Singapore - who will be reading this interview?

**Kavya:** During this time, we would like to encourage everyone reading to stay safe and care for themselves. Our community understands pandemic fatigue very well and all of us are experiencing it right now, but if we work together to combat this virus I'm sure we can overcome any obstacles thrown our way. There is a lot of work to be done in our society, so we can't take whatever progress Singapore has made at this point for granted. It is also very important to remember that we are in a very privileged position and not everyone can enjoy the same luxuries as we can - especially during times like this. There are so many crises unfolding in the world that we should not just be sitting back and watching them unfold. We have technology at our fingertips, kids are still at school, and everyone is working. No matter how small the action is, we would like to encourage everyone to get involved in causes that are meaningful to them.

**Sanjana:** I think it's not just us raising money and raising awareness and all the rest of that, but it's also coming together as a community to support a cause that's meaningful and raising awareness about these issues. We have an Instagram account, and you can follow it for future updates and news about fundraisers. It's @heartcore.2021.

Let's support Kavya and Sanjana in their philanthropic journey.

# SICCI EOGM 2021



SICCI's EOGM was held on the 27th of August at 3.00 p.m. with 52 members in attendance. During the meeting, the general body adopted the results of its vote on proposed amendments to the SICCI constitution. Nearly 40 per cent of the Ordinary Corporate and Individual members voted on the 134 articles that were new or proposed for amendment. Dr T. Channdroo, SICCI Chairman, noted that much of the SICCI constitution was borrowed from that of the older Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) instituted in 1837.

The members of the scrutinizing committee were Mr Lawrence Pek of the Singapore Manufacturing Federation, Mr Subra M. Suppiah of Subra TT Law LLC, and Mr Thanendran Davendran of Republic Polytechnic. On the previous day, the scrutinizing committee diligently verified the integrity of the vote, that the balloting process was conducted appropriately, and that the results of the ballot were compiled in their presence after thorough verification.

Mr Lawrence then announced the detailed breakdown of the votes.

- Total eligible voters: 450
- Total number voted: 185
- Disqualified votes: 1

And the results:

- Voting option 1 (approve all changes): 138 votes, 75% of the total votes cast
- Voting option 2 (Disapprove of all changes): 5 votes, 2.72% of total votes cast
- Voting option 3 (Approve with reservations): 41 votes, 22.28% of total votes

Voters who voted for Option 1 and those who did not specify any reservation for article 24(3) totalled 144, they were given 3 alternatives and the results:

- Resolution A (Chairman & Vice-Chairmen to be Singapore citizens, Treasurer can be Singapore citizen or PR): 5 votes, 3.47% of votes cast
- Resolution B (Chairman to be Singapore Citizen, Vice-Chairmen and Treasurer to be Singapore Citizen or PR): 15 votes, 10.42% of votes cast
- Resolution C (All office bearers to be Singapore Citizens): 124 votes, 86.11% of votes cast

Mr Lawrence stated that the results were final and conclusive of the will of 75% of the 184 voters, and invited the other 2 scrutineers to make any comments if they wished to. Mr Subra confirmed the results of the vote, and Mr Thanendran reassured the membership that the committee had looked through the vote strictly and found no errors.

The Chairman invited 2 members from the floor to propose and second the amendments. Mr. George Abraham proposed, and Mr. Mohamed Mustafa Shahul Hamid seconded the amendments; with that, the amendments were made official.

[Watch the full EOGM here](#)



## Singapore, India forged closer ties despite COVID-19: President Halimah

The Economic Times published an article on 15 August 2021 mentioning SICCI President, Dr T Chandroo who led the business community in Singapore in congratulating India on its 75th year of Independence.

**"Chairman of Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry T Chandroo led the Singapore business community in congratulating India on its 75 Independence Day."**

**"The Board and Staff of SICCI would like to wish all Indians a Happy Independence Day," said Chandroo."**

Excerpt from The Economic Times  
[Click here to read the full article](#)

## Singapore MP Vikram Nair urges Indian community to play role in building cohesive society

The New Indian Express published a news article on August 7, 2021, following SICCI's National Day Observance Ceremony with MP Vikram Nair and leaders from other Indian Organizations in Singapore. The article mentions SICCI Chairman, Dr T Chandroo, who stated that SICCI is committed to helping businesses in Singapore soar to greater heights and internationalize.

"SICCI Chairman Dr T Chandroo assured, "SICCI is committed to helping businesses in Singapore soar to greater heights and internationalise. As we mark our 56th National Day, the Chamber will continue to improve its efforts in serving the business community with diligence and dedication."

"Improving is a never-ending journey, just as the work of nation-building can never be considered complete. We thank our leaders and all Singaporeans who have made Singapore what it is today. SICCI hopes to work with other Indian organisations in Singapore to help build socio-economic equity in the community and society at large," he added."

Excerpt from The New Indian Express  
[Click here to read the full article](#)

## Oli 96.8 FM's interview with TamilwithLove and Niranjana Kumararaj, Business Advisor, SME Centre@Little India

Tamilwithlove, a Singapore education resource company started its business to meet the demand abroad. It was recently featured in SME Centre@Little India's Instagram account. Owner Ms. Deepa shared that she started the business in 2018 while attempting to teach her son who was then in Primary 1. She immediately realised the appeal of her products, with teachers reaching out to her on the very next day sharing the need for such products. She shared that her products are currently available in a few countries such as Australia. Her flash cards are also being used in schools in Switzerland as teaching aides.

Niranjana Kumararaj, Business Advisor, SME Centre@Little India added that ESG provides many resources for companies to confidently expand their businesses abroad. He shared currently many businesses are struggling due to Covid. While facing operational challenges, overseas expansion becomes secondary option to these business owners. To overcome these reluctance, business owners need to seek relevant information. They could get support through ESG and seek an advisory with Business Advisors at the SME Centres to understand the opportunities in the markets they might be keen to expand into. The Business Advisors also utilise toolkits that will help the businesses identify what they need to have in place to expand successfully.

Click on the links below to read about TamilwithLove on SME Centre@Little India's Instagram page:

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

[Part 3](#)

## Useful Links

**Innovation story: COVID-19 breath test gets provisional authorisation in Singapore, to undergo trial at land checkpoint**

Source: [Linkedln](#)

Source: [Facebook](#)

**Enhanced support for affected businesses under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS)**

Source: [Linkedln](#)

Source: [Facebook](#)

**New road maps to help marine and offshore engineering SMEs and staff go digital**

Source: [Linkedln](#)

Source: [Facebook](#)

**Food manufacturers rise to the digital challenge**

Source: [Linkedln](#)

Source: [Facebook](#)

## Tata Communications to continue developing digital solutions

Global markets are open, says Lakshminarayanan

Tata Communications Ltd. will continue investing in developing innovative digital ecosystem solutions based on customers' needs as global markets see a green shot of demand recovery, said A S Lakshminarayanan, Managing Director and CEO, Tata Communications.

He told investors that the demand for our live sports launches on the Media Edge Cloud and IOTM Financial Cloud is evidence of the right direction the company is heading.

Despite the challenges associated with COVID-19's second wave, Lakshminarayanan boasted in a release on 5 Aug 2021 that the company has delivered a robust performance. "The global markets are slowly opening up and we are witnessing green shoots of demand recovery." Commenting on the results, Kabir Ahmed Shakir, Chief Financial Officer, Tata Communications, said, "Our focus on growth and profitability continues to deliver results. A healthy profit and free cash flow are empowering us to innovate and accelerate growth while

streamlining processes and bringing in further efficiencies. We are well-poised to enable enterprises to make the shift with digitalisation playing a pivotal role enabling businesses to derive positive growth." The company's revenue came in at Rs. 4,103 crore (US\$556 million), an increase of +0.7% Quarter-on-Quarter (QoQ), and a decline of 6.8% Year-on-Year (YoY). As a result of reduced voice business and moderated collaboration traffic in the Data segment, this YoY contraction is overwhelmingly due to reductions in VoIP business.

The EBITDA for the quarter was Rs.986 crore (US\$134 million), a reduction of 5.3% year on year. Provisions of Rs.33 crore on account of license fees on revenue from pure internet services have lower EBITDA in this quarter compared to the definition of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) earlier.

Consolidated Profit After Tax (PAT) is at Rs.296 crore (US\$40 million) for Q1 FY22 as compared to a profit of Rs.258 crore in Q1 FY21, registering a growth of 14.9% YoY. CAPEX for this quarter grew to Rs.381 crore as compared to Rs.372 crore in Q1 FY21.

## Tenders: update on Mega Corridor projects

Project Monitoring Consultant appointed for Krishnapatnam-Tumakuru node

According to Som Parkash, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, the integrated Multi-Modal Logistics Hub (MMLH) known as Freight Village at Nangal Chaudhary in Haryana has been initiated, under DMIC project development activities related to external connectivity. Furthermore, a Project Monitoring Consultant has been appointed by the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the Krishnapatnam and Tumakuru nodes, and 1,814 acres of land have been transferred to the SPV. At Greater Noida, land has already been acquired for the Multi-Modal Logistics Hub (MMLH) & Multi-Modal Transport Hub (MMTH).

## CCI approves acquisition of ANI shares by Singapore-New York investors

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of shares by Singapore's MacRitchie Investments Pte Ltd and Fort Canning Investments Pte Ltd in ANI Technologies Singapore's MacRitchie Investments Pte Ltd offers taxi and auto-rickshaw aggregation services under the brand name Ola through its platform. ANI has also been approved by the CCI for voting rights for Bhavish Aggarwal, who is also involved in the production and sale of food and digital payments through its subsidiaries. Bhavish is the Executive Director of ANI. Singapore-based Temasek Group is an investor in MacRitchie, while Singapore-based investment holding company Fort Canning owns MacRitchie. ANI's shares were also approved by the CCI. Among the shareholders of

Plum Wood are Warburg Pincus LLC (Warburg Pincus). Warburg Pincus is headquartered in New York, United States. It acts as a manager to certain private equity funds.

## Tenders: NTPC floats EoI for Pilot Hydrogen Plant

Dedicated 1.25 MW solar plant is also being set up at Leh

As part of the EoI, NTPC REL floated tenders for a hydrogen fuelling station in Leh and for the procurement of fuel cell buses from NTPC VidyutVyapar Nigam Limited (NVVN). A dedicated 1.25 MW Solar plant is also being set up at Leh by NTPC REL to power the hydrogen fuelling station, the Ministry of Power said on 14 Aug 2021.

India's first hydrogen blending with the natural gas pilot project will explore the feasibility of decarbonizing India's natural gas grid with hydrogen. Hydrogen is an important part of India's future economy, and NTPC would like to play a major part in this change. This will also demonstrate the government's AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan initiative's decarbonization objective and import substitution.

A major objective of NTPC is also to decarbonize the fertilizer industry by producing green ammonia whilst meeting the government's upcoming mandate to use hydrogen in fertilizers and refineries. According to the Ministry, a detailed study on the production of green methanol at Ramagundam will be completed soon, following which the company will take a final investment decision.

## India serious on UK-EU FTAs but sees RCEP as conditionally weak

### Incumbent on Indians to address the world's expectations, says Goyal

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) between India and the United Kingdom and the European Union are very seriously pursued, but reservations remain regarding RCEP due to weak origin rules. In the Plenary Session on "Shaping a New India for Global Role" of the CII Annual Meeting 2021, Dr S Jaishankar said that many economies are not transparent market economies. Using the words of EU President Ursula Von Trayer that "liberalized trade should not be at the cost of fair trade," Dr. Jaishankar added, "We must ensure that MSMEs' interests are protected in the domestic market (under the Free Trade Agreement regime)." Industrialists, market stakeholders, and industry stalwarts attended the virtual meeting on 11-12 August 2021.

Indian Minister of Commerce and Industries Piyush Goyal sees India as an important trading nation that can play a larger role in terms of global supply chains and corporate markets. In that regard, "it is incumbent upon all of us that we address what is desired from us", he said at the Plenary Session on "Synergy Between Government and Businesses for Sustainable Growth" on 12 August 2021. "The mantra of Reform, Perform and Transform has been the Government's guiding light and has been inculcated in every action of the government," said Goyal. A genuine single window system will soon be launched by the government in partnership with the industry, he told CII delegates of industry captains, stalwarts and stakeholders. Highlighting the role played being by CII, the Minister said, "CII has been the bridge between the government and so many other stakeholders- industry, services, civil society and even common man".

Goyal urged CII for ideas, imaginations, inspirations, which the country is looking for and with industry partners, India@75 can be a hub of the future and ideas. He coined a new term IDEAS – where I stands for investment; D stands for demand which India has to offer; E for exports and employment generation; A for aspirations of 1.3 billion population for better future; and S for startups. "As India and Indians look at the world as a global workplace, international mobility and migration becomes very important,"

Dr S Jaishankar pointed out, assuring, "It is one of my top priorities to ensure that Indians travelling abroad face least possible restrictions with regards to the type of vaccination they have received." As the Minister pointed out, vaccination certificates rather than the type of vaccine received should be the criterion for enabling overseas travel, and that India has taken up this issue bilaterally with multiple nations. India was decisive and effective during the pandemic, providing essential food, medicines, equipment, and vaccine to various countries, highlighting India's leadership role during the pandemic. Many smaller countries received vaccines from India who otherwise would not have been able to obtain them. "For this, countries across the globe appreciated our efforts and reciprocated when India faced the crisis during the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic," said Dr Jaishankar.

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## Power Minister updates US businesses on renewable energy programme

### Singh reiterates commitment to further US-India goals on climate change

Minister R K Singh has told more than 50 US-India business leaders that India is on track to achieve the set renewable energy target of 450 GW by 2030 and that electricity distribution reforms and open access to the electricity grid will boost the use of renewable energy. India's achievements in Renewable Energy, Energy Access, Energy Efficiency, reduction of emissions intensity, and the plans of the Government to promote manufacturing and exports from India included the PLI scheme for manufacturing solar cells, modules, and batteries, and the promotion of Green Hydrogen.

In a virtual meeting held under the US India Business Council on 14 August 2021, Singh welcomed suggestions and ideas for promoting the sector to meet India's ambitious target of 450 GW. He reiterated his commitment to advancing the US and India's shared goals on climate change, clean energy, and sustainability, as well as the India-US Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership.

Business people were able to interact with the Union Minister on various aspects of India's renewable energy and power sector and the associated opportunities available to global investors. Singh was congratulated by the leaders of the business community for having installed 100 GW of renewable energy capacity.

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## Featuring Profiles of SICCI Members



**Red Vista**  
**SINGAPORE**

Ordinary Corporate

**Mr. Mohamed Faizal**  
**Founder, Red Vista Singapore Pte. Ltd.**

Founded in 2019 by Mr. Mohamed Faizal, an entrepreneur with a diploma in hotel management from The New College in Madras, Red Vista is a start-up company that provides IT, application, and software services to SMEs in Singapore.

Having gained experience in sales, marketing, and the software industry, Mr. Faizal decided to venture into the IT field with big dreams. In the next 5 years, he hopes to transform Red Vista into a leading firm in the SaaS industry here. The company already does Web Design, Ecommerce, Mobile application development, CMS Development, Web App development, SEO, IT support and Application Optimization.

Red Vista understands that a website is no longer just used for marketing, but is a business tool as well. Websites have functionality from communication to commerce and CRM. Off-the-shelf tools may be customized to some extent, but that takes a lot of effort, is expensive, and does not always work. This is where Red Vista steps in to provide a customized ground-up solution. At their disposal are tools such as PHP and MySQL, which enables them to develop robust, business solutions tailored to the needs of their customers.



Ordinary Corporate

**Mr. Jeyasingh Navaneethan**  
**Director, Cutech Infocomm Solutions Pte. Ltd.**

Cutech Infocomm Solutions Pte Ltd is a Singapore based local company established in the year 2017 and provides niche solutions based on GIS, GPS and mobile platforms to the industry. This is a spin-off company from Cutech Solutions & Services, which has served the industry for nearly two decades in Singapore.

Cutech Infocomm provides niche software solutions such as cuteTrac fleet management system, cuteOffice ERP system (HRM, Procurement, Sales, Finance, Operations), cuteQM for Quality Management software to fabricators and modern e-commerce platform for many B2C companies.

Cutech also provides customized software development services to many clients. Cutech has developed many commercial mobile applications and published them in the Play Store and App Store for clients. Cutech has built many cloud-hosted solutions to clients including many government organisations.

Our USP is, in-depth technical and domain expertise along with customisation abilities to suit the client requirements. Cutech adopts advanced technology and complies with strict processes while building the solutions in high-quality manner. With dedicated support and a technical team, we provide best in class after-sales services.

The Cutech group is founded and guided by Charman Mr N Arunachalam and Managing Director Mr G Mathivanan. Mr J Navaneethan, Director, IT is operating the Infocomm business. He graduated from Guindy Engineering College in Chennai and obtained a masters degree from Curtin University Australia. With experience in various multinational organisations, the team has built many intuitive products used by many clients.

## Featuring Profiles of SICCI Members



Ordinary Corporate

**Mr. Rohit Bhageria**  
Founding team member  
at Volopay.Co Pte. Ltd.

Rohit is one of the founding team members at Volopay and in-charge of finance, risk, partnerships and business strategy for APAC & MENA region. He has 13 years of diversified experience including corporate & investment banking with leading banks like MUFG Bank & HDFC Bank and early-to-growth financial technology companies in Asia Pacific, North America and Middle East.

Volopay was started in 2019 and is a Y Combinator & Tinder backed financial technology company that has operations in Singapore, Australia and is expanding fast in other Southeast Asian countries. It helps combine business accounts, corporate cards, credit, money transfers, expense reporting, out-of-pocket reimbursements and accounting automation all-in-one to help companies manage their finances effectively. In another word, it is a powerful payable management software with embedded business banking for modern and growing businesses which help companies to save time and money.



Ordinary Individual

**Mr. Shafiq, founder of  
multiple businesses.**

Shafiq is an entrepreneur who has founded multiple businesses in a diverse range of industries. He is the founder of Meka 3D Printing Pte Ltd (mēkā), Bridge71 Pte Ltd and E and F Motors Pte Ltd. With mēkā, he leads a team of designers and engineers to invent new products that improve the human condition. The company provides a range of services from design and prototyping to manufacturing and counts startups, major corporations and government institutions as clients.

With Bridge71, the team helps international businesses identify and pursue opportunities in the fast-growing Bangladeshi market. With E and F Motors, his team aims to provide an easy and convenient way for people to buy and sell cars in Singapore. His team is working on an automated platform for vehicle-related purchases, sales, loans and insurance.

He believes that everything is 'figureoutable' thus enabling him to push boundaries and chase opportunities in multiple fields. He is a curious risk-taker who is at his best in ambiguous situations where he has a hand in shaping outcomes. Over the next few years, Shafiq hopes to expand the businesses into various overseas markets and chase more opportunities. Shafiq keeps calm by running or meditating, sometimes by the beach and sometimes in his own head.

**Apply for SICCI Membership now!**

<https://sicci.glueup.com/register/account>

For more information, please contact Ms. Gowri at :  
Phone : +65 6222 2855 (Ext 2003) HP : + 65 96541346  
Email : [gowri.pillai@sicci.com](mailto:gowri.pillai@sicci.com)



# SICCI Welcomes its New Members for July 2021

## Ordinary Corporate

Cutech Infocomm Solutions Pte Ltd  
RB Capital Pte Ltd  
Royal Holdings Organisation Pte Ltd  
Vetsupp Lifesciences Pte Ltd  
Volopay.co Pte Ltd  
Centia Pte Ltd  
Worldwide Portfolio Pte Ltd  
SSA18 Capital Pte Ltd  
Sudima International Pte Ltd

## Ordinary Individual

Mr. Muraleedharan Manesh  
Mr. Srihari Gurunadh Baba Sikhakollu

## Associate Corporate

ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte Ltd  
IFFCO Singapore Pte Ltd  
UIL (Singapore) Pte Ltd  
Wilmar Trading Pte Ltd

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The ultimate mobile hub for your events and membership experience.

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<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eventbank.android.attendee>

## CONTACT US

For productivity solutions and digital transformation

<https://www.smecentre-sicci.sg/>



**SME  
CENTRE  
@SICCI**





# Embrace the New Normal Trade Exhibition



## SMF SUPPORTING TRADE FAIRS PHYSICAL/VIRTUAL/HYBRID 2021 & 2022

Trade Fair Name	Date	Location	Trade Fair Format	Point of contact
<a href="#">FHA Match – Drinks</a>	15 – 16 Sep 2021	-	Virtual	Connie Yong <a href="mailto:connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg">connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3085
<a href="#">OS+H Asia 2021</a>	29 – 01 Oct 2021	Singapore	Hybrid	
<a href="#">FHA Match – Fine Food</a>	27 – 28 Oct 2021	-	Virtual	
<a href="#">Cosmobeauté Malaysia 2021</a>	01 - 04 Oct 2021	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Hybrid	
<a href="#">Cosmobeauté Vietnam 2021</a>	21 – 23 Oct 2021	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Hybrid	Michelle Zheng <a href="mailto:michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg">michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3019
<a href="#">MetalTech Malaysia 2021</a>	13 -16 Oct 2021	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Hybrid	
<a href="#">Defense &amp; Security 2021</a>	01 – 04 Nov 2021	Bangkok, Thailand	Physical	
<a href="#">Food and Hotel Vietnam 2021</a>	10 – 12 Nov 2021	Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam	Hybrid	
<a href="#">Beauty Space 2021</a>	29 – 02 Dec 2021	-	Virtual	Connie Yong <a href="mailto:connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg">connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3085
<a href="#">Medical Fair Thailand 2022</a>	09 – 11 Feb 2022	Bangkok, Thailand	Hybrid	
<a href="#">FHA – Food and Beverages 2022</a> (inclusive of Halal Pavilion)	28 – 31 Mar 2022	Singapore	Physical	
<a href="#">FoodTech</a> (under FHA 2022)	28 – 31 Mar 2022	Singapore	Physical	
<a href="#">BuildTech Asia 2022</a>	15 – 17 Mar 2022	Singapore	Hybrid	Michelle Zheng <a href="mailto:michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg">michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3019
<a href="#">Semicon China 2022</a>	23 – 25 Mar 2022	Shanghai, China	Physical	Katherine Heng <a href="mailto:katherineheng@smfederation.org.sg">katherineheng@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3031
<a href="#">Foodservice &amp; Hospitality Equipment</a>	10 – 13 May 2022	Singapore	Physical	Connie Yong <a href="mailto:connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg">connie.yong@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3085
<a href="#">ProWine Asia</a>	10 – 13 May 2022	Singapore	Physical	
<a href="#">Speciality Coffee &amp; Tea</a>	10 – 13 May 2022	Singapore	Physical	
<a href="#">CamFood 2022</a>	07 – 09 Oct 2022	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Physical	
<a href="#">Cosmobeauté Indonesia 2022</a>	27 – 29 Oct 2022	Jakarta, Indonesia	Hybrid	Michelle Zheng <a href="mailto:michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg">michellezheng@smfederation.org.sg</a> 6826 3019
<a href="#">Indo Defence 2022 Expo &amp; Forum</a>	02 – 05 Nov 2022	Jakarta, Indonesia	Physical	

### Get up to 70% grant support\*

Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF) aims to help Singapore-registered companies to expand their businesses through trade shows in Asia under the LEAD IFM supported by Enterprise Singapore.

Companies participating in LEAD IFM approved activities will receive support of up to 70% of eligible expenses.

\* Subject to ESG approval



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