

NEWSLETTER

BRICS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER 2024



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NEW MEMBERS



MR. AMAN JINDAL

DIRECTOR- JINDAL SONS GROUP

CORPORATE MEMBER

Introducing Mr. Aman Jindal, Director of Jindal Sons Group

Jindal Sons Group is rapidly emerging as one of India's leading property developers, seamlessly blending tradition with innovation. The company offers a diverse range of real estate options, including luxury beachside villas, charming cottages, functional office spaces, and sophisticated city apartments. With a focus on plotted development, Jindal Sons empowers customers to design their ideal homes and offices.

Since its founding in 2022, the company has made significant strides, developing residential projects across Punjab, Haryana, and Goa, delivering over 90,000 square yards of land and 150,000 square feet of homes. Now expanding into Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, Jindal Sons continues to provide safe, smart, and sustainable real estate solutions to meet India's evolving needs. Backed by 40 years of industry experience, the company combines global insights and advanced technology to deliver dream projects with a foundation of strong governance.

NEW MEMBERS



MR. VIJAY RAMESH

**CEO - OPERATIONAL ENERGY GROUP
INDIA LIMITED**

CORPORATE MEMBER

Introducing Mr. Vijay Ramesh, CEO of Operational Energy Group India Limited (OEG)

We are pleased to introduce Mr. Vijay Ramesh, CEO of Operational Energy Group India Limited (OEG). OEG, headquartered in Chennai, India, boasts a 25-year legacy, known for its commitment to international standards with ISO certifications in Quality (9001), Environmental (14001), Occupational Health and Safety (45001), and Information Security (27001). The company operates across several sectors, specializing in power plant operations and maintenance, ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of energy facilities.

OEG also offers construction services for infrastructure projects and operates advanced seawater desalination plants through its subsidiary, South Ganga Waters, in Tamil Nadu. In healthcare, OEG's subsidiary, Clinician Care, is involved in the development and management of medical facilities in Chennai. Furthermore, its defense and aerospace subsidiary, OEG Defence and Aerospace (OGDEN), manufactures critical components for war tanks and UAVs for military use. OEG is expanding globally and is developing a new defense and aerospace park near Chennai.

NEW MEMBERS



MS. ARCHANA JAHAGIRDAR

**FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER
OF RUKAM CAPITAL**

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Archana Jahagirdar is a pioneering force in India's entrepreneurial and startup ecosystem. As the Founder and Managing Partner of Rukam Capital, an early-stage consumer-focused venture capital fund, she is one of the few women general partners in venture capital, both in India and globally. Her deep understanding of Indian markets and sharp business intuition have shaped her remarkable career. Archana has been recognized at the national level, being nominated to the National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC), chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, and has been featured in Mint's "100 Women Entrepreneurs Building and Shaping India" (2022) and Inc42's "41 Women Torchbearers of India's Startup Investment Space" (2023). Before founding Rukam Capital in 2019, Archana made significant contributions to deal sourcing, setting up accelerators, and working with the Indian Angel Network, playing a crucial role in scaling early-stage brands like Burger Singh. Under her leadership, Rukam Capital has invested in 18 companies, including Sleepy Owl, GoDesi, BECO, Pilgrim, and Curefoods. She also launched Rukam Sitara, a tech-focused fund aimed at capitalizing on India's evolving technology landscape. Passionate about fostering the startup ecosystem, Archana has organized events like New Delhi Slush'd and Startup Makakumbh and co-led India's startup delegation to Latitude 59 in Estonia. Additionally, she founded the Bootstrap Incubation and Advisory Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to supporting early-stage founders, investors, and industry experts. Archana holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in literature from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University.

NEW MEMBERS



MR. DHRUV AGARWAL

**FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR -
HAGERSTONE INTERNATIONAL**

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Mr. Dhruv Agarwal is a civil engineer from Delhi College of Engineering and a first-generation entrepreneur. He began his career in Dubai with Laing O'Rourke, where he contributed to luxury store interiors at the iconic Dubai Mall. Upon returning to India in 2011, he quickly ascended to top management in an interior company, managing the execution of over 2 million square feet of office spaces for Fortune 500 and Fortune 1000 clients. Today, as the Founder and Managing Director of Hagerstone International, Dhruv leads one of India's largest interior design and build firms.

With over 11 years of industry expertise, Hagerstone International stands out as a premier interior design and build company, transforming spaces across India. The company has completed more than 250 projects and delivered over 7 million square feet across 15+ cities. Supported by a talented workforce of 350+ professionals, Hagerstone International has earned the trust of prominent global clients, including Airtel, Statkraft, EDF, Singapore Airlines, Lufthansa Airlines, Ecoms, and Ultratech. Known for its commitment to innovation, quality, and client satisfaction, Hagerstone International continually sets new standards in the interior design industry.

NEW MEMBERS



MS. KAVITHA RAMACHANDRAGOWDA

**CO-FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AT ROUTEMATIC & COCO RIDES**

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Ms. Kavitha Ramachandragowda is a seasoned technology professional with over 17 years of experience, currently serving as the Co-Founder and Executive Director at Routematic, India's leading provider of Fleet Service and Transport Automation Software.

Throughout her dynamic career, Ms. Kavitha has been instrumental in driving the success and growth of Routematic, demonstrating a commitment to excellence across a wide range of roles.

Her expertise spans software development, testing, operations management, sales, finance, human resources, and IT, making her a versatile leader with a comprehensive understanding of the industry's technological and operational demands.

NEW MEMBERS



MR. NAMAN AGRAWAL

**FOUNDER AND CEO- PRAGATI DEFENCE
SYSTEMS PVT. LTD.
INDIVIDUAL MEMBER**

Mr. Naman Agrawal is the Founder and CEO of Pragati Defence Systems Pvt. Ltd., a leading Indian company specializing in advanced armor solutions for defense applications.

Partnering with the DRDO, Pragati Defence Systems manufactures high-performance BIS Level 5 and 6 bulletproof jackets and AK-47-resistant helmets.

The company is known for its innovative, ultra-lightweight NIJ Level IV armor, capable of withstanding multiple hits while providing superior protection to defense personnel.

Pragati Defence Systems' cutting-edge products significantly enhance the safety and operational effectiveness of India's armed forces, reflecting its commitment to strengthening the nation's defense capabilities.

NEW MEMBERS



MR. VIKAS SOOD

**DIRECTOR, HUKAM CHAND SOOD & SONS
INDIVIDUAL MEMBER**

Mr. Vikas Sood is the Director at Hukam Chand Sood & Sons, a reputable multi-brand showroom that has been a cornerstone of the construction materials industry in Punjab since its founding in 1975.

Strategically located in Khanna, near Ludhiana, Hukam Chand Sood & Sons is a renowned multi-brand showroom offering a comprehensive selection of construction materials for residential and commercial projects.

Spanning over 50,000 sq. ft., the showroom showcases a wide range of high-quality products under one roof, making it a favored destination for anyone planning to renovate or undertake new construction in Punjab.

With a client-first approach and a commitment to providing the best pre-sale product guidance, the company has built a reputation for trust and excellence in the region.

Mr. Vikas Sood continues to lead the company's growth, ensuring customers receive the finest products and services to meet their construction needs.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

B2B ENGAGEMENT: AUSTRADE AND FORE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT EXPLORE EDTECH COLLABORATION

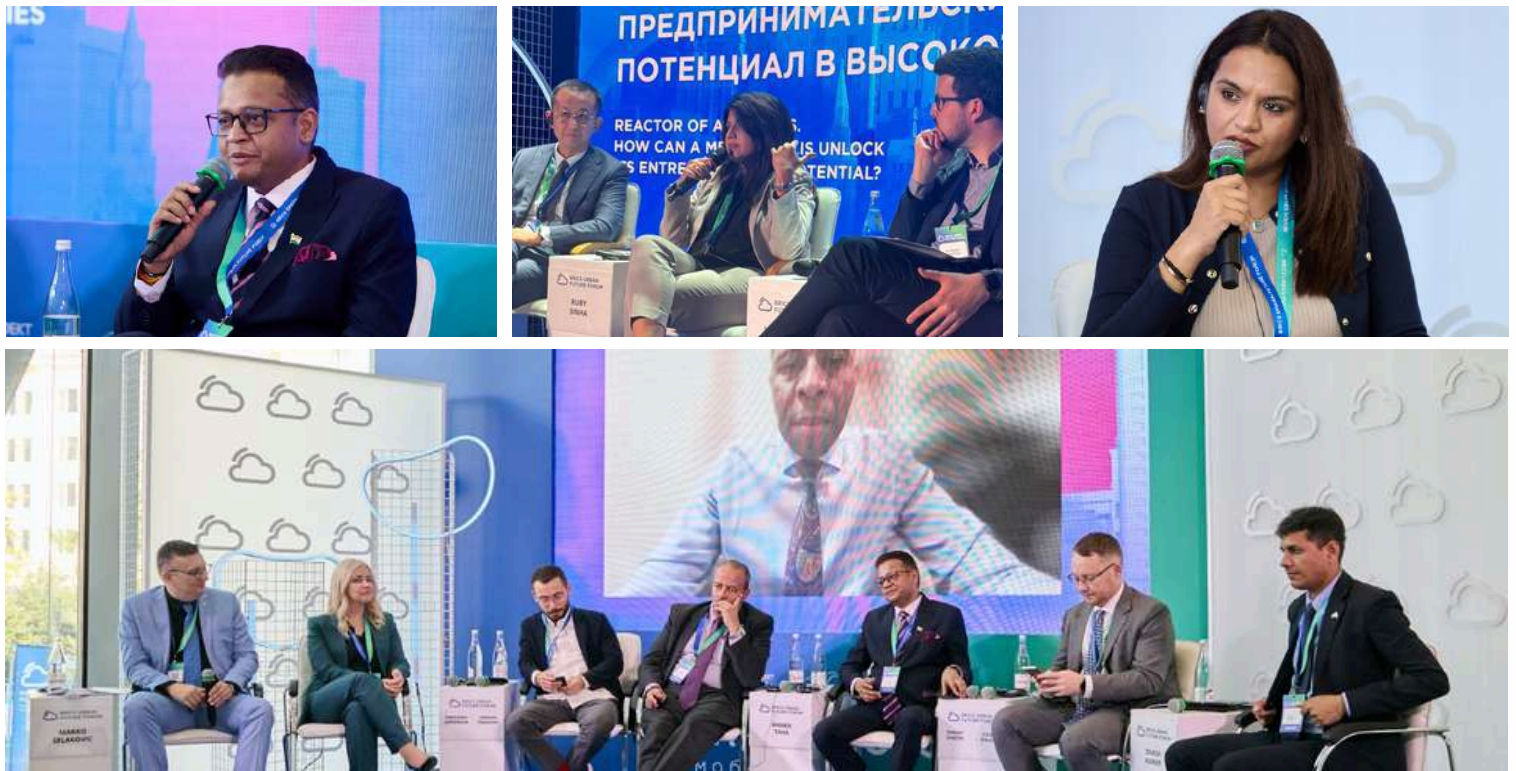


On **September 19, 2024**, the education team from **Austrade** at the **Australian High Commission**, namely, **Ms. Mahnaaz Khan: Head of Trans-National Education and International Branch Campus Project**; **Mr. Henry Zechariah: Head of Edtech initiatives**; and **Mr. Kamal Rabha: Specialist- TNE, IBC, Edtech**, met with senior leadership at **FORE School of Management**, headed by **Dr. B.B.L. Madhukar, Co-Chairman and Director General - BRICS CCI and Chairman, FORE School of Management**, to explore potential avenues for collaboration. The meeting was facilitated by **BRICS CCI**, underscoring the Chamber's role in fostering strategic partnerships and strengthening international educational ties.

The discussion focused on introducing opportunities for **FORE School of Management** to connect with Australian Edtech companies, aiming to enhance educational innovation and technology integration. The engagement aimed to identify collaborative initiatives in areas such as curriculum development, digital learning solutions, and skill enhancement programs that can benefit students and faculty members alike.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS URBAN FUTURE FORUM



The **BRICS Urban Future Forum** was held in **Moscow, Russia**, from September 18-19, 2024, bringing together over 13,000 participants from 21 countries, including political and business leaders. The forum aimed to turn dialogue into actionable strategies to enhance international cooperation among BRICS cities, organizations, and companies.

Representing India, the BRICS CCI delegation featured **Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman - BRICS CCI**, who spoke on "Market without Borders: Export Potentials of Interaction," focusing on boosting trade relations among BRICS nations. **Ms. Ruby Sinha, President of the BRICS CCI Women Empowerment Vertical**, highlighted urban innovation's role in driving entrepreneurship. **Ms. Ankita Sachdev, Joint Director - BRICS CCI**, discussed emerging investment opportunities in BRICS cities in the session "Venture of Change: Investment Market of BRICS Cities."

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS URBAN FUTURE FORUM

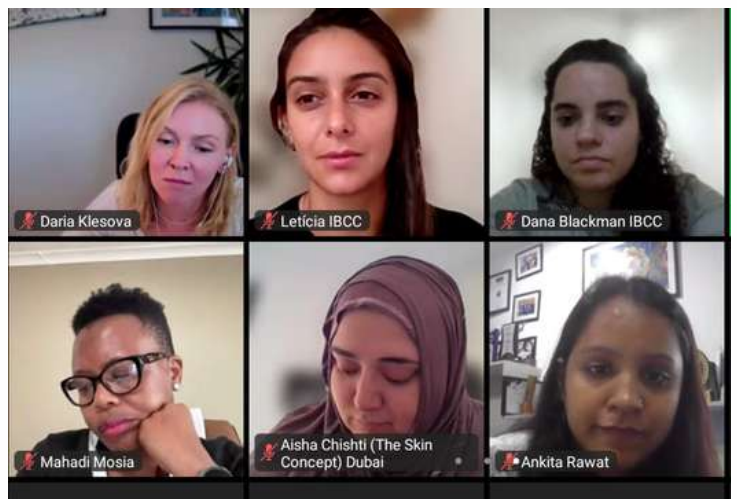
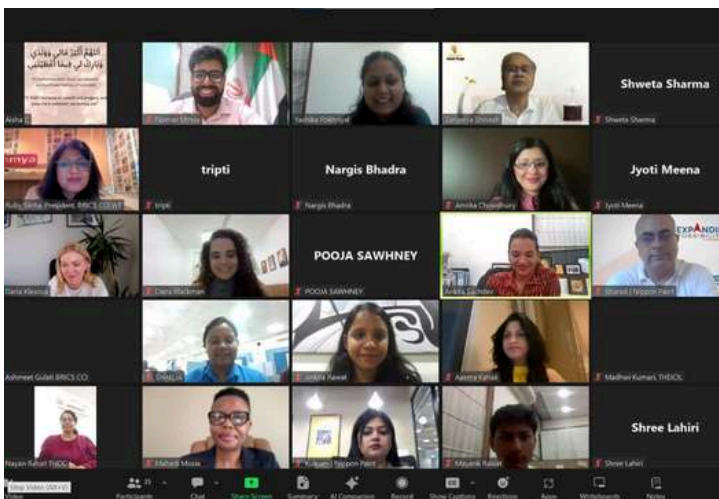


Ms. Shormishtha Ghosh, a distinguished member of the BRICS CCI Governing Body, also participated in various discussions at the forum, lending her expertise to the ongoing dialogue on international cooperation and the future of urban development. Her presence reinforced the chamber's commitment to furthering collaboration and growth among BRICS cities.

Mr. Alok Kumar, Honorary Director of BRICS CCI Russia, spoke on the topic "Industrial Robotization: A Driver of Job Growth in Cities." Mr. Kumar highlighted how automation and robotization are reshaping industries and urban economies, particularly in the context of job creation and productivity enhancement. He discussed the potential of industrial robotization to not only boost economic output but also drive sustainable job growth in the long term, contributing to the economic resilience of cities.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

GLOBAL WOMEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2.0



On September 12, 2024, **BRICS CCI WE** proudly launched the **2nd edition of the Global Women Leadership Programme (GWLP)**, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at empowering women professionals and entrepreneurs across BRICS nations and other friendly countries. The event marked the beginning of a transformative three-month mentorship and learning journey, focused on boosting the potential of women leaders through hands-on mentorship, global exposure, and knowledge-transfer sessions.

The programme is tailored to address the unique challenges faced by women entrepreneurs and professionals, offering support that significantly enhances their chances of success. Studies have shown that mentored entrepreneurs are twice as likely to succeed as their non-mentored counterparts. Understanding this, BRICS CCI WE has curated an intensive programme with participation from a distinguished panel of mentors and speakers, including **Dr. Veronika Aksenova, Ms. Nicole Nguyen, Dr. Roohollah Modabber, Ms. Amrita Chowdhury, Ms. Nargis Bhadra, Mr. Sharad Malhotra, and Mr. Sanjeeva Shivesh.**

In association with **sheatwork and ThinkStartup**, the GWLP offers participants valuable access to global networks, expert-led webinars, and impactful roundtable discussions. The programme's sessions for 2024-25 will benefit from a strategic partnership with **Nippon Paint India**, further expanding its reach and influence.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI CHANDIGARH CHAPTER INAUGURATION



The BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BRICS CCI) inaugurated its much-anticipated **Chandigarh Chapter on September 27, 2024**, in a grand ceremony that marked a significant milestone in fostering international collaboration and regional economic growth. This launch is set to strengthen the Chamber's outreach and influence, establishing a platform for increased trade and investment between India and its BRICS partners, along with other friendly nations. With the addition of this chapter, BRICS CCI now operates 7 regional chapters within India and 6 international chapters, extending its global footprint.

The event saw the presence of esteemed dignitaries, diplomats, and key stakeholders from BRICS+ nations. The **Chief Guest, S. Kultar Singh Sandhwan, Hon'ble Speaker of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha**, commended BRICS CCI for bringing this opportunity to the region. He highlighted that this initiative would not only benefit larger enterprises but also local businesses and young entrepreneurs, whom he described as the future of the region's economy.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI CHANDIGARH CHAPTER INAUGURATION



The presence of representatives from BRICS+ nations, including **Mr. Si Wei, Counsellor, Chinese Embassy in India**, and **Mr. Ahmed Aljneibi, Senior Economic Affairs Specialist from the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates**, underscored the strategic importance of Chandigarh as a hub for cross-border cooperation. Both diplomats highlighted key areas of mutual interest such as trade, technology, and CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement) agreements that would benefit all participating nations.

Mr. Ruhail Ranjan, Treasurer of BRICS CCI, in his welcome address, underscored Chandigarh's strategic significance as an innovation and commerce hub within the BRICS framework. The keynote address was delivered by **Mr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Vice Chairman of BRICS CCI**, who highlighted Punjab's economic strengths and the role the Chamber can play in unlocking growth for the region.

Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman of BRICS CCI, stressed the importance of youth-driven innovation in shaping the future of BRICS partnerships. He pointed out that the world is more interconnected than ever, and that the challenges we face—whether economic, environmental, or technological—require collective action. He described the Chandigarh Chapter as a step toward fostering that collaboration.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI CHANDIGARH CHAPTER INAUGURATION



Mr. Deepak Shukla, Regional Director of BRICS CCI Chandigarh and CEO of Geeken Design Concepts Pvt. Ltd., delivered the opening address, where he reiterated his commitment to advancing the objectives of the BRICS CCI Chandigarh Chapter.

The BRICS CCI Chandigarh Chapter logo was officially launched during the event, symbolizing the beginning of a new era of collaboration and development. In a closing act of honor, prominent local leaders and diplomats were felicitated for their contributions, including **Shri Amarjeet Singh Sidhu, Mayor of Mohali; Mr. Arpit Shukla, IPS, DGP of Punjab; Mr. Manish Nayyar, GST Commissioner of Punjab; and Shri Anup Gupta, Councillor and Former Mayor of Chandigarh.**

The event was supported by **Eva Furnitures, Radha Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd., Decor Plus 99, and Granos World Food India Pvt. Ltd.,** reflecting strong local participation.

The launch of the BRICS CCI Chandigarh Chapter is poised to accelerate regional development and foster greater collaboration between India and its international partners, creating opportunities for business, trade, and innovation, while further strengthening ties within the BRICS framework.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

MOU SIGNED BETWEEN IN TANDEM GLOBAL CONSULTING AND AVTONOMIKA AT THE BRICS FUTURE FORUM



At the **BRICS Urban Future Forum in Moscow**, **In Tandem Global Consulting** announced a strategic partnership with Russian tech company **Avtonomika**, known for its advanced autonomous technologies. This collaboration aims to develop innovative solutions for sustainable urban landscapes, including smart city projects and environmental management.

The partnership, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), will focus on projects like Avtonomika's autonomous robot cleaner, enhancing the quality of public spaces. The forum, chaired by Nobel Peace Prize laureate **Rae Kwon Chung**, emphasized BRICS nations' role in promoting sustainable urban development, further positioning both companies as leaders in cross-border cooperation and smart city solutions.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

MOU SIGNING BETWEEN BRICS CCI & THE GRAPPLING COMMITTEE OF INDIA - NORTH ZONE



The BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry and The Grappling Committee of India - North Zone signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Chandigarh. The MoU was formalized by Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman of BRICS CCI, and Mr. Shubham Chaudhary, Chairman of the Grappling Committee of India - North Zone.

The Grappling Federation of India (GFI) is the national governing body for grappling sports in India, recognized by United World Wrestling (UWW). GFI works to develop the sport from grassroots to elite levels and is dedicated to upholding the values of the Olympic Movement. Their mission includes unifying and organizing associations and clubs to achieve excellence in grappling and ensure that athletes receive equal opportunities for government and Olympic events.

This collaboration marks a significant step in enhancing BRICS CCI's engagement with the sports community.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI GST CONCLAVE & AWARDS 2024



The BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry hosted the **GST Conclave and Awards 2024**, on **October 04, 2024** at **The Ashok, New Delhi**, uniting senior government officials, industry leaders, and legal experts to discuss GST in India. The honorable **Chief Guest, Mr. K.K. Jalan, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary to the Government of India**, emphasized GST's positive impact on business processes. **CA Nidhi Goyal, President, Indirect Tax Vertical, BRICS CCI**, delivered the Welcome Note, underscoring GST's role in economic integration. Keynote speakers included **Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)**, on "**BRICS & GST: Driving Economic Integration**," and **Mr. Tirumala Venkatesh Kaggundi, Joint Director General of Foreign Trade**, who addressed "**BRICS Trade Integration**." **Mr. Sahil Seth, Joint Commissioner, CBIC**, offered special remarks on recent GST reforms. Panel discussions covered topics like "**GST - 7 Year Journey**," sectoral implications, and future directions.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI GST CONCLAVE & AWARDS 2024



The panel discussions covered topics like **"GST - 7 Year Journey,"** sectoral implications, and future directions, featuring distinguished panelists: **Shri K.J. Chaudhry, IRS (Retd), Former Chief Commissioner of GST; CA Ashok Batra, Senior Partner, A.K. Batra & Associates; Mr. Shivam Mehta, Executive Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan; Adv. (CA) Prakash Sinha, Partner, Finjuris LLP; Adv. (CA) Bimal Jain, Founder, A2Z Taxcorp LLP; Mr. Jatin Harjai, Advocate, JHA Legal; CA Archana Jain, Founder, Archana Jain & Co.; Ms. Shreya Dahiya, Principal Associate, Kochhar & Co.; CA Sarthak Garg, Partner, Garg Manoj & Associates; CA Sammir Chaudhary, Founder, Fintax Chanakya; Adv. J.K. Mittal, Supreme Court lawyer; and Ms. Soumya Panda, Founding Partner, S.K. Panda & Associates.** The Awards recognized excellence in GST, with honors for **Avinav Consulting Pvt. Ltd. (GST Firm of the Year), Prakash Sachin & Co. (GST Team of the Year - Litigation), Archana Jain & Co. (GST Team of the Year - Consultancy), Ms. Soumya Panda (GST Rising Star of the Year - Female), and Mr. Varun Singla (GST Rising Star of the Year - Male).** The event, powered by Taxmann, with Avinav Consulting Pvt. Ltd. and Garg Manoj & Associates as Knowledge Partners, emphasized collaboration in shaping India's evolving tax landscape.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

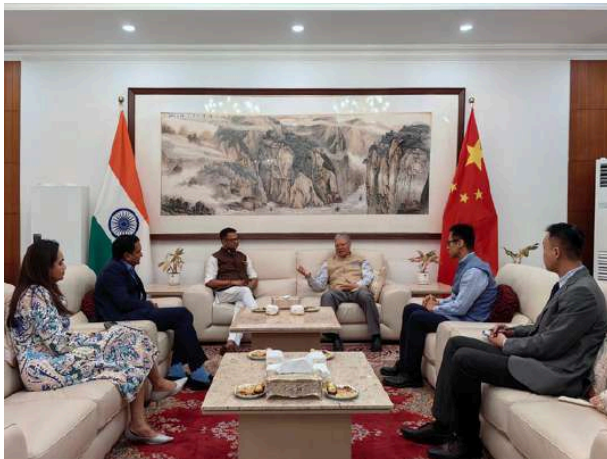
BRICS BUSINESS FORUM 2024



The BRICS Business Forum 2024, held on **October 17-18, 2024** in Moscow, Russia, brought together top leaders, experts, and influencers from various industries across BRICS nations and beyond. Focused on the theme "**Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Growth**," the forum aimed to foster collaboration and explore opportunities in emerging sectors such as technology, finance, infrastructure, and sustainability. The two-day event featured a series of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and networking sessions, along with the BRICS Solution Awards, which celebrated groundbreaking projects within the BRICS community. **Ms. Ankita Sachdev, Joint Director - BRICS CCI** served as one of the esteemed judges for the awards, playing a key role in recognizing impactful innovations. The forum served as a platform for participants to share insights and discuss strategies for driving sustainable growth across the BRICS countries. Representatives from BRICS CCI, namely, **Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman - BRICS CCI**; **Mr. Alok Kumar, Honorary Director- BRICS CCI Russia** and **Honorary Governing Body Member**; and **Mr. Anand Anu, MD Himalaya Construction Pvt. Ltd.**, actively participated in the discussions, contributing valuable perspectives and highlighting the Chamber's commitment to promoting sustainable business practices and economic integration within the BRICS framework.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI MEETING WITH THE EMBASSY OF CHINA



In a warm celebration of Diwali, **Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman of BRICS CCI, and Ms. Ankita Sachdev, Joint Director of BRICS CCI**, had the pleasure of visiting the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi, where they engaged in a meaningful conversation with the **Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, H. E. Mr. Xu Feihong**. During this festive gathering, the Ambassador extended heartfelt wishes for a joyous Diwali to all BRICS CCI members and Indian friends.

The Ambassador also expressed his optimism about the China-India partnership and the significant potential for collaboration within the BRICS framework. He noted that the upcoming BRICS Summit in Kazan will be instrumental in providing a new vision and direction for our collective journey, reinforcing the commitment to deepening cooperation and mutual growth among BRICS nations.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

BRICS CCI 48TH GOVERNING BODY MEETING



The **48th Governing Body Meeting of BRICS CCI** convened on **October 21, 2024**, at the **Hyatt Regency, New Delhi**, bringing together esteemed members to review the Chamber's recent activities and future objectives.

The agenda commenced with the confirmation of minutes from the 47th Governing Body Meeting held on July 12, 2024, followed by the formal introduction of new members who joined the Chamber over the past quarter.

Comprehensive discussions took place regarding recent BRICS CCI programs and events, which have played a pivotal role in strengthening the Chamber's influence and visibility on both national and international fronts.

The meeting also provided a preview of upcoming initiatives, including B2B business meetings and strategic conferences, underscoring their objectives in enhancing collaboration and promoting business synergies across BRICS nations.

BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE AVIATION CONCLAVE 2024



The second edition of the **Global Sustainable Aviation Conclave (GSAC)**, held on **October 25, 2024**, at the **Indian Aviation Academy, New Delhi**, marked a key milestone for the aviation industry's journey toward sustainability. Organized by Aviakul Group of Companies, under the leadership of Mr. Vaibhav Varun, MD of Aviakul and esteemed BRICS CCI member, this year's conclave saw **BRICS CCI as the proud knowledge partner**.

The event convened top officials from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, DGCA, AAI, and BCAS, alongside distinguished embassy representatives from Russia, Iran, Bolivia, and Cabo Verde. Key sessions explored sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), carbon offsetting, and financing mechanisms vital to achieving industry-wide sustainability goals.

Notable addresses included a keynote by Shri Erik Solheim, Former UN Undersecretary-General, focusing on India's compliance with global sustainability initiatives, and Shri Subrahmanyam Pulipaka, CEO of the National Solar Energy Federation of India, discussing renewable energy's role in aviation.

Panel discussions tackled SAF adoption pathways, AI for workforce sustainability, and transformative educational needs in aviation. GSAC 2024 underscored BRICS CCI's dedication to fostering collaboration and advancing sustainable innovation, aligning with India's ambitious net-zero targets.

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

SpiceJet finalizes settlement with Engine Lease Finance Corporation to resolve \$16.7 mn liabilities

SpiceJet has resolved its dispute with Engine Lease Finance Corporation (ELFC) through a settlement. ELFC had initially claimed \$16.7 million but agreed to settle for an undisclosed, lower amount. This agreement allows SpiceJet to withdraw all ongoing litigation and focus on future growth, according to Chairman Ajay Singh.

https://legal.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/corporate-business/spicejet-finalises-settlement-with-engine-lease-finance-corporation-to-resolve-16-7-mn-liabilities/113619402?utm_source=top_news&utm_medium=sectionListing

Centre amends rules related to amalgamations under companies law

The government has amended certain rules governing mergers under the companies law and amalgamations involving a foreign holding company and its wholly-owned Indian subsidiary will now require prior RBI approval. Amendments have been made to the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016 by the corporate affairs ministry.

Link:- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/centre-amends-rules-related-to-amalgamations-under-companies-law/articleshow/113235441.cms>

Sebi issues operating guidelines for Foreign Venture Capital Investors

Markets regulator Sebi on Thursday issued operational guidelines for Foreign venture capital investors (FVCIs) outlining procedures for registration, compliance, and investment activities. Also, the Securities and Exchange Board of India has issued operational guidelines for Designated Depository Participants (DDPs).

Link:- https://legal.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/regulators/sebi-issues-operating-guidelines-for-foreign-venture-capital-investors/113713053?utm_source=top_story&utm_medium=latestNews

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

SpiceJet clears GST dues days after raising Rs 3,000 cr via QIP

Low-cost airline SpiceJet announced on Friday that it has cleared all its Goods and Services Tax (GST) dues, just one day after settling salary arrears for its employees. This follows the airline's successful fundraising of Rs 3,000 crore through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP), attracting various institutional investors, including Goldman Sachs and Tata Mutual Fund.

Link:- https://legal.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/corporate-business/spicejet-clears-gst-dues-days-after-raising-rs-3000-cr-via-qip/113727736?utm_source=top_news&utm_medium=sectionListing

HC directs travel portals to take down listings by 'orchid' infringer

Mumbai: In a temporary relief for Kamat Hotels (India), the Bombay High Court has directed a clutch of online travel portals including Makemytrip, Goibibo, Booking.com B.V. and Agoda to take down the listings of a company that allegedly infringed the trademark of its brand 'The Orchid'. The BSE-listed hotel chain Kamat Hotels had approached the court against city-based firm Orchid Service Apartment with the argument that the company was infringing its trademark by running a service apartment/hotel and rendering services under

Link:- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/hotels/-/restaurants/hc-directs-travel-portals-to-take-down-listings-by-orchid-infringer/articleshow/113577791.cms>

Over a dozen food & beverage companies get notice over trademark usage

New Delhi: The Directorate General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DGGI) has sent show cause notices to more than a dozen food and beverages companies over trademark usage by their franchises and outlets in states other than where they have their registered offices, officials in the know said.

Link:- Over a dozen food & beverage companies get notice over trademark usage - The Economic Times (indiatimes.com)

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

Delhi HC blocks Italian firm Amuleti's use of Amul trademark in key ruling

In a notable case of cross-border trademark infringement, the Delhi High Court granted an injunction in favour of Amul, India's largest dairy brand, against the Italian company Terre Primitive. The Italian firm had been marketing cookies and chocolate-coated biscuits under the 'Amuleti' brand, which closely resembled Amul's trademark, according to The Times of India.

Link:- Delhi HC blocks Italian firm Amuleti's use of Amul trademark in key ruling | Company News - Business Standard (business-standard.com)

Bombay HC grants temporary relief to Burger King in trademark dispute against Pune namesake

The Bombay High Court has temporarily stayed the lower court's order that allowed the Pune-based eatery to use the brand name 'Burger King' until further hearing.

On Monday the division bench of Justice AS Chandurkar and Justice Rajesh Patil, while granting a temporary stay in an oral order on the Pune district court's order, adjourned the matter to September 6.

Link:- Bombay HC grants temporary relief to Burger King in trademark dispute against Pune namesake - The Economic Times (indiatimes.com)

Coca-Cola India appoints new market head for India Southwest Asia

Beverages major Coca-Cola on Friday said Greishma Singh has been appointed as the new market head for India Southwest Asia (INSWA) Operating Unit. Singh will succeed Arnab Roy, who was recently named the Global Category President, Coca-Cola Trademark. Her appointment will be effective September 1, 2024, according to a company statement.

Link:- Coca-Cola India appoints new market head for India Southwest Asia - The Economic Times (indiatimes.com)

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

Indian sitcom protects its IP: reimagining IP and personality rights in the digital era

Navigating the complex intersection of intellectual property (IP) and personality rights in the entertainment industry has always been challenging, but recent legal developments have added a new layer of intrigue.

On August 14, 2024, the Delhi High Court addressed a significant legal issue in the case of Neela Film Productions Pvt. Ltd. v.

Link:- Indian sitcom protects its IP: reimagining IP and personality rights in the digital era (trademarklawyermagazine.com)

Bombay High Court Imposes Rs 50 Lakh Costs On Company For Breaching Injunction Orders, Using Fevicol Trademark

In yet another case of contempt in a commercial suit, the Bombay High Court on August 13 imposed a hefty cost of Rs 50 lakh on a company which used 'deceptively' similar trademark of Fevicol and its range of products despite an injunction restraining the company from using anything similar to said trademark. Single-judge Justice Riyaz Chagla noted that the petitioner in breach of the...

Link:- Bombay High Court Imposes Rs 50 Lakh Costs On Company For Breaching Injunction Orders, Using Fevicol Trademark (livelaw.in)

The Culmination of a Saga: How the Delhi HC Resolved the Two-Decade Long 'Lacoste v. Crocodile International' Impasse

On August 14, the Delhi High Court passed the final judgment in a 23-year-old trademark dispute between Lacoste and Crocodile International. SpicyIP intern Samridhi Chugh discusses the key issues in the dispute and breaks down the Court's verdict. Samridhi is a final-year student at the Campus Law Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, and a graduate in Journalism from Lady Shri Ram College for Women. With a passion for the dynamic intersection of law, media and technology, she is particularly interested in exploring intellectual property and tech policy. Her previous posts can be accessed here.

Link:- The Culmination of a Saga: How the Delhi HC Resolved the Two-Decade Long 'Lacoste v. Crocodile International' Impasse – SpicyIP

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

Not All is Fair in Aashiqui and War?: Analysing the DHC's Injunction for Using 'Aashiqui' in Super Cassettes's Film Name

On 2nd September 2024, the Delhi High Court (DHC) in the case of Vishesh Films Private Limited v. Super Cassettes Industries Limited (pdf) delivered a judgment restraining T-Series from using the title "Tu Hi Aashiqui"/ "Tu Hi Aashiqui Hai" or any other title that includes the mark "Aashiqui" for their proposed film. Interestingly, T-Series enjoys joint ownership of the franchise "Aashiqui" with Vishesh Films. The Single Judge Bench (SB) consisting of Justice Sanjeev Narula made some intriguing observations regarding the trademarkability of the mark "Aashiqui" as a movie franchise and restraining its use by other entities. The 37-page judgment is a well-written analysis of some rather intriguing aspects of trademark law, and this post will analyse the observations of the SB and anticipate how far the DHC has deviated from its decisions in similar matters brought to it previously.

Link:- Not All is Fair in Aashiqui and War?: Analysing the DHC's Injunction for Using 'Aashiqui' in Super Cassettes's Film Name – SpicyIP

MP High Court Sets Aside Excise Commissioner's Order for Not Considering Similarities Between Competing Beer Labels

On August 27, the Madhya Pradesh High Court passed a peculiar decision, in a writ appeal, setting aside the Excise Commissioner's order for not considering the alleged similarities between the competing beer labels. The Court interpreted the responsibility to make such a determination under the MP Foreign Liquor Rules. In this tidbit, SpicyIP intern Mehnaz Khatoon breaks down the order, highlighting how such an interpretation by the Court cannot be made under the MP Rules and explaining the implications of this decision. Mehnaz is a recent law graduate from Aligarh Muslim University Centre Malappuram. She is passionate about Intellectual Property Laws and is interested in pursuing a career in the corporate sector.

Link SpicyIP Tidbit: MP High Court Sets Aside Excise Commissioner's Order for Not Considering Similarities Between Competing Beer Labels – SpicyIP

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

Gilead inks pact with six generic drugmakers on long-acting HIV injectable, even as civil society oppose patent application

Six drugmakers have inked voluntary licensing (VL) agreements with Gilead Sciences to manufacture and distribute generic lenacapavir, a long-acting injectable HIV drug from the American drugmaker.

The companies that signed the VL agreement included India's Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Emcure and Hetero, besides Eva Pharma (Egypt), Ferozsons Laboratories Ltd (Pakistan) and Mylan (a subsidiary of US-based Viatris).

Link:-Gilead inks pact with six generic drugmakers on long-acting HIV injectable, even as civil society oppose patent application - The Hindu BusinessLine

Germany's Boehringer, Indian pharma in legal battle over diabetes drug

German drugmaker Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) has obtained two separate interim injunctions against two Indian drugmakers – MSN Laboratories and Dr Reddy's Laboratories – who launched cheaper, generic versions of their anti-diabetic drug empagliflozin.

BI holds a patent for Empagliflozin under the name Jardiance in India till 2025, the company said.

Link:- Germany's Boehringer, Indian pharma in legal battle over diabetes drug | Company News - Business Standard (business-standard.com)

Honda NX125 Design Patent Image Filed In India

Honda has filed a design patent of its NX125 sporty scooter in the country, which has delighted enthusiasts. The 125 cc scooter was introduced in China and it could be a very strong rival to the likes of the TVS NTorq 125 and the Yamaha RayZR 125.

However, Honda's past track record with such activities have not been materialised into new products. We have seen countless design patent filings from the Japanese manufacturer, like the Snoopy or the Gremio 160, that are never likely to see the light of day in India. The main reason that Honda does file the patent is to protect its IP and prohibit others (like the China-sourced rebadged e-scooter players) to bring out something that looks identical.

Link:- Honda NX125 Design Patent Image Filed In India (ackodrive.com)

BRICS CCI PRESENTS LAW | NEWS DIGEST

Panacea Biotech, Sanofi settle patent infringement suit

Under the terms of settlement agreement, Sanofi has agreed that at present, it would not directly or indirectly commercially launch its fully liquid hexavalent vaccine 'Shan6' in India, Panacea Biotech said in a regulatory filing.

New Delhi: Panacea Biotech on Tuesday said it has reached a settlement agreement with Sanofi Healthcare India over patent infringement litigation for a fully liquid hexavalent vaccine, EasySix.

Link:- Panacea Biotech, Sanofi settle patent infringement suit (deccanherald.com)

Lupin Signs Patent License for Gastrointestinal Drug in India

New Delhi, Sep 18 (PTI) Home-grown pharma major Lupin Ltd on Wednesday said it has entered into a non-exclusive patent licence agreement with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd to commercialise Vonoprazan tablets, a novel gastrointestinal drug, in the Indian market.

Under the terms of this agreement, Takeda has granted Lupin non-exclusive patent licensing rights to commercialise Vonoprazan in India, the company said in a regulatory filing.

Link:- Lupin Signs Patent License for Gastrointestinal Drug in India: Rediff Moneynews

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

India took part in the BRICS Literature Forum 2024



India took part in the BRICS Literature Forum 2024, which began in Kazan, Russia on 11th September 2024. The event, inaugurated by Kazan Mayor Ilсур Metshin, focused on the theme “World Literature in the New Reality: Dialogue of Traditions, National Values, and Cultures.”

This forum brought together writers, poets, philosophers, artists, and scholars from BRICS countries. India was represented by Madhav Kaushik, President of Sahitya Akademi, and Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi.

SOURCE: PIB

Turkiye has applied for membership in the BRICS bloc

NATO member **Turkiye** has applied for membership in the **BRICS bloc of developing economies**, a senior Kremlin official said on Wednesday (September 4, 2024), as Russia and China seek to counter the West's global influence.

Yuri Ushakov, President Vladimir Putin's foreign affairs aide, told reporters that **Turkiye** has submitted an application “for full membership” in the bloc that Russia this year chairs, and it will be considered.



SOURCE: THE HINDU

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

BRICS Media Summit wraps up in Moscow



A media summit of the BRICS economic group kicked off in Moscow on Saturday, 14th September, 2024 featuring 120 foreign media executives from 60 outlets across 47 countries, including Yusuf Ozhan, Anadolu's deputy director-general and editor-in-chief.

The summit focused on the role of the media in BRICS countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, along with Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates – in fostering stability and cooperation within a multipolar world.

SOURCE: AZERTAC NEWS

“BRICS Dialogue on Civilizations” event successfully held in Kazan

The "BRICS Dialogue on Civilizations" event took place in Kazan, Russia, on September 24th, with over 300 participants, including representatives from institutions, experts, scholars, and youth from BRICS countries.

The event, themed "Gathering the Power of People-to-people and Cultural Exchanges to Build a Bright Future for BRICS", was co-hosted by the State Council Information Office of China, the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan of Russia, and the Consulate-General of China in Kazan.



SOURCE: PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

Burkina Faso's Prime Minister expresses interest in joining BRICS



The Prime Minister of Burkina Faso, Apollinaire Joachim Kyelem de Tambela, met with Russia's Ambassador to Ouagadougou, Igor Martynov, to discuss the country's interest in joining the BRICS group, as reported by Sidwaya.

According to the Prime Minister, becoming part of the BRICS group could foster more equitable international trade and encourage the development of trade in national currencies.

SOURCE: TV BRICS

Algeria joins BRICS New Development Bank

Algeria has been approved for membership in the **BRICS New Development Bank (NDB)**, the country's finance ministry has announced. The decision was taken on Saturday and announced by NDB chief Dilma Roussef at a meeting in **Cape Town, South Africa**.

By joining "this important development institution, the financial arm of the BRICS group, Algeria is taking a major step in its process of integration into the global financial system," the Algerian finance ministry said in a statement.



SOURCE: VOICE OF AMERICA

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

Meeting with BRICS high-ranking officials responsible for security matters



The **President of Russia** met with high-ranking BRICS security officials at the Constantine Palace. Attendees included **India's National Security Advisor Ajit Kumar Doval**, **China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi**, **South Africa's Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni**, **Egypt's National Security Council Secretary-General Alaa Youssef**, **Iran's Supreme National Security Council Secretary Ali Ahmadian**, **UAE's National Security Secretary-General Ali Al Shamsi**, **Ethiopia's Intelligence Director Tadesse Million Lema**, **Brazil's Deputy Special Assistant Ibrahim Abdul Hak Neto**, and **Russia's Security Council Secretary Sergei Shoigu**.

SOURCE: PRESIDENT OF RUSSIA

Moscow hosts 3rd Summit of BRICS Energy Ministers

The **third summit of BRICS senior energy experts was held** with the participation of **Director of Supervision and Control of Electricity Market of Iran Electricity Network Management Company Iman Rahmati** and **Director General of Foreign Trade Department of Iran Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution Company (TAVANIR) Mehrdad Eghlimi** and **Director General of Ministry of Energy for Transmission and Distribution Affairs Abdolsaheb Arjmand**.



SOURCE: MEHR NEWS AGENCY

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

16th BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property (IP) Offices Meeting



On **October 10-11, 2024**, Moscow hosted the 16th BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property (IP) Offices Meeting, chaired by **Yury Zubov, Head of Rospatent**. The meeting reviewed the progress in BRICS IP cooperation and approved several project proposals. The IP Offices agreed to prepare a new edition of the Operational Guidelines Framework for IP BRICS Cooperation. An open session titled "Intellectual Property as a Factor of Economic Development in the BRICS Countries" featured key speakers, including Maxim Kolesnikov, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of Russia; Dmitry Fadeev, Director of the Legal Department at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Russia and Chairman of the Council for Intellectual Property; and Grigory Ivliev, President of the Eurasian Patent Office, who discussed IP's role in economic development and current challenges.

SOURCE: BRICS RUSSIA 2024

BRICS Business Forum: President Putin Addresses Economic Integration

On **October 18, 2024**, Hon'ble President of Russia, Mr. **Vladimir Putin** addressed the plenary session of the **BRICS Business Forum 2024**, underscoring Russia's commitment to deepening economic cooperation within BRICS and integrating new members. The forum, which brought together over 1,000 business leaders from BRICS nations, focused on areas like finance, logistics, agriculture, and sustainable development. Putin highlighted BRICS' increasing share of global GDP and the group's significant role in driving worldwide economic growth, surpassing the G7. He also emphasized strengthening transport connectivity,



developing the Northern Sea Route and North-South Corridor, and advancing technological and digital infrastructure. The forum's outcomes will be reported to BRICS leaders at the upcoming summit in Kazan, marking a step towards fostering mutual prosperity and sustainable development.

SOURCE: KREMLIN

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

BRICS SUMMIT 2024: KEY HIGHLIGHTS



- This year's summit marks a significant milestone for BRICS, as it welcomed five new countries into the bloc: **Saudi Arabia, Egypt, UAE, Iran, and Ethiopia**. This expansion doubles the membership from five to ten countries and enhances BRICS' global clout. This inclusion reflects BRICS' ambition to create a **multipolar world**, with these nations representing diverse regions and possessing vast natural resources and economic influence. BRICS is now positioned to better challenge Western-centric global governance and increase collaboration across the Global South.
- A central focus of the summit was the **reform of international governance structures**, particularly institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. BRICS leaders advocated for greater representation of developing nations in these bodies, challenging the Western dominance that has historically dictated global economic policy. This reform is essential to BRICS' mission of providing a more equitable and inclusive approach to global governance. The call for reform aligns with the bloc's overall agenda to create fairer decision-making frameworks that better represent the interests of emerging economies. .
- The summit highlighted the push for the establishment of an **independent BRICS payment system**, designed to reduce reliance on Western-dominated financial systems like SWIFT. This system would support intra-BRICS trade using local currencies, enhancing economic sovereignty and insulating member nations from geopolitical risks associated with sanctions or economic isolation. Such a move is aimed at creating a more resilient financial framework that can support growing economic collaboration among BRICS nations, independent of Western financial institutions.

BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

BRICS SUMMIT 2024: KEY HIGHLIGHTS



- Climate Change was a top priority at the Summit, with discussions focusing on the need for enhanced energy cooperation among member states. BRICS leaders committed to accelerating investments in sustainable and renewable energy projects, addressing the global climate crisis. The cooperation in this area extends to **knowledge-sharing and technological innovation in green energy sectors**, aiming to reduce carbon footprints and transition towards cleaner energy solutions.
- Amid growing geopolitical tensions, ensuring the **stability of global supply chains** was another key discussion point at the summit. BRICS leaders underscored the importance of economic resilience through the diversification of supply chains. The ongoing conflict in Ukraine, trade disputes, and the impact of sanctions have all highlighted the fragility of global supply chains. BRICS aims to create more secure, diversified trade networks, reducing dependency on any single region and safeguarding the economic interests of member nations.
- The summit also placed a strong emphasis on **collaboration in science and technology**, recognizing the role of innovation in driving economic growth and development. BRICS countries are keen to deepen partnerships in fields such as artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and digital infrastructure. This cooperation is aimed at boosting the technological capabilities of member states, enabling them to compete on a global scale, and ensuring they are not left behind in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- BRICS invited Turkey, Indonesia, Algeria, Belarus, Cuba, Bolivia, Malaysia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Vietnam, Nigeria, and Uganda, to join as **“Partner States”**.

ARTICLE I

THE BEST INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR LONG TERM GROWTH



MS. PRITI GOEL

FOUNDER & CEO OF PRISHA WEALTH
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REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISER

While the Indian stock market experienced a positive trend in Sep'24. Both Sensex and Nifty 50 indices had strong performances, each gaining around 3.17% in Sep'24. The market was buoyed by strong liquidity inflows from both domestic institutional investors (DIIs) and foreign institutional investors (FIIs). Even though thereafter, markets declined by 3.6% in first week of Oct'24 but have remained up by 40% over the past year.

Despite the euphoria of the Indian markets, investors have several investment options to choose from for long term growth in one's portfolio. The choice may remain on one's financial goals, risk tolerance, investment horizon and return profile of each of these options. Let's look at them one by one.

1. Investing in equity or stocks can potentially provide significant returns over a long term. While it is suitable for investors with a high risk appetite, it is still important to research about the companies with strong growth potential.

ARTICLE I

THE BEST INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR LONG TERM GROWTH

2. Equity linked products such as Mutual Funds, Index Funds, and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) invest in stocks. They can potentially offer high returns over the long term and again are suitable for investors with a higher risk appetite. Even amongst them, some have lower expense ratios than others which gets reflected in their overall returns.
3. Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) as an investment option is similar to mutual funds. Investors pool in investments and REIT companies manage those investments. They invest the fund in primary real estate buildings and mortgages. Money is generated from the rental income and investors get portion of the returns in the form of dividends. REITs are subject to market fluctuations. Economic downturns can impact property values and rental income.
4. Unit Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs) combines insurance and investment. They offer market linked returns and are suitable for long-term financial goals.
5. Investing in real estate properties can provide substantial returns over long-term, especially in growing urban areas. However, this product has lower liquidity and requires a significant initial investment.
6. Public Provident Fund (PPF) is a government backed savings scheme with a tenure of 15 years, renewable thereafter for every 5 years. It offers stable returns and tax benefits and is a popular choice with conservative investors.
7. Employee Provident Fund (EPF) is similar to PPF. It is again a government backed savings scheme for salaried employees. It offers stable returns and tax benefits.

ARTICLE I

THE BEST INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR LONG TERM GROWTH

8. National Pension Scheme (NPS) is a retirement focused investment option that offers market-linked returns and tax benefits. This product is suitable for long-term financial planning.

9. Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) are governments securities denominated in grams of gold. They offer an easy and safe option to invest in gold and earn interest on your investment. Unlike traditional physical gold which is not only hard to procure but even more difficult to store.

10. Fixed Deposits are one of India's traditional and popular investment options. It has minimum risk profile with decent returns. Offered by banks, post office, and non-bank finance companies (NBFCs) across time period. They are suited for lump-sum investment to grow and offer interest at regular intervals. The interest rates vary with the banks or the NBFC.

11. Companies or government offer Bonds for fixed interest and tenure. The ones which are government backed are considered low-risk investment options in India.

12. For anyone seeking secured and guaranteed returns, Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) is one of the best investment options. It is a small savings scheme available at post offices and provides a guaranteed return on investment.

Disclosures:

- *Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing*
- *The securities quoted are for illustration only and are not recommendatory*
- *Registration granted by SEBI, membership of BASL (in case of IAs) and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors*

ARTICLE II

PATENT STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY INVENTIONS



MR. RAHUL BAGGA

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INDIVIDUAL MEMBER
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Synthetic biology integrates biological sciences and engineering, allowing the reengineering and reprogramming of biological systems for utilitarian purposes to address challenges in healthcare, industrial production, and agriculture. Researchers actively design biological components to create new configurations that may include generating biofuels, production of medical biomolecules, synthetic gene networks for sensing or diagnostics, etc. For example- Techniques like CRISPR allow scientists to make precise alterations to an organism's DNA, which can lead to improvements such as disease resistance in crops or the production of therapeutic proteins in microorganisms; Creation of bio factories that include engineered microorganisms that can produce valuable chemicals, such as pharmaceuticals and biofuels; Thebaine, Codeine, Taxadiene, Dencichine, engineered probiotic *L. gasseri* ATCC 33323, probiotic *L. paracasei* ATCC 27092, engineered *E. coli* Nissle 1917 (EcN), Genetically encoded click chemistry (or Spy chemistry) are some of the examples.

ARTICLE II

PATENT STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY INVENTIONS

A few Patent/Patent applications related to synthetic biology in US, EP, IN may include-

- **Biological tools and methods-** Claims can be covered with aspects of tools and methods used in the synthetic biology for examples- Crispr-CAS, method of synthesizing DNA or techniques for assembling synthetic genomes.
- **Genetically Modified Organisms:** Claims can be made for genetically engineered microorganisms, such as bacteria or yeast, that have been modified to produce specific compounds or perform certain functions. For example, a patent might cover a genetically modified bacterium designed to produce biofuels or pharmaceuticals.
- **Synthetic Genes and Pathways:** Patent applications may be written and grants can be obtained for synthetic genes or metabolic pathways that have been engineered to enhance or introduce new functions in an organism.
- **Bioprocesses:** Patent applications may be written and grants can be obtained for processes that use synthetic biology to produce chemicals, pharmaceuticals, or other value-added processes.

Few Landmark Cases Involved-

- **Dimminaco A.G. v. Controller of Patents and Designs (2002):** This landmark case involved the patentability of a live vaccine for poultry.
- **Monsanto Technology LLC v. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd. (2019):** This case revolved around the patentability of genetically modified (GM) cotton seeds.
- **Kibow Biotech Inc. v. The Controller General of Patents (2019):** This case involved a dietary supplement aimed at aiding kidney function.

ARTICLE II

PATENT STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY INVENTIONS

Jurisdiction Wise Specificities -

India: Assessing the patentability of synthetic biology innovations in India is complex. The patenting of naturally occurring genes, including those in the human genome, is a highly contentious issue.

Few Patents/Patent applications involved-

- Recently patent **IN501662B** granted on January 22, 2024 in **IPO**, discloses a method for producing specially modified immune cells through advanced genetic engineering. The process utilizes a gene-editing tool derived from *Streptococcus pyogenes*, known as the Cas9 protein, along with guide RNA that directs the editing to precise sequences within two key genes: *Dgkα* and *Dgkζ*. The targeted sequences are identified using unique identifiers, allowing for precise modifications that can lead to more effective immune responses.
- **IN289454B - titled- METHODS FOR IN VITRO JOINING AND COMBINATORIAL ASSEMBLY OF NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES** claims *An in vitro method of joining a set of two or more double-stranded (ds) or single stranded (ss) DNA molecules.....to form a first assembled dsDNA molecule in a one-step reaction.*
- **IN235338B** - A method for making a recombinant DNA claims
 - A double-stranded DNA vector useful for directed cloning or subcloning of a target DNA molecule of interest.....the first target DNA strand.
 - A kit useful for directed cloning or subcloning of a target DNA molecule on the first target DNA strand; and
 - a cell containing a bacterial recombinase.

USA: During the 1970s and 1980s, the U.S. Supreme Court along with the European Patent Office's Board of Appeal tackled the contentious topic of patenting genetic materials, which stirred significant political debate among citizen groups.

ARTICLE II

PATENT STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY INVENTIONS

Few Patents/Patent applications involved-

- **US11352619B2** - Method for synthesis of polynucleotides using a diverse library of oligonucleotides claims-
 - A method for synthesizing a target double stranded (ds) polynucleotide having a predefined sequence,
 - An oligonucleotide library provided within an array device comprising a diversity of library members, wherein the library members are single stranded oligonucleotides (ss oligos) and double stranded oligonucleotides (ds oligos)
- **US6355412B1** - Methods and compositions for directed cloning and subcloning using homologous recombination claims
 - A method for introducing a double-stranded target DNA into a vector comprising
 - A cell comprising a double-stranded DNA vector useful for directed cloning or subcloning of a target DNA molecule of interest
 - A kit useful for directed cloning or subcloning of a target DNA molecule comprising in one or more containers

Europe: The European Parliament adopted Directives to regulate the legal protection of biotechnological inventions, establishing additional criteria for their patentability.

- **EP3694994B1** - A novel method for synthesis of polynucleotides using a diverse library of oligonucleotides claims
 - A method for synthesizing a target double stranded (ds) polynucleotide having a predefined sequence, comprising
 - Use of an oligonucleotide library which is provided within an array device comprising a diversity of library members that covers at least 10.000 pairs of matching oligonucleotides

ARTICLE II

PATENT STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY INVENTIONS

◦ In the case involving -The Howard Florey/Relaxin Case -
The Howard Florey Institute successfully isolated the relaxin hormone from human tissue samples and characterized its chemical structure. Their research revealed an unexpected form of human relaxin, distinct from that of other species, necessitating the development of synthetic relaxin for therapeutic use. This innovation was achieved through novel gene cloning methods using recombinant DNA techniques, leading to a patent application that claimed both the gene encoding the unexpected form of human relaxin and the synthetic hormone produced.

Risk assessment for synthetic biology inventions -

- Ensuring that synthetic organisms do not pose risks to human health or the environment.
- Monitoring the health of individuals working with synthetic biology to detect any adverse effects early.
- Assessing the potential impact of synthetic organisms on ecosystems.
- Considering the broader ethical and social impacts of synthetic biology.
- Ensuring that all synthetic biology activities comply with relevant laws and regulations.
- Implementing design principles that inherently reduce risks.
- Engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders, including scientists, policymakers, and the public, to ensure that risk assessments are comprehensive and inclusive.

Conclusion

In summary, synthetic biology encompasses multiple crucial areas that are essential to the ongoing public debate about patents. While there are no simple solutions, every Patent office adheres to its ethical guidelines when making decisions on a case-by-case basis.

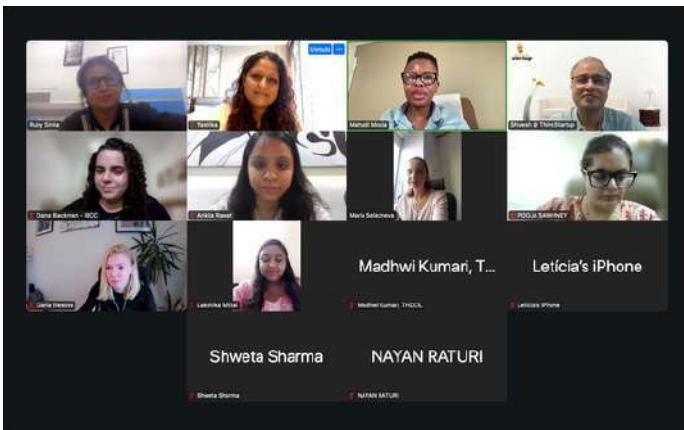
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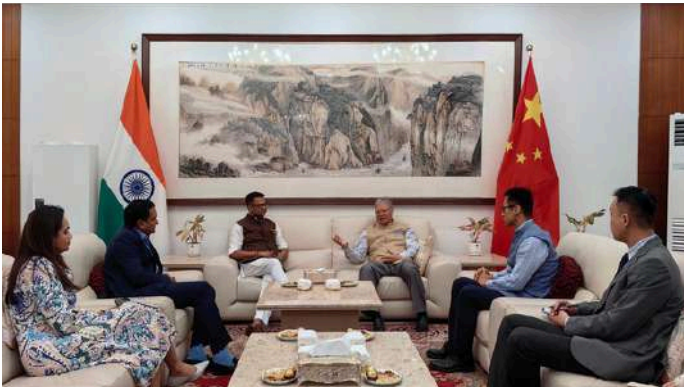
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