

Publication	Date	Region
Financial Chronicle	January 09, 2011	New Delhi

Canada to enter Indian auto parts market via Ceps

Fourth round of talks in February, agreement likely by 2013

YOGIMA SETH SHARMA
 New Delhi

CANADA proposes to drive into Indian auto component market through the comprehensive economic partnership agreement (Cepa) now being negotiated between the two governments, says Stewart G Beck, Canada's high commissioner to India.

"We are looking at tariff reductions across sectors but the focus is to get maximum access to the Indian auto component industry where tariffs continue to be high. India, on its part, is looking at services sector as well as labour mobility to Canada under this agreement, which will be mutually beneficial to both the countries as we compliment each other," Beck told *Financial Chronicle*.

According to Beck, the fourth round of negotiations between the two countries will be held in February in New Delhi and the agreement is likely to be concluded by 2013. The effective import duty on auto components in India, as of now, stands at 7.5 per cent and Canada, which has free trade of components within North



MOVE AHEAD: Bilateral trade between India and Canada stood at \$4.5b in 2010 and this is expected to go up to \$15b by 2015

American continent, finds it "very high" by all standards.

Of late, auto component industry in India has emerged as a lucrative business proposition for players across the globe primarily for two reasons. Firstly, India being the highly low-penetrated market for cars, the demand for automobiles is likely to go up by three fold by 2020 from three million vehicles now to nine million vehicles. Secondly, all global auto majors are now setting

up bases here and if the duty on auto components is slashed it will help component manufacturers in Canada, who are facing severe dip in demand back home.

"Indian companies are making inroads into Canada in the services sector but there is tremendous scope for auto components that fall in the small and medium enterprises' category. Hence we are now focusing on the SME sector like hospitality,

media and food processing to enhance bilateral trade between the two countries," says Satish Thakkar, president of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce.

India and Canada started talks on Cepa after prime minister Manmohan Singh met his Canadian counterpart Stephen Harper in the G20 summit in South Korea in 2010.

The preliminary joint feasibility study had pointed that an agreement could increase economic output in each country by approximately \$6 billion a year and increase two-way trade by 50 per cent. The current bilateral trade between India and Canada stood at \$4.5 billion in 2010 and this is expected to go up three fold to \$15 billion by 2015.

Of late, India has become aggressive on bilateral agreements encompassing goods, services and investments between the two nations. India already has bilateral agreements with Singapore, South Korea, ASEAN, Japan and Malaysia while negotiations are on with EU, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

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Publication	Date	Region
http://www.punjabnewslines.com	January 06, 2011	National

Direct linkages to boost business of Indian and Canadian companies

Punjab Newslines Network Friday, 06 January 2012

NEW DELHI: In order to strengthen business relations between India and Canada, the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, a Round Table was held here. The purpose was to establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies to boost business between the two countries.

Welcoming all the Canadian guest and delegates the Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Virbhadr Singh said, "it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable. I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs. We should indeed take a leaf out of the Canadian tradition of strong government-Industry interface. He urged the delegates to avail the benefits of the opportunities that this interaction provides".

The Minister further added, "I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India's robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis. The Sector consisting of 26.1 million units, as of today, provides employment to over 60 million persons. The Sector through more than 6,000 products contributes about 8% to GDP besides 45% to the total manufacturing output and 40% to the exports from the country.

The Sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment. The Sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th Five Year Plan Period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9% during the Plan. The Government has been providing support and sustenance to the Sector through a plethora of programmes and policies. I would also like to inform the foreign delegates about the robust and efficient legal institutional framework. Further, India is perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector. Therefore, investment in the sector is quite secure and has the protection of a well defined act".

Virbhadra also said, “the ministry has taken several initiatives to promote the growth and development of MSMEs in India. A recently initiated program that would be of interest to you is the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) which aims to develop global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs. The Programme envisages substantial investment towards enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector.

All the 10 components of NMCP have already been operationalised and are likely to spur innovation and growth in the MSME sector. These include Quality Management Systems and Quality Technology Tools, Design Clinic Scheme, Building Awareness on IPRs, Support for Entrepreneurial and Managerial Development, Marketing Support/Assistance to MSMEs, Setting up of New Mini Tool Room and Lean Manufacturing Competitiveness Scheme. What will be of more interest to you is that the Programme will be implemented through Public-Private-Partnership mode with close physical and financial participation of the private sector. I invite our Canadian friends to participate in this programme”.

Applauding the international cooperation the Minister said, “one of the principal drivers of India’s economic growth has been the services sector which predominantly comprises of MSMEs. I am told that the services sector is Canada’s largest and fastest growing economic component. The combined strengths of Canada’s and India’s respective services sectors largely complement each other with opportunities existing for further trade and investment especially in financial services and knowledge-based services. Canadian firms can collaborate with those in India in order to harness each others’ strengths in developing innovative products and services”.

“MSMEs play an important role in Indian manufacturing sector. In the current competitive scenario technology upgradation is the only way to improve the quality and cost competitiveness of MSMEs. It is, therefore, imperative for them to imbibe technology to stay competitive and become global. Several Indian MSMEs have indeed started implementing various technologies aimed at improving efficiency and productivity of their operations. The MSMEs in India are looking to exploit such opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups. Segments such as machine tools, pharmaceuticals, medical equipments, textile machinery, mining equipments, auto components etc. provide excellent opportunities for such collaborations and tie-ups”.

The MSME sector is a unique area for collaboration between Canada and India, the Minister said, “it is extremely heartening to see the interest of Canadian Industry in Indian MSMEs. Let us work hand-in-hand to intensify bilateral cooperation and encourage our small enterprises to prosper and flourish through greater mutual cooperation”.

Present on the occasion were Stewart Beck, High Commissioner of Canada to India Canadian High Commission, Satish Thakkar, President, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce, Nicolas Banerjee-Brodeur, Heads Contracts & Legal Affairs, Bombardier Transportation & Jawed Ashraf, Joint Secretary, MEA.
(Naresh K. Sharma)

Publication	Date	Region
http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx	January 06, 2011	National

Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises addresses “India - Canada Partnership: the Way Forward”

Combined Strengths of India’s and Canada’s Services Sectors Complement each other

Canadian Firms can Collaborate with those in India in Order to Harness each others’ Strengths in Developing Innovative Products and Services

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The Minister further added, “I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India’s robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis. The Sector consisting of 26.1 million units, as of today, provides employment to over 60 million persons. The Sector through more than 6,000 products contributes about 8% to GDP besides 45% to the total manufacturing output and 40% to the exports from the country. The Sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment. The Sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th Five Year Plan Period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9% during the Plan. The Government has been providing support and sustenance to the Sector through a plethora of programmes and policies. I would also like to inform the foreign delegates about the robust and efficient legal institutional framework. Further, India is perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector. Therefore, investment in the sector is quite secure and has the protection of a well defined act”.

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http://www.thetop.in	January 06, 2011	National

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Publication	Date	Region
http://news.franchiseindia.com	January 07, 2011	National

Indo-Canada trade on the rise

Last updated: January 07, 2012 17:23 IST



The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) has come together with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and India-Canada Business Chamber (ICBC) to strengthen business relations between India and Canada. This comes after India trade mission, which is the largest ever trade delegation of Canadian Small Medium Enterprise (SME) sector companies going to India. For this, the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) has joined hands with the Town of Markham to lead the largest ever delegation of Canadian companies to India comprising companies from diverse sectors. Trade represents 60 per cent of the Canadian economy, and recognising the importance of the Indian market in Canada, ICCC started their business mission to India this month.

Present on the occasion was Virbhadra Singh, Minister, MSME, Govt of India and Canadian High Commissioner, Stewart Beck. Satish Thakkar, President-ICCC, said, "The ICCC and Town of Markham are committed to enhance bilateral trade between Canada and India to reach the targeted \$ 15 billion per year in the next five years." At present, two-way trade between the two countries is around \$ 5 billion annually.

Publication	Date	Region
http://news.in.msn.com	January 09, 2011	National

09/01/2012

Raj govt officials discuss investment options with delegation

Jaipur, Dec 8 (PTI) Representatives of Rajasthan government today discussed with a Canadian delegation investment options in different sectors of the state.

During an interactive session with the Indian diaspora on the sidelines of the 10th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas here, senior officials briefed them of possibilities of tie-ups in sectors like girls' education, technical education and IT among others.

Veenu Gupta (Principal Secretary, School and Sanskrit Education), Vipin Chandra Sharma (Principal Secretary, Technical Education), Ashwini (Director Rajcomp) and representatives of Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) and FICCI interacted with the delegation.

The president of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), Satish Thakkar also invited industrialists and businessmen of the state to Canada for investment opportunities.

Mayor of Markham town, Frank Scarpitti said the chamber and the administration of the town were committed to promoting Markham as a globally competitive business destination. PTI SDA

Publication	Date	Region
http://www.smetimes.in	January 07, 2011	National



Strengthen the MSME sector: Virbhadr Singh

Saurabh Gupta | 07 Jan, 2012

Emphasizing on the importance of strengthening the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in and outside the nation, the Union Minister of MSME, Virbhadr Singh Friday said that the government has been providing support and sustenance to the sector through a plethora of programmes and policies.

The minister Friday addressed the two different meets in the national capital.

Meeting the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, Singh said, "it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable. I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs."

"We should indeed take a leaf out of the Canadian tradition of strong government-Industry interface," he urged.

"Indian MSMEs are looking to explore opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups," Singh said.

Segments such as machine tools, pharmaceuticals, textile machinery, auto components, medical and mining equipment provide excellent opportunities for such collaborations and tie-ups, he added

In another meet, the MSME minister said that his ministry is actively promoting development of small units in the northeastern region.



Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Virbhadr Singh addressing the "7th North-East Business Summit", in New Delhi on Jan 06.

Stating "the region is bestowed with rich natural and human resources", Singh said, "There is a need to channelize the vast resources for the overall growth and development of the area."

Expressing hope that entrepreneurs would explore business opportunities in the northeastern region, Minister for Development of Northeast Region Paban Singh Ghatowar Friday said the government was committed to the development of the area.

"The central government is committed to the development of the region," said Ghatowar at the 7th North East Business Summit in New Delhi.

While, Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram said though most of the states in the region were conflict free, it is the responsibility of the local governments to ensure a business friendly environment.

Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi said the region is suffering as it lags behind in infrastructure.

"We need better infrastructure," he said.

He said developing agriculture and agro-processing industry was required in Assam to provide jobs and inclusive growth.

Gogoi further said an indicator of development and the improved law and order situation in the state was the rising prices of land.

"Around 12 insurgent groups are coming to the negotiating table," he said.

Claiming the Assam tea brand was still the best in the country, he said quality of the tea leaves needs to be improved to do well in the markets abroad.

Meghalaya Chief minister Mukul Sangma said his state was a consumer state and had a lot of potential of trade with Bangladesh, with which it shares over 400 km border.

"Meghalaya can be developed as a very good tourist destination and a trade point with Bangladesh," he said.

Publication	Date	Region
http://www.mydigitalfc.com	January 08, 2011	National

Canada to enter Indian auto parts market via Ceta

By Yogima Seth Sharma Jan 08 2012 , New Delhi

Fourth round of talks in February, agreement likely by 2013

Canada proposes to drive into Indian auto component market through the comprehensive economic partnership agreement (Ceta) now being negotiated between the two governments, says Stewart G Beck, Canada's high commissioner to India.

"We are looking at tariff reductions across sectors but the focus is to get maximum access to the Indian auto component industry where tariffs continue to be high. India, on its part, is looking at services sector as well as labour mobility to Canada under this agreement, which will be mutually beneficial to both the countries as we compliment each other," Beck told Financial Chronicle.

According to Beck, the fourth round of negotiations between the two countries will be held in February in New Delhi and the agreement is likely to be concluded by 2013. The effective import duty on auto components in India, as of now, stands at 7.5 per cent and Canada, which has free trade of components within North American continent, finds it "very high" by all standards.

Of late, auto component industry in India has emerged as a lucrative business proposition for players across the globe primarily for two reasons. Firstly, India being the highly low-penetrated market for cars, the demand for automobiles is likely to go up by three fold by 2020 from three million vehicles now to nine million vehicles. Secondly, all global auto majors are now setting up bases here and if the duty on auto components is slashed it will help component manufacturers in Canada, who are facing severe dip in demand back home.

"Indian companies are making inroads into Canada in the services sector but there is tremendous scope for auto components that fall in the small and medium enterprises' category. Hence we are now focusing on the SME sector like hospitality, media and food processing to enhance bilateral trade between the two countries," says Satish Thakkar, president of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce.



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India and Canada started talks on Ceta after prime minister Manmohan Singh met his Canadian counterpart Stephen Harper in the G20 summit in South Korea in 2010.

The preliminary joint feasibility study had pointed that an agreement could increase economic output in each country by approximately \$6 billion a year and increase two-way trade by 50 per cent. The current bilateral trade between India and Canada stood at \$4.5 billion in 2010 and this is expected to go up three fold to \$15 billion by 2015.

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Publication	Date	Region
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com	January 06, 2011	National

Scope for tie-ups between Indian MSMEs, Canadian cos: MSME Minister Virbhadra Singh

PTI Jan 6, 2012, 10.51PM IST

NEW DELHI: Indian and Canadian companies can collaborate and form joint ventures in various areas including finance, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and services, MSME Minister Virbhadra Singh said today.

"MSMEs in India are looking to exploit opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups," Singh said.

Publication	Date	Region
http://www.domain-b.com	January 07, 2011	National

Minister pushes to boost MSME participation during Indo- Canada business round table news

07 January 2012

The micro, small and medium enterprises sector had emerged as an engine of growth, having contributed 8 per cent to GDP besides 45 per cent to the total manufacturing output and 40 per cent to the exports from India.

Speaking at the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce, CII and India-Canada Business Chamber, round table in New Delhi yesterday to help establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies, union minister of micro, small and medium enterprises, Virbhadra Singh provided a snapshot of the MSME sector in India.

He said the sector consisted of 26.1 million units, employing over 60 million people and manufactured over 6,000 products.

"The sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment," Singh said.

He added, "The sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th five-year plan period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9 per cent during the plan."

He said the government has been providing support and sustenance to the sector through a plethora of programmes and policies and that India India was perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector.

Publication	Date	Region
http://investinindia.com	January 06, 2011	National

Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises addresses "India - Canada Partnership: the Way Forward"

To strengthen business relations between India and Canada, the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, a Round Table was held here. The purpose was to establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies to boost business between the two countries.

Welcoming all the Canadian guest and delegates the Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Shri Virbhadra Singh said, "it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable. I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs. We should indeed take a leaf out of the Canadian tradition of strong government-Industry interface. He urged the delegates to avail the benefits of the opportunities that this interaction provides".

The Minister further added, "I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India's robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis. The Sector consisting of 26.1 million units, as of today, provides employment to over 60 million persons. The Sector through more than 6,000 products contributes about 8% to GDP besides 45% to the total manufacturing output and 40% to the exports from the country. The Sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment. The Sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th Five Year Plan Period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9% during the Plan. The Government has been providing support and sustenance to the Sector through a plethora of programmes and policies. I would also like to inform the foreign delegates about the robust and efficient legal institutional framework. Further, India is perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector. Therefore, investment in the sector is quite secure and has the protection of a well defined act".

Shri Virbhadra Singh also said, "the ministry has taken several initiatives to promote the growth and development of MSMEs in India. A recently initiated program that would be of interest to you is the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) which aims to develop global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs. The Programme envisages substantial investment

towards enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector. All the 10 components of NMCP have already been operationalised and are likely to spur innovation and growth in the MSME sector. These include Quality Management Systems and Quality Technology Tools, Design Clinic Scheme, Building Awareness on IPRs, Support for Entrepreneurial and Managerial Development, Marketing Support/Assistance to MSMEs, Setting up of New Mini Tool Room and Lean Manufacturing Competitiveness Scheme. What will be of more interest to you is that the Programme will be implemented through Public-Private-Partnership mode with close physical and financial participation of the private sector. I invite our Canadian friends to participate in this programme”.

Applauding the international cooperation the Minister said, “one of the principal drivers of India’s economic growth has been the services sector which predominantly comprises of MSMEs. I am told that the services sector is Canada’s largest and fastest growing economic component. The combined strengths of Canada’s and India’s respective services sectors largely complement each other with opportunities existing for further trade and investment especially in financial services and knowledge-based services. Canadian firms can collaborate with those in India in order to harness each others’ strengths in developing innovative products and services”.

“MSMEs play an important role in Indian manufacturing sector. In the current competitive scenario technology upgradation is the only way to improve the quality and cost competitiveness of MSMEs. It is, therefore, imperative for them to imbibe technology to stay competitive and become global. Several Indian MSMEs have indeed started implementing various technologies aimed at improving efficiency and productivity of their operations. The MSMEs in India are looking to exploit such opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups. Segments such as machine tools, pharmaceuticals, medical equipments, textile machinery, mining equipments, auto components etc. provide excellent opportunities for such collaborations and tie-ups”.

The MSME sector is a unique area for collaboration between Canada and India, the Minister said, “it is extremely heartening to see the interest of Canadian Industry in Indian MSMEs. Let us work hand-in-hand to intensify bilateral cooperation and encourage our small enterprises to prosper and flourish through greater mutual cooperation”.

Present on the occasion were Stewart Beck, High Commissioner of Canada to India Canadian High Commission, Satish Thakkar, President, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce, Nicolas Banerjee-Brodeur, Heads Contracts & Legal Affairs, Bombardier Transportation & Jawed Ashraf, Joint Secretary, MEA.

Publication	Date	Region
http://smehorizon.sulekha.com	January 06, 2011	National

Indo-Canadian Chamber Round Table

by Ramesh Kumar 2 days ago



The micro, small and medium enterprises sector had emerged as an engine of growth, having contributed 8 per cent to GDP besides 45 per cent to the total manufacturing output and 40 per cent to the exports from India. Speaking at the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce, CII and India-Canada Business Chamber, round table in New Delhi to help establish direct

linkages between Canadian and Indian companies, union minister of micro, small and medium enterprises, Virbhadra Singh provided a snapshot of the MSME sector in India, reports domaini-b.com..

He said the sector consisted of 26.1 million units, employing over 60 million people and manufactured over 6,000 products. "The sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment," Singh said.

He added, "The sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th five-year plan period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9 per cent during the plan."

He said the government has been providing support and sustenance to the sector through a plethora of programmes and policies and that India India was perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector. "Therefore, investment in the sector is quite secure and has the protection of a well defined act," he said.

Singh said the 'national manufacturing competitiveness programme' (NMCP), framed recently, aims to develop global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs through substantial investment to help enhance the entire value chain of the MSME sector.

He added, all the 10 components of NMCP including quality management systems and quality technology tools, design clinic scheme, building awareness on IPRs, support for entrepreneurial and managerial development, marketing support / assistance to MSMEs, setting up of new mini tool room and lean manufacturing competitiveness scheme would be implemented through public-private-partnership model.

The minister invited closer interaction from Canada with India's MSME sector, saying that the sector was a unique area for collaboration between the two countries to intensify bilateral cooperation through small enterprises.



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Publication	Date	Region
news.indiamart.com	January 07, 2011	National

Govt offers necessary support to MSME sector: Virbhadra Singh

SME News, Saturday, Jan 7, 2012 12:53:20 PM IST

NEW DELHI: Centre has been offering support and sustenance to the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) sector with the help of a plethora of programmes and policies, said Mr Virbhadra Singh, Union Minister of MSME. This statement has come while he has been focussing on the importance of boosting the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in and outside India.

While meeting the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, Mr Singh said, "It gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable. I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs. Indian MSMEs are looking to explore opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups."

Moreover, the segments like machine tools, pharmaceuticals, textile machinery, auto components, medical and mining equipment offer significant opportunities for such kind of partnerships and collaborations.

The MSME Ministry has been actively boosting the development of small units in the northeastern region.

Related Topics: CII, India Canada Business Chamber, Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce, MSME Sector, Virbhadra Singh

Publication	Date	Region
http://www.onenewspage.in	January 06, 2011	National

Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce Holds Roundtable Talks



Friday, 6 January 2012 (4 days ago)

New Delhi (ABC Live) To strengthen business relations between India and Canada, the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, a Round Table was held here.

The purpose was to establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies to boost business between the two countries.

Welcoming all the Canadian guest and delegates the Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Mr. Virbhadra Singh said, “it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable.

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The Minister further added, “I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India’s robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis.

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Mr. Virbhadra Singh also said, “the ministry has taken several initiatives to promote the growth and development of MSMEs in India. A recently initiated program that would be of interest to you is the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) which aims to develop global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs. The Programme envisages substantial investment towards enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector.

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What will be of more interest to you is that the Programme will be implemented through Public-Private-Partnership mode with close physical and financial participation of the private sector. I invite our Canadian friends to participate in this programme”.

Applauding the international cooperation the Minister said, “one of the principal drivers of India’s economic growth has been the services sector which predominantly comprises of MSMEs. I am told that the services sector is Canada’s largest and fastest growing economic component.

The combined strengths of Canada’s and India’s respective services sectors largely complement each other with opportunities existing for further trade and investment especially in financial services and knowledge-based services. Canadian firms can collaborate with those in India in order to harness each others’ strengths in developing innovative products and services”.

“MSMEs play an important role in Indian manufacturing sector. In the current competitive scenario technology upgradation is the only way to improve the quality and cost competitiveness of MSMEs. It is, therefore, imperative for them to imbibe technology to stay competitive and become global. Several Indian MSMEs have indeed started implementing various technologies aimed at improving efficiency and productivity of their operations.

The MSMEs in India are looking to exploit such opportunities in countries like Canada through joint ventures, collaboration and technical tie-ups. Segments such as machine tools, pharmaceuticals, medical equipments, textile machinery, mining equipments, auto components etc. provide excellent opportunities for such collaborations and tie-ups”.

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Publication	Date	Region
http://smallenterpriseindia.com	January 06, 2011	National

Indo-Canadian Services Sectors to Complement each other'

Written by SEI News Desk

Friday, 06 January 2012 18:52



To strengthen business relations between India and Canada, the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, a Round Table was held here. The purpose was to establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies to boost business between the two countries.

Welcoming all the Canadian guest and delegates the Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Shri Virbhadra Singh said, "it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable. I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs. We should indeed take a leaf out of the Canadian tradition of strong government-Industry interface. He urged the delegates to avail the benefits of the opportunities that this interaction provides".

The Minister further added, "I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India's robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis. The Sector consisting of 26.1 million units, as of today, provides employment to over 60 million persons. The Sector through more than 6,000 products contributes about 8% to GDP besides 45% to the total manufacturing output and 40% to the exports from the country. The Sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment. The Sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th Five Year Plan Period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9% during the Plan. The Government has been providing support and sustenance to the Sector through a plethora of programmes and policies. I would also like to inform the foreign delegates about the robust and efficient legal institutional framework. Further, India is perhaps one of the few countries in the world which has enacted an exclusive act for MSME sector. Therefore, investment in the sector is quite secure and has the protection of a well defined act".

Shri Virbhadra Singh also said, "the ministry has taken several initiatives to promote the growth and development of MSMEs in India. A recently initiated program that would be of interest to

you is the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) which aims to develop global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs. The Programme envisages substantial investment towards enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector. All the 10 components of NMCP have already been operationalised and are likely to spur innovation and growth in the MSME sector. These include Quality Management Systems and Quality Technology Tools, Design Clinic Scheme, Building Awareness on IPRs, Support for Entrepreneurial and Managerial Development, Marketing Support/Assistance to MSMEs, Setting up of New Mini Tool Room and Lean Manufacturing Competitiveness Scheme. What will be of more interest to you is that the Programme will be implemented through Public-Private-Partnership mode with close physical and financial participation of the private sector. I invite our Canadian friends to participate in this programme”.

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Publication	Date	Region
http://www.abclive.in	January 06, 2011	National

Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce Holds Roundtable Talks

Friday, 06 January 2012 15:01
Written by Sandeep Deshpande

New Delhi (ABC Live) To strengthen business relations between India and Canada, the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce along with Confederation of Indian Industry and India-Canada Business Chamber, a Round Table was held here.

The purpose was to establish direct linkages between Canadian and Indian companies to boost business between the two countries.

Welcoming all the Canadian guest and delegates the Minister of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Mr. Virbhadra Singh said, "it gives me immense pleasure to be here for the Roundtable.

I congratulate the organizers for putting together this event that would help in enhancing bilateral engagements between Indian and Canadian MSMEs. We should indeed take a leaf out of the Canadian tradition of strong government-Industry interface. He urged the delegates to avail the benefits of the opportunities that this interaction provides".

The Minister further added, "I would like to give you a snapshot of the MSME sector in India. The Micro, Small and Medium Sector has emerged as an engine of growth of the Indian Economy. It has contributed significantly towards India's robust economic growth even in the face of the global financial crisis.

The Sector consisting of 26.1 million units, as of today, provides employment to over 60 million persons. The Sector through more than 6,000 products contributes about 8% to GDP besides 45% to the total manufacturing output and 40% to the exports from the country.

The Sector has also the distinction of creating comparatively much more employment per unit of investment. The Sector is expected to perform an important role during the 12th Five Year Plan Period (2012-17) in enabling the country to achieve the envisaged overall growth rate of 9% during the Plan. The Government has been providing support and sustenance to the Sector through a plethora of programmes and policies.

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What will be of more interest to you is that the Programme will be implemented through Public-Private-Partnership mode with close physical and financial participation of the private sector. I invite our Canadian friends to participate in this programme”.

Applauding the international cooperation the Minister said, “one of the principal drivers of India’s economic growth has been the services sector which predominantly comprises of MSMEs. I am told that the services sector is Canada’s largest and fastest growing economic component.

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Publication	Date	Region
http://exposeindialive.com	January 07, 2011	National

One of the principal drivers of India's economic growth has been the services sector which predominantly comprises of MSME : Virbhadra Singh

January 7, 2012 | Delhi,,

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Publication	Date	Region
retail.franchiseindia.com	January 10, 2011	National

Indo-Canadian environment conducive for trade

By [Aadeetya Sriram](#) | January 10, 2012



Satish Thakkar

Bilateral relations between India and Canada have grown leaps and bounds in the last five years. Sanjeev Thakkar, President, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), highlights the guidelines of the trade relations and shares his know-how on the structure of the Canadian economy, which thrives on the MSME sector.

Aadeetya Sriram (AS): Please tell us about the outlook of relations between India and Canada.

Satish Thakkar (ST): The relationship between India and Canada has been in existence for a long time. Over the last few years, particularly starting from the CEPA negotiations, it has taken a different growth trajectory altogether, which is creating a right kind of environment where this relationship can be taken to a whole new level. We, at the Chamber level, have been waiting for 35 years for the kind of opportunities that lie for both the countries now. We have taken proactive actions and initiatives in order to build the bridge between both the countries.

AS: How have both the countries benefited from this arrangement?

ST: We have been leading the delegation from a business perspective every year, have been participating at PVD for the last eight years and this year, we are focusing on covering three additional cities apart from PVD. This is one of the largest delegations ever to be coming to India. The bilateral relations between India and Canada have grown at 57 per cent over the last 3-4 years. So the current trade between India and Canada is close to \$ 4.5 billion and once the CEPA concludes, we will expect the figures to triple and that is exactly what the governments of both

the countries are targeting. The CEPA conclusion is expected by 2013 and within five years from that, we expect to triple our revenues from \$5 million to \$ 15 million.

AS: What is the role of CEPA negotiations with regards to the Indo-Canadian bilateral relations?

ST: CEPA opens up the market, ensures formal structure of investment and leniency on tariffs – even reduction. Licensing quotas are abolished and these leverages clearly work for the benefit of the trade between the countries, which will directly impact the figures, revenues and also growth of the respective economies. We are optimistic that once the CEPA concludes, the Indo-Canada relations are bound to take an even better upward swing.

AS: What are the challenges that the trade between these countries has come across?

ST: There are obstacles in every country around the world when it comes to trade regulations, which clearly affects the movement of goods, people, etc. The conditions and environment are very conducive to undertake trade. The strength of Canada lies in their service, technology and commodity sector, which India needs to absorb for transformation at the grassroot level. Canada is one of the largest importers of man power, whereas India is the one of the major countries, which exports its human capital to Canada.

AS: What trends in the Canadian market would be useful for the Indian market?

ST: Canada is not as densely populated as India but has access to 450 million consumers from the USA, Mexico and Canada and is supported by a \$ 17trillion economy. So even though the population of Canada is 33 million, the accessibility makes it far more vast geographically. The quality of life out there is decent enough, which encourages people to settle there without too much of a fuss. One can conduct business there with relative ease and it is also the best country to do business in G7. The overall developed scenario of education, technology and service sector can be utilised to great effect in India.

AS: How is the retail sector benefiting from this trade relation?

ST: The retail outlook in Canada is not only the sole contributor to their economy, it also heavily functions due to the service sector, mining sector and technology sector performing well. Canada is one of the largest producers of rough diamond and India imports diamonds largely from the West. Our objective is to ensure that the strength of both the countries come together, hence this complementing scenario is a win-win situation for both the countries. Now with regards to retail, the Canadian companies can support the development of back-end supply chain services in the country, which is a glaring drawback in India. Canada as such does not manufacture on its own, hence reliance on the retail front is not prioritised.

AS: How important is the MSME sector to this relation?

ST: The MSME industry is a major contributor to the economy of Canada. More than 90 per cent of the economy is based from the medium enterprises. In India, the situation is definitely on the rise and the potential of the MSME sector is something everyone is optimistic about, which bodes well for the future. The difference is mainly due to the culture varying to a certain degree, which is conducive for growth in this sector.

Publication	Date	Region
http://www.pravasitoday.com	January 08, 2011	National

PBD 2012: Raj govt officials discuss investment options with Canadian delegation

Jaipur, January 8: Rajasthan government officials discussed with a Canadian delegation investment options in different sectors of the state.



During an interactive session with the Indian Diaspora on the sidelines of the 10th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas here, senior officials briefed them of possibilities of tie-ups in sectors like girls' education, technical education and IT among others.

Various representatives of Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) and FICCI interacted with the delegation.

The president of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), Satish Thakkar also invited industrialists and businessmen of the state to Canada for investment opportunities.

Mayor of Markham town, Frank Scarpitti said the chamber and the administration of the town were committed to promoting Markham as a globally competitive business destination.