



# WORLD TRADE CENTER® NAVI MUMBAI

# Bringing the World Together

Trade Investment Promotion Services TIPS News Bulletin

# July- August/ September 2023



WTC Navi Mumbai is the Regular Member of the World Trade Centers Association (WTCA) New York



# TIPS Bulletin: July- August/ September 2023

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### Editorial – Indian Economic Scenario

As of FY23, the Indian economic scenario demonstrated a mix of challenges and promising growth. The country's trade dynamics showcased resilience and expansion, with imports surging by 16.5% to reach \$714 billion and exports rising 6% to reach \$447 billion. Despite global uncertainties, India's trajectory reflects its determination to thrive and emerge as a key player in the world economy.

India's Reserve Bank (RBI) aims to elevate the rupee as a global currency, lessening reliance on the US dollar. The



- inter-departmental group recommended a roadmap for internationalising the rupee and proposed short, medium, and long-term measures. The plan seeks to promote rupee transactions abroad, liberalise the capital account, and strengthen financial markets. Interestingly, the panel emphasised that capital account convertibility is not essential for this initiative. The backdrop of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and related sanctions has prompted many nations to reduce dependence on the dollar, further justifying these measures.
- According to Niti Aayog's export preparedness index, Tamil Nadu has secured the top position, surpassing Maharashtra and Gujarat. Following closely, Karnataka secured the third spot in the overall rankings, with Gujarat following in fourth place. Notably, Haryana, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Punjab also made it to the top ten states in the index. The evaluation of states was conducted based on four key pillars, namely policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem, and export performance. These pillars play a crucial role in determining the readiness of each state for exporting activities.
- Online-first, tech-enabled business-to-business (B2B) marketplaces are expected to present a \$200-billion market opportunity by 2030, as against the \$20-billion opportunity in 2022, said a report by venture capital firm Bessemer Venture Partners. The online B2B gross merchandise value (GMV) will account for 5 per cent of the overall B2B sales in India by 2030, as against the current market share of 1 per cent. Indiamart Intermesh is India's largest online B2B marketplace, connecting buyers with suppliers. It offers a platform and tools to over 12.5 crore buyers to search from 7.2 crore products and get connected with 65 lakhs reliable and competitive sellers.
- Japan is enthusiastic about investing ¥5 trillion, which is approximately Rs 2.95 trillion, in India across multiple industries, with a particular focus on the steel sector. Furthermore, the two nations have entered into a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) in the semiconductor industry, concentrating on crucial aspects such as research and development (R&D), manufacturing, design, and talent development. This agreement was formalized during a meeting between high-ranking Indian government officials and a Japanese delegation headed by Japan's Minister of Trade, and Industry.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Bharat Mandapam at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. It's the venue for G20 Summit. This international exhibition-cumconvention Centre will showcase India's start-ups, cinema industry, and artisans while promoting global business, trade, and economic growth. It's a grand stage for various endeavours, from economy to ecology and technology.



## WTC Navi Mumbai Activities

#### WTC NM Seminar on Exports Imports



In today's time when the startup ecosystem is gaining Momentum in India export and Import becomes one of the major factor to drive this ecosystem. Understanding the practical Aspects of Export and Import is a strategic advantage for startups in today's globalised business landscape. It enables them to capitalise on emerging opportunities, navigate challenges, and position themselves as competitive players on a global stage.

WTC Navi Mumbai in association with DY Patil University School of Management organised a 'Seminar on Practical Aspects of Export Import' on 18th August, 2023 at DYPUSM. As many as 100 participants from Industry, Trade, Academia and students attended the event to gain insight on the topic.

Mr. Jayant Ghate of WTC Navi Mumbai welcomed the participants, he also explained the importance of the theme and various developments such as India and FTA's, Rupee Payment Areas, and India's Product Market Mix for Export and Import business. Dr. R Gopal, DYPUSM, spoke about the important aspects of Indian economy as well as Trade and Investment and National Education Policy 2020.

Mr. Deepak Shidhaye, DMT International, highlighted on ' How to Start International Indenting Business'. Some of the important aspects he spoke about were market research, product selection made simple etc.

Mr. Harshwadan Parikh, International Trade Expert and Advisor, highlighted on 'Practical Aspects of Aatmanirbhar/ Exports Imports for/ Role of Trade Associations'. Some of the important aspects he spoke about were IEC code, GST, Where to look for markets and How, Credit Facilities and Finance, Market Density etc.

Mr. Deepak Sharma, Yes Bank, gave some practical examples on the Theme and provided insights on how banks help in Exports and Imports. He also referred to the Letter of Credit mechanism and risk coverage in trade.

The event came to an with the Vote of Thanks, proposed by Dr. Vani Kamath, Dean, DYPUSM. Mr. Jitendra Sakpal, Member/ Associate and Ananya Bhattacharya, Intern, WTC NM coordinated the event and handled participation



#### WTC NM Signs MoU with MIM Management Institute

In a move aimed at fostering mutual growth and development, the World Trade Centre Navi Mumbai signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Mansukhani Institute of Management, Ulhasnagar [Thane] on 12th July 2023.

This MoU sets the stage for an innovative alliance between the business world and academia, promoting knowledge exchange, research collaborations and joint initiatives.

The MOU between WTC Navi Mumbai and MIM college envisages a framework for collaboration in the areas of education and research by WTC acting as an academic mentor to MIM. It will assist the academic institution in guiding students for the international business courses and design the courses in a way that it caters to the current industry demands.

WTC will assist the college in providing visiting faculty and guest lecturers for workshops, seminars/ conferences etc by enhancing the curriculum's relevance and ensure that students acquire up to date knowledge and skills aligned with industry requirements.

WTC will also consider giving live projects to the MIM students and would also assist in placement of the students with appropriate company/Industries in future. This partnership will enable the students to gain practical insights through case studies and real world projects facilitated by WTC's extensive network of businesses. By combining academic curriculum with industry expertise, this collaboration fosters a holistic learning environment and equip students with necessary skills relevant in today's job market.



# WTC Navi Mumbai and The Orchid Hotel



The Orchid Hotel Mumbai is a well known hotel located near Mumbai International Airport, Mumbai. It is one of the best options for visitors who visit Mumbai and looking for hotels near the airport. The Orchid Mumbai offers all the world-class facilities ranging from a Business Centre, Fitness Centre, Swimming Pool, Spa, Concierge Desk, Airport Transfers and Travel Desk. There are 372 rooms and suites providing an unmatched experience to their customers.

The unique feature of Orchid Hotel that it is the only hotel in Mumbai which has an on site museum 'Aai' which means mother. In order to pay tribute to all mothers in the world, It showcases the artefacts from everyday life.



The Hotel offers special Meeting facilities like Boardrooms, Rooftop Hotels and premium whiskey bar- 'Merlin's- The Whiskey Lounge'. Some important attributes of Merlin's are : -

- They have Karaoke singing and live bands from Tuesday Saturday every week which makes the place very mesmerising in the late evenings.
- They have happy hours 1+1 from Monday Fridays every week
- The premium bar is well stocked with 99 different premium whiskeys which are called from different parts of the world that gives an upbeat look and feel to this premium lounge.
- The capacity of this venue is around 45-50 people

Orchid Hotel has offered special incentives to WTC Navi Mumbai members/associates.



# **Business Leadership League Exim Conclave**

Business Leadership League [BLL] is a non-profit organisation offering wide range of services to the industry, business and entrepreneurs. One of the important programs organised by them is Business Topline Growth Meets which is very popular in the Navi Mumbai region. WTC Navi Mumbai happens to be a Supporting Organisation for the BLL endeavours..

WTC Navi Mumbai helped BLL in organising a program at Chennai early this year by introducing them to WTC Chennai. BLL has now planned an Exim Conclave Maharashtra that will be held on 7th October 2023 at Baner, Pune.

The Conclave will bring together visionary leaders, ambitious entrepreneurs, and industry pioneers under one roof to explore the endless possibilities in the realms of business leadership and international trade.

This event will contribute in gaining valuable insights on topics such as such as GEM (Government e-Marketplace) registration and export product- market mix, Policy Procedures, Finance etc through various sessions planned.





# WTCA and WTC's Around the World Activities APAC WTCA Members celebrate 21<sup>st</sup> Annual WTCA Day



The WTCA APAC Regional Advisory Council (RAC) and Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) hosted the "2023 WTCA Day Celebration Special – Asia Pacific: Exhibition Industry in the Post-Pandemic Era" webinar on June 13. The program was attended by more than 50 representatives from over 20 World Trade Centre businesses and their local communities across the region.

The MICE/Exhibition Industry has always been an important barometer of business dynamics. The APAC WTCA Day webinar featured Mr. Kai Hattendorf, Managing Director/CEO of UFI as the keynote speaker who offered a global perspective on this topic, and WTC executives throughout the APAC region who shared their local perspective. The webinar examined the major trends to watch in 2023 and highlighted areas that business event organisers need to reimagine as they embrace the recovery. It prepared regional WTC businesses for opportunities and challenges under the new business environment.

In celebration of the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the UN-designated WTCA Day, Members in the region also joined the social media campaign initiated by the WTCA Headquarters team in New York, while others celebrate this important day by hosting business events and ceremonies aligned with the WTCA's global mission.

#### About WTCA Day

In 2002, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg proclaimed June 12 to be "WTCA Day," which was subsequently acknowledged by the office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, to recognise the WTCA and its network of WTC businesses for encouraging and facilitating trade, promoting economic development and fostering pea



# WTCA APRM 2023 held in Vietnam



The WTCA Asia- Pacific Regional Meeting was hosted by WTC Binh Duong New City, Vietnam. It was held from August 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>., 2023. Theme of the APRM was " Transforming WTC Operations in the Digita Age". The meeting had brought together WTCA's WTC Members across the Asia Pacific Region. This was the first in person meeting after 3 years of pandemic. Some parts of the meetings were also live streamed on virtual platforms.

WTC Navi Mumbai attended the meeting virtually.

The meeting focussed on the Impact of technology and innovation on WTC Operations ranging from Exhibition to Trade Services was examined in a detailed manner. Technological developments have accelerated due to the pandemic which will change the structure of WTC Businesses both in short and long run.

The meeting also focussed on business opportunities in Vietnam. There were top experts who spoke about the current business environment as well as provided their insights on doing business in Vietnam.



# WTC Xiamen CIFIT Program and Roundtable



WTCA, in collaboration with WTC Xiamen, is co-hosting the 2023 WTC Xiamen CIFIT Program. Organised by the Ministry of Commerce, P.R.C., the 23rd China International Fair for Investment & Trade (CIFIT) is scheduled to take place in Xiamen from September 8th to 11th, 2023. This event serves as a significant platform for bilateral investment promotion and has grown into one of the world's most influential international investment gatherings.

The focus of CIFIT this year will be on the Global Development Initiative, emphasising highquality "Introducing FDI" and "Going Global" strategies, as well as promoting multilateral and bilateral cooperation frameworks. The fair aims to foster an international public service platform that facilitates two-way investment, promotes greater openness and collaboration among countries, and contributes to the advancement of an open world economy.

Among the crucial forums at CIFIT, the World Business Leaders Roundtable, jointly hosted by CCPIT, the Organising Committee of CIFIT, and WTCA, will concentrate on discussing new trends and pressing issues in global economic development. The theme for this year's roundtable is "Promoting and Sharing New Momentum for the Development of the Marine Industry." The event is expected to draw around 300 distinguished guests, including leaders from CCPIT, Fujian Provincial Government, Xiamen Municipal Government, embassies, and consulates from countries along the Maritime Silk Road, international organisations, international chambers, trade promotion organisations, representatives of leading marine enterprises, media, and more.





#### WTC Pune Partners with SIPBN INC Australia

World Trade Centre Pune (WTC Pune) is pleased to announce that it has recently partnered with Sydney Investors, Professional and Business Networking Group (SIPBN Inc.). This partnership aims to leverage the strengths and expertise of both companies to drive enhanced value for clients and foster mutual growth in the market.

This strategic partnership between World Trade Center Pune and SIPBN Inc. goes beyond a mere collaboration; it represents a powerful endeavour to capitalize on the collective resources and expertise of both organizations. With a shared vision of fostering economic prosperity, World Trade Center Pune and SIPBN Inc. are committed to creating an ecosystem that nurtures and supports entrepreneurs and businesses.

The aim of this partnership is to strengthen ties between India and Australia. The governments of both countries recently ratified an interim free trade agreement called the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), which has been in effect since last year. Recently, discussions also focused on opportunities for deepening India-Australia economic cooperation and the India-Australia Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT).

The collaboration between SIPBN Inc. and WTC Pune will be utilized to support their respective members in achieving global growth and development. With WTCA's extensive network, partners will have access to vast opportunities for expansion in India and across the world. Furthermore, WTC Pune also looks forward to expanding in Australia through SIPBN Inc. This partnership aims to provide partners with a broad platform to explore and capitalize on international development prospects.



#### Market Entry for Indian Firms in France



n France, around 130 Indian companies have set up their facility; however, startups and MSMEs (micro, small, and medium enterprises) from this country lag behind in numbers as they do not have the guide facilitating them with access to European Union, said a French Consulting firm.

WTC Shamshabad & Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI) had hosted a session on Market entry to France for understanding how Indian companies can enter the French market. The event was held on Tuesday in Hyderabad in collaboration with TNP India, a French Consulting firm and World Trade Center Shamshabad. Matthieu Lebeurre, Partner, TNP-Industry, Data Science and Analytics, TNP India and Guillaume Kerbrat, Director Associe-Automotive and New Mobility, TNP Consultants France, spoke about the opportunities available for Indian companies to set up their office or venture into France with their service or product.

"Bharat Biotech from Hyderabad is one of the success stories of the Indian companies present in France. But, we have seen that the number of startups and MSMEs lag behind in getting access to European Union by not being present in France. I would like to specify that for an enterprise serving under B2C, if they enter EU, will have access to 500 million customers with good spending power," Lebeurre said. Europe is supposed to be the largest consumer market, bigger than that of the US and China, the official claimed.

According to him, enterprises working in the defense sector would have to partner with local companies in France so as to not endure the regulations in place, but companies in sustainability, smart energy, IT, pharma and even food processing will have faster access to the market.





## WTC MM to Host PHILCONSTRUCT in November

PHILCONSTRUCT Manila, Southeast Asia's largest and most successful construction expo, is taking place from November 9 to 12, 2023. This prestigious event brings together leading industry professionals and stakeholders from around the world.

Participating in PHILCONSTRUCT will allow your company to showcase your innovative building materials, construction equipment, and design products.





# Special Information Update 3 Current Trends and Business Leads

#### World Economic Scenario

#### Volatility Ahead: Major Economies Geopolitical and Geo-economic Relations

Amidst the backdrop of growing economic instability and escalating political tensions, the outlook for geo-economic and geopolitical relations between major economies points to a period of substantial volatility over the forthcoming six months. This sobering assessment emerges from a recent survey conducted by the World Economic Forum's Chief Risk Officers (CRO) community.

The community, comprising a panel of 40 esteemed risk professionals hailing from a diverse array of multinational corporations spanning technology, financial services, healthcare, professional services, and industrial manufacturing sectors, has drawn attention to a host of pressing concerns. The primary focus areas highlighted by the respondents encompass macroeconomic indicators, potential disruptions in the pricing and supply of crucial raw materials, armed conflicts, and impending regulatory changes. These looming challenges have become top-of-mind for organisations seeking to navigate the uncertain global landscape.

With an impressive consensus, more than 85% of CROs voiced their expectation for continued volatility across economic and financial conditions within and between major economies. This consensus reflects the community's collective apprehension about the potential ramifications of the evolving geopolitical and geo-economic landscape. In recent months, the discourse surrounding technology-related risks has witnessed a sharp uptick, prompting deeper reflections among the CROs. One resounding point of agreement revolves around the observation that risk management practices have struggled to keep pace with the rapid development and widespread deployment of advanced AI technologies. An intriguing aspect of the survey results reveals that almost half of the respondents lean towards the idea of slowing down or pausing the development of AI technologies until a more comprehensive understanding of their potential risks is attained.

As the world braces for an uncertain future, the insights and projections from the World Economic Forum's CRO community serve as valuable signposts, guiding businesses and decision-makers through the complex web of geopolitical and geo-economic uncertainties that lie ahead.



#### The Global Economic Landscape in 2023 and Beyond

Navigating through a landscape characterised by financial sector turmoil, surging inflation, lingering repercussions of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and the enduring impacts of the COVID pandemic, the global outlook appears uncertain once again.

In light of these multifaceted challenges, the baseline forecast projects a deceleration in economic growth, with expectations for a decline from 3.4 percent in 2022 to 2.8 percent in 2023, gradually stabilising at 3.0 percent in 2024. Particularly affected are the advanced economies, anticipated to experience a pronounced growth slowdown, dropping from 2.7 percent in 2022 to a mere 1.3 percent in 2023. However, it is essential to consider an alternative scenario, one that accounts for the possibility of additional financial sector stress. In this plausible but concerning scenario, global growth could further plummet to approximately 2.5 percent in 2023, with advanced economies facing a significant decline below 1 percent.

As a glimmer of hope amidst these challenging times, the baseline forecast envisions a decline in global headline inflation, expected to reduce from 8.7 percent in 2022 to 7.0 percent in 2023, mainly attributed to lower commodity prices. However, it is crucial to note that underlying (core) inflation may witness a more gradual decline. A return to target inflation levels is deemed unlikely before 2025 in most cases, signifying that central banks and policymakers will face ongoing challenges in stabilising prices.

The interplay of these various factors sets the stage for a period of immense economic and financial uncertainty, with policymakers, businesses, and individuals having to grapple with volatile conditions. A holistic understanding of the prevailing global macroeconomic landscape becomes vital as stakeholders seek to chart their course amidst the shifting tides of growth and inflation. As the global economy seeks its path forward, staying informed with accurate and up-to-date GDP growth data, tools, and informative videos will be paramount in making well-informed decisions. Embracing the challenges ahead with knowledge and foresight will be crucial in navigating the uncertain waters that lie ahead.



#### Indian Economic Scenario

#### India's Trade Growth in FY23: Paving the Way to Global Prominence

India's trade dynamics in FY23 showcased significant growth and resilience, reflecting the country's expanding international presence. According to Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, imports surged by 16.5 per cent, reaching \$714 billion in FY23 compared to \$613 billion in FY22. Simultaneously, exports experienced a commendable 6% rise, reaching \$447 billion in FY23, up from \$442 billion in the previous fiscal year.

The combined exports of goods and services demonstrated remarkable progress, surging to "new heights" with a 14 per cent increase, amounting to USD 770 billion in 2022-23, as opposed to USD 676 billion in 2021-22. Notably, India's services exports played a crucial role in this achievement, witnessing a remarkable growth rate of 27.16 per cent, soaring to USD 323 billion in 2022-23 from USD 254 billion in 2021-22.

This remarkable performance in the realm of international trade is a testament to India's relentless pursuit of economic growth and global engagement. As the nation continues to establish itself as a key player in the global economy, these numbers speak volumes about India's competitiveness and capacity to navigate through challenging global uncertainties.

Underpinning this impressive trade performance is India's strategic and responsive foreign trade policy, which recently came into effect. This policy aims to push forward rupee trade, increasing the domestic currency's international usage and significance. Moreover, it aspires to achieve the ambitious goal of reaching outward shipments worth USD 2 trillion by 2030, showcasing India's aspirations to become a major global exporter.

Furthermore, the policy is keen on promoting e-commerce exports, recognising the increasing role of digital trade in today's interconnected world. By embracing technological advancements and digital platforms, India seeks to harness new opportunities and expand its presence in the global e-commerce arena.

Amidst the ever-evolving global economic landscape, India's strides in international trade exemplify its commitment to sustained growth and prosperity. This positive trajectory signifies a thriving economy that is determined to leave its mark on the world stage. As India takes bold steps towards the realization of its trade goals, it sets an inspiring example for other nations seeking to establish themselves as prominent players in the global marketplace.

In conclusion, India's commendable performance in imports, exports, and services trade stands as a testament to its resilience, competitiveness, and ambitious vision for the future. With a dynamic foreign trade policy in place and a relentless drive to embrace innovation, India's journey towards expanding its international footprint is well underway, promising a bright and prosperous future on the global economic stage.



#### HDFC Bank becomes the Fourth Largest Bank Globally

The recent merger of HDFC Bank and Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) has made HDFC bank the fourth largest bank globally in terms of market capitalisation. As of March 2023, HDFC Bank's total business reached an impressive Rs 41 lakh crore, accompanied by a substantial net worth exceeding Rs 4.14 lakh crore. The combined profit generated by both entities amounted to a staggering Rs 60,000 crore by the end of March 2023, with their collective assets surpassing an impressive Rs 18 lakh crore.

The implications of this merger are profound, propelling HDFC Bank to secure the prestigious fourth rank in equity market capitalization. It now finds itself in esteemed company, trailing only behind financial giants like JP Morgan Chase & Co, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), and Bank of America. This rise in market value is a testament of remarkable journey of HDFC Bank, The recent merger of HDFC Bank and Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) has made HDFC bank the fourth largest bank globally in terms of market capitalisation. As of March 2023, HDFC Bank's total business reached an impressive Rs 41 lakh crore, accompanied by a substantial net worth exceeding Rs 4.14 lakh crore. The combined profit generated by both entities amounted to a staggering Rs 60,000 crore by the end of March 2023, with their collective assets surpassing an impressive Rs 18 lakh crore.

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# **Business and Technological Leads** Powering the Future: Green Power for Sustainable Future

Data Centres face several challenges related to high operational expenses, sustainability, and environmental impact. The significant energy consumption leads to increased costs and carbon emissions. Integrating renewable energy sources like solar and wind power presents unique obstacles, while traditional power backup solutions are neither environmentally friendly nor reliable. Cooling systems also consume substantial energy, contributing to higher expenses.

Aja Consultants and Engineers, possess expertise in Sustainable Development, Clean-tech Solutions, and Renewable Energy Integration to tackle these challenges. Some of their services include conducting thorough Energy Audits to identify energy-saving opportunities and suggesting customised efficiency measures for cost optimisation. They also assess the feasibility of integrating Renewable Energy Sources into Data Centres, designing tailored solutions using solar, wind, hydrogen, or other renewables to reduce reliance on Fossil Fuels, shrink carbon footprints, and achieve long-term cost stability through Power Purchase Agreements.

They also assist Data Centers in obtaining prestigious Green Certifications such as LEED or ENERGY STAR and ensure compliance with emerging Sustainability and Environmental Regulations to demonstrate their commitment to environmental responsibility and industry leadership.

By implementing their energy-efficient solutions and integrating renewable energy strategies, the Data Centre can significantly reduce operating costs, leading to improved financial performance.

Taking on environmental responsibility and adopting sustainable practices will lower your carbon footprint, contributing to global sustainability efforts and showcasing your dedication to environmental responsibility.



#### **Bioactive Glass Materials**

SynThera Biomedical Pvt. Ltd. is an emerging startup in advanced materials, driven by a mission to lead the way in research, development, and commercialisation of state-of-the-art, cost-efficient specialty glass products tailored for high-tech sectors. Their particular emphasis is on bioactive glass materials, especially within the healthcare sector. Since its establishment in June 2015, the company has diligently utilised its extensive expertise in advanced materials to carefully create and extensively assess multiple product lines.

Their innovation PoroSyn, a pioneering collection of synthetic bone graft substitutes engineered to regenerate and repair bone in dental and orthopedic surgeries. PoroSyn has secured patents in India and South Korea, with pending applications in the US, Europe, and China. This technology also serves as a foundation for future advancements in both patented and non-patented materials, playing vital roles in various applications such as dental enamel restoration, wound healing gels, and skincare formulations. SynThera had also developed CleanSyn which is an array of products designed to provide eco-friendly, non-toxic, and economically viable long-term disinfection solutions for diverse environments. These revolutionary products have been developed in collaboration with respected scholars and industry leaders, addressing the limitations of existing disinfection agents such as alcohol, benzalkonium chloride, chlorine, and its compounds, as well as ozone.

At present, the company is engaged in strategic planning and fundraising initiatives to facilitate the expansion of these groundbreaking technologies for large-scale commercial production. SynThera's initial focal market is India, where the primary phase involves the establishment of an ISO 9001 certified pilot manufacturing facility aimed at producing 10 TPA (Tons Per Annum) of specialty glass. The output from this facility will play a crucial role in rigorous testing, encompassing animal studies, clinical trials, and field assessments. Additionally, it will serve as the source for the initial domestic supply to companies spanning diverse sectors such as medical devices, pharmaceuticals, fast-moving consumer goods, and disinfection products. SynThera plans to stand out in India and the global market by developing a robust in-house IP portfolio, adopting a competitive "Make in India" manufacturing approach for cost-effective product pricing, and maintaining a dedicated emphasis on its core strengths in producing high-purity, research-driven specialty glass materials.



#### **Opportunity for Trade Finance**

India Trade Finance Consultants officially associated with UK Based Fund House, Canada Based Merchant Bank & Foreign Exim Banks. They are also officially associated with Luxembourg based Fintech firm for LC discounting & Export Bill Discounting.

They are a part of a 100+ yrs old Fund House from Switzerland along with the Fund house they provide services ranging from Leased SBLC/BG, Collateral Transfer Services, Project Funding, and a facility for SBLC monetization, all without the need for collateral or margin. Notably, they offer instruments sourced from banks of high repute, further enhancing their extensive portfolio of financial solutions.

#### Services provided

LC Usance & At sight, SBLC (Leased), POF, RWA services, Export Bill Discounting, ECB from US, UK & Dubai, Bond Fund Raising from US for Projects, International Payment Gateway, SBLC / BG Monetization, LC Discounting Facility, Pre shipment Funding and Forex Payments in more than 100 currencies.

#### Domestic Services (India)

Real Estate Project Funding, VC Series Funding, SME Listing on BSE, Corporate Insurance, Cyber Insurance and EMD / PBG / APBG for Domestic Tenders.

India Trade Finance Consultants have offered special schemes to the members and associates of WTC Navi Mumbai. Those interested may get in touch with the WTC.



# **Articles**

# India's G20 Presidency, WTC Navi Mumbai & WTCA

(Jayant Ghate & Ananya Bhattacharya, WTC Navi Mumbai)

#### G20: Group of Twenty

The G20, also known as the Group of Twenty, is an international forum for economic cooperation and decision-making. It consists of 19 individual countries plus the European Union (EU). The member countries of the G20 are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The G20 was established in 1999 as a response to the financial crises of the late 1990s. Its primary goal is to promote global economic stability, sustainable growth, and development. The forum provides a platform for member countries to discuss and coordinate policies on a wide range of economic and financial issues, including trade, investment, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and global financial regulation.

The G20 operates through a system of meetings and summits at various levels. The most important event is the annual G20 Leaders' Summit, where the heads of state or government from each member country gather to discuss and make decisions on pressing global economic issues. The leaders are supported by various working groups, task forces, and ministerial meetings that focus on specific policy areas. The G20 operates on a consensus-based approach, which means that decisions are made through agreement among all member countries.

The G20 has played a crucial role in responding to global economic crises, coordinating policy responses, and promoting financial stability. It has also expanded its agenda to address other important issues such as climate change, energy, digital economy, and development. Additionally, the G20 engages in outreach activities to involve and consult with other countries and regional organisations.

India has assumed the G20 presidency for the first time in 2023. India will hold over 200 G20 meetings all over the nation during its presidency. Theme of this year's G20 is- Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam or The World is One Family. India's G20 presidency focuses on leading the world towards an inclusive and sustainable growth. India's G20 priorities include-: Green Development, Climate Change, Accelerated, Inclusive and Resilient Growth; Accelerating Progress on SDG's, Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure; Multilateral Institutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and Women- led Development. The G20 meetings are taking place in various cities including New Delhi, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Chandigarh and so on.

Three G20 meetings were held recently in Mumbai. The first meeting was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Energy Transition Working Group. The next meeting was on 3<sup>rd</sup> Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group. The last meeting was on 2<sup>nd</sup> Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group. During this three-day Meeting in Mumbai, over 100 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries, regional groupings and international organisations engaged in deliberations to accelerate global consensus on these concerns/issues.



The G20 meetings held across India addressed different concerns that the world is facing such as FinTech–Block Chain and Crypto Currency, climate action, sustainable development, poverty elimination, human rights etc. India has also raised voice addressing the interests of developing world. It hosted the voices of Global South summit in January 2023 to bring developing country perspectives to the G20.

India has proposed to give African Union full membership at the G20 during the upcoming Delhi Summit in September. The G20 meetings in India will conclude with the final summit that will be held in New Delhi in the month of September.

Hosting a G20 Summit brings in lot of opportunities for the nation in all spheres trade, technology, geopolitical etc. Below listed are some potential opportunities for India-:

1. **Enhanced Global Influence:** The G20 presidency provides India with a prominent platform to showcase its economic potential, policy priorities, and leadership on global issues. It offers an opportunity to engage with other major economies, shape the global economic agenda, and exercise influence on decision-making processes.

2. **Strengthened Trade and Investment:** As the G20 presidency, India can work towards promoting trade liberalisation, reducing barriers to international commerce, and facilitating investment flows. By driving discussions on trade and investment policies, India can create an environment that fosters economic growth and attracts foreign direct investment (FDI) into the country.

3. **Economic Reforms:** The G20 presidency can serve as an impetus for India to undertake significant economic reforms and policy initiatives. This includes reforms aimed at improving the business environment, streamlining regulations, promoting financial stability, and fostering innovation. Such reforms can enhance India's economic competitiveness and attract domestic and international investments.

4. **Networking and Partnerships:** The G20 presidency offers India an opportunity to establish and strengthen relationships with other member countries and international organisations. This networking can lead to collaborations on various fronts, such as research and development, technology transfer, capacity building, and infrastructure development, which can have positive economic implications.

5. Addressing Global Challenges: The G20 presidency provides a platform to address global challenges that impact the world economy, such as climate change, sustainable development, digitalisation, and financial stability. By actively engaging in discussions and promoting cooperative solutions, India can contribute to addressing these challenges while also reaping the economic benefits associated with sustainable development and green technologies.

However, it is important to note that the actual economic benefits India will derive from its G20 presidency will depend on various factors, including the country's policy priorities, the ability to build consensus among member nations, and the successful implementation of proposed initiatives.



WTC Navi Mumbai, located in one of India's most dynamic and rapidly developing regions, serves as a catalyst in promoting India's G20 causes, with a particular emphasis on sustainable and inclusive growth.

#### WTC Navi Mumbai Initiatives

Recently WTC Navi Mumbai demonstrated its commitment towards India's G20 causes by collaborating with Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), the apex government body of export promotion organisations in organising a Capacity Building Session on the Theme Trade Finance. This Session was organised at the instance of Commerce Ministry of Government of India as part of the G20 program.

Trade finance plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable and inclusive growth by facilitating international trade and providing financial support to businesses engaged in cross-border transactions. The Session was specially organised at Navi Mumbai to cater to the needs of the business community in the region and the international trade experts and practitioners shared their expertise and experience during the program.

WTC Navi Mumbai also supported a Session organised by the Government of India's Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Raisina House (a Think tank) and RIS New Delhi, at Navi Mumbai in collaboration with ITM Business School, Navi Mumbai. This Y20 Session focused on vital Role of Youth in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution.

Youth plays a very significant role in peace building. Young people represent a powerful force for positive change in the society and can play a crucial role in resolving conflicts, promoting peace and building sustainable and inclusive communities. Youths possess enthusiasm, idealism, and a fresh perspective that can challenge existing norms, ideologies and prejudices. They can advocate for peace, raise awareness about conflict related issues and inspire others to take action.

Peace Building is a key social factor for building sustainable and inclusive community. There are several factors that contribute to peace building. Trade is one of those factors that contribute to peace building.

#### WTCA Role in Peace Building

WTC Navi Mumbai presented a brief highlighting WTCA's contribution to peace building in the following words-:

Presently WTCA has more than 330 Member-WTCs operating in 92 countries with the Mission of "**Prosperity through Trade and Investment**". Most important prerequisite for this happens to be Peace. In fact Peace and Stability words were duly incorporated in the WTCA Mission Statements earlier when this non-profit and non-political Association was set up in 1968. Today the WTCA promotes Peace in several ways.

1) **Cultural Exchange:** The WTCA brings together businesses, entrepreneurs, and professionals from different countries, fostering cultural exchange and understanding. By promoting dialogue and interaction between individuals from diverse backgrounds, the



association helps to bridge cultural gaps and build connections that can contribute to peacebuilding efforts.

2) **Conflict Resolution:** In regions where tensions exist between countries, economic cooperation facilitated by the WTCA can provide a platform for dialogue and conflict resolution. Trade agreements and partnerships can create channels for peaceful negotiations and help to mitigate conflicts through economic incentives.

3) **Development and Prosperity:** The WTCA's focus on economic development can contribute to stability and peace-building efforts. By supporting sustainable economic growth, the association helps to alleviate poverty, reduce inequality, and create opportunities for communities. These factors are essential for building peaceful and stable societies.

4) **Networking and Collaboration:** The WTCA offers a global network of trade centres, connecting businesses and organisations across borders. This network promotes collaboration and cooperation, fostering relationships that can transcend political tensions. By providing a platform for dialogue and cooperation, the WTCA can contribute to building trust and understanding among nations.

The WTCA has also become a part of United Nation Global Impact in order to support UN's mission to drive business awareness and achieve Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Its participation will further support UN's mission to operate responsibly and support society in alignment with Universal Sustainability principles.

WTCA participation with United Nations Global Impact to promote sustainability is another major step towards peace building and bringing stability in the community.

By promoting international trade and economic cooperation, the WTCA plays a crucial role in building bridges between nations, fostering dialogue and creating opportunities for mutual understanding which in turn can lead to greater stability and peaceful relations between countries.

The WTCA Foundation also organises a 'Peace through Trade' competition for students every year. This program is designed to identify and inspire the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders from the 300-plus cities where a World Trade Centre branded business is located. Members from the World Trade Canters Association's (WTCA) global network spanning nearly 92 countries have the opportunity to submit projects from local students to compete in the program and become champions of global trade.

The students are encouraged to present original projects, products, or other innovative ideas that exemplify and promote social innovation and sustainability through collaboration, fair trade, and ethical international business practices.

It's important to note that though WTCA contributes to Peace Building, the Association itself doesn't have a direct mechanism to resolve conflicts or promote peace. However, its contribution to peace-building primarily stems from the economic and cultural interactions it facilitates, which can lay the foundation for peaceful relations between nations.

WTC Navi Mumbai, as part of the WTCA network, actively supports initiatives that facilitate trade and strengthen global partnerships, thus contributing to the larger objective of peace



building.WTC Navi Mumbai's active participation in the above Sessions demonstrates its commitment to promoting India's G20 causes, with a particular focus on sustainable and inclusive growth. Through its engagement in such initiatives, WTC Navi Mumbai made its own little contribution towards achieving the objectives set up for India's G20 presidency in a successful manner.

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# **Internationalisation of Rupee**

[By- Ananya Bhattacharya, WTC Navi Mumbai]

The India Government is emphasising on reducing dollar dependency by internationalisation of rupees. By internationalisation of the rupee its main focus is to promote trade and investment in terms of rupee at the global market and boast economic partnerships and Collaborations. This would not only elevate the nation's prominence on the global stage but also bring in benefits across various sectors of the economy.

Following listed are some of the benefits:-

1. **Increased Prestige and Influence**: A global currency status would enhance India's international standing, giving it more influence in global economic and political matters.

2. **Reduced Exchange Rate Risk**: Being a global currency could stabilize the rupee's value, reducing exchange rate fluctuations and making international trade and investments more predictable.

3. Lower Transaction Costs: With the rupee widely accepted, businesses and individuals would save on currency conversion fees, leading to reduced transaction costs for cross-border trade and travel.

4. **Boost to Exports**: A global rupee could potentially make Indian goods and services more competitive on the international stage, leading to increased exports.

5. Attracting Foreign Investment: Greater global use of the rupee could attract foreign investors seeking to hold Indian assets without the need for constant currency conversion.

6. **Monetary Policy Autonomy**: As a global currency, India might have more control over its monetary policy, as it wouldn't be as vulnerable to external economic pressures.

7. Enhanced Financial Services: A globally accepted rupee could lead to the development of more sophisticated financial services and products, potentially strengthening India's financial sector.

8. **Diversification of Reserves**: Central banks and governments worldwide might hold more rupees as part of their foreign exchange reserves, diversifying their holdings and potentially stabilising the global financial system.

Internationalisation of rupee will make it a global currency thereby reducing the high dependency on dollars. It will increase the influence of India on the monetary policies of the international market. It will also lead to an era of new economic opportunities for India.



# **Book Review: Who are we? & What for?**

#### [By- Jayant Ghate & Ananya Bhattacharya WTC Navi Mumbai]

The two keys to Success are Hard-work and Perseverance, as famously quoted by Thomas Alva Edison "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

Baldevkrishnan Sharma, who is the founding chairman of Marshall Wallcoverings, has recently authored 'Who are we? and What For?', a remarkable book describing his life journey and exploring the laws of nature. Baldevkrishnan Sharma's life journey sets a living example of the above quote.



Despite the failure of his previous business he didn't give up. With his determined mindset he once again ventured into business. With his hard-work and dedication he built Marshall which is presently the largest wallpaper company of India.

Marshall stands as the most trusted wallpaper brand of India, offering over 10,000 designs which are sourced from the most renowned manufacturers in Europe and North America. The enterprise is known for its commitment of best material, excellent creativity and helpful after sales service.

Baldevkrishnan Sharma's life journey is truly an inspiration. He is a genius with an exceptional vision and foresight who produced technologies and products at a early period of independence India was at its early stage of technological advancement.

Two most important lessons learnt from this book are failure is a way to success. Baldev Krishnan himself believes that his failures taught him valuable lessons of life. Another is experience is important before one delves into business.

However, what sets this book apart it not only teaches practical life lessons but also delves into how life's journey is programmed by the nature system through circumstances. He has tried to explain the laws of nature by establishing a link between human and the terrestrial nature system, the solar system, the galaxy and the universe as a whole.

This book offers a unique perspective on life journey. This book is a must read for anyone seeking motivation and wisdom to navigate their own path to success.





WORLD TRADE CENTER

#### Bringing The World Together

# WORLD TRADE CENTER NAVI MUMBAI

WTC Navi Mumbai Membership Benefits

#### Membership advantages / Benefits:

- Global Recognition.
- WTCA and WTCA Network is a Global Brand known for Best Quality Practices.
- Your Membership Brings you Global Recognition to start with. 330 WTC's operating in 92 countries provide reciprocal Membership Services Such as: Office Space, Business Centre, Exhibition / Meeting Rooms, B2B Opportunities, Seminars / Workshops,
- WTC Club, Hotel Discounts, etc.
- WTCA / WTC card to the Member for access to these services.
- There are 750000 Business and other organizations are 15000 experts are associated with WTC's Network. You can Count on this for any of your International Business Needs.

#### National & Local Benefits:

- WTC Navi Mumbai offers significant benefits in terms of Access to the Global WTC's Network.
- Knowledge Services include: Trade Information, Education and Trade Mission.
- International Trade Library & Databases for Reference.
- Participation in Seminars & Training Programs, Mentor Events.
- B2B Meetings with incoming Trade Delegations.
- Referrals to Overseas Embassy's / Consulates in India for Visa purpose.
- Facilities: Temporary Offices & Meeting Rooms.
- Value-added Market / Export Surveys, Industry Studies, Research (@cost).



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