



INDO-AUSTRALIAN
Chamber of Commerce



BUSINESS TALK

Connecting members, connecting businesses!

June - October 2020

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Message from the President, Vice President & Director

Dear Members,

Greetings!

Firstly, a big thank you to our members and well-wishes who sent in your congratulatory messages to the Chamber's President, Mr Sanjeev Bajaj and the Vice-President, Mr Deepak Padaki, who were unanimously elected following the Chamber's 31st AGM in September 2020. Like you, I'm delighted on their appointment and you'd be pleased to hear that with the support of our Executive Council and Chapter Committees, we've made quick progress in realigning our top three strategic initiatives for members, that will be delivered over the next five months. As always, your input plays a key role and I must thank you for your regular feedback and for your participation in our online survey (key highlights on page 2) which has helped us understand your needs better.

Thank you for your patience on the Industry-sector Leadership Forums and I'm excited to say that we'll be initiating these soon. Before the end of this month,

(continued on page 2)

Mr Sanjeev Bajaj, President

Chief Executive Officer – India
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ)



"The current geo-political and global economic situation demands that the two countries work closer with each other than ever before. The basic value systems, democratic nature of governance and complimentary nature of the two economies make it easier for them to align amongst a variety of global dislocations. I am excited to be part of the leadership team of the chamber at this time and would endeavour to find appropriate ways to bring together the business to business and government to government efforts to get the best out of them to further the common agendas."

Mr. Deepak Padaki, Vice President

EVP, Strategy & Chief Risk Officer
Infosys Ltd



"The opportunity for increased collaboration between India and Australia has never been greater. The chamber is poised to play a significant role in fostering ties between businesses of the two nations. I am looking forward to being a part of the leadership team that steers this organization through its next phase of growth and influence."

Executive Council members for the year 2020-'21

Please click on the link - <https://indoaustchamber.com/e-c-members/>

members will receive an invitation to choose (based on their membership category) the ones they'd like to participate in. These forums, involving companies from both India and Australia, will provide a platform for advocacy, for members to have access to sector-specific information, interaction with Industry-experts as well as grow commercial and business-to-business partnerships.

We'll look to prioritise initiatives/sectors that align with the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) between Australia and India and to work closely with Government, businesses and partners to nurture the economic and commercial links between our countries.

We hope you find this issue interesting and do follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) to stay connected.

Petula Thomas
Director

Some of the highlights of the Online Feedback Survey:

Membership: For new business & advertising opportunities, networking & events, a platform to address industry issues, knowledge sharing and thought-leadership.

Rating: On a scale of 1-10, on average, 7.5 on membership engagement, 7 for services, website & social media and 8 on value for membership fee and communication on Chamber activities/events.

Industry topics of interest: IT, Infrastructure, Manufacturing, Finance, Trade, Policy & Diplomacy, Mining, F&B, and Health (Pharma/Lifesciences/Medtech)

Website & Social Media: Improving website to be more user friendly, with a member engagement section. In terms of social media, over 50% follow us on LinkedIn.

Other Comments/Suggestions: IACC to continue increasing presence/engagement in other Chapters/regions and social media/online activity.

Australian diplomats helping Australians return home

Australian diplomats across India (in Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai) have been hard at work helping thousands of Australian citizens and permanent residents return home to Australia from India since the COVID-19 lockdown was introduced in March.

As of 1 July, 8,209 people from India had returned to Australia on 38 flights – a mix of private charters, Australian Government-organised flights and Air India flights as part of the Indian Government's *Vande Bharat* mission. This pan-Indian effort included six flights (1,504 people) from Chennai, five flights (1,163 people) from Mumbai and one flight (73 people) from Kolkata.



The mammoth repatriation effort from India is the biggest the Australian Government has undertaken from any country. Australian diplomats worked long hours to ensure flights had the necessary approvals to land in Australia, passengers had clearance to cross state borders to reach departure points and that consular assistance was provided to the more vulnerable passengers.

The sheer volume of people wanting to get on these flights is testament to the strong people-to-people ties between Australia and India. From Punjab in the north to Kerala in the south, the Australia-India relationship lives vibrantly in all corners of India.

The flights were also a rare opportunity to see Qantas's flying kangaroo on Indian soil, including for the first time ever in Chennai. Stronger aviation links between Australia and India can be a great enabler of stronger trade, investment and people-to-people links in the post-COVID world. ❖

*Article by the Australian Consulate
General in Chennai & Mumbai*



Webinar on ‘India-Australia: Opportunities for collaboration in Road Safety/Infrastructure & MSMEs’ – 12 August 2020

Our Western India Chapter Committee, in collaboration with Womenovator and supported by the Australian Government (DFAT & Austrade) organised the webinar, ‘India-Australia: Opportunities for collaboration in Road Safety/Infrastructure & MSMEs’ on Wednesday, 12 August 2020.

The session provided an India-Australia Government and Industry perspective on the opportunities for collaboration in Road Safety/Infrastructure and the potential of bilateral trade in the MSME sector. The Hon. Barry O’Farrell AO, Australian High Commissioner to India delivered the Opening Remarks. There were keynote addresses from Shri Nitin Gadkari, Honourable Minister for Road Transport, Highways & MSMEs, Government of India and The Hon Michael McCormack, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport & Regional Development and Deputy Prime Minister of Australia. This was followed by a panel discussion with both Hon. Ministers and Mr Frank Kwok, Sr Managing Director and Head of Asia Pacific, Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets, focusing on how best to leverage the improving India-Australia strategic partnership, to ameliorate road safety/Infrastructure initiatives in India. and the panel discussion was moderated by Mr Ravin Mirchandani, Chairperson, IACC Western India Chapter & Chairman, Ador & Acusensus.

Ms Petula Thomas, Director IACC and Ms Tripti Shinghal Somani, Founder, Womenovator jointly welcomed members, while Chris Ellinger, Deputy Consul General, Australian Consulate General in Mumbai delivered the Closing Remarks. The session received excellent feedback and media coverage of over eight articles. It was also simultaneously streamed live on Minister Gadkari’s YouTube channel which saw an attendance of about 8.6k. ❖



Shri Nitin Gadkari, Honourable Minister for Road Transport, Highways & MSMEs, Government of India



The Hon Michael McCormack, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport & Regional Development and Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

[Link to Photos](#)

[Link to Recording](#)

[Link to the Article in *The Times of India*](#)

[Link to the Article in *The Auto.HindustanTimes*](#)

[Link to the Article in *The Hindu BusinessLine*](#)

[Link to the Article in *The Business Standard*](#)



Webinar on ‘Regional Collaboration to achieve a safe and trusted cyberspace’ – 29 July 2020

The Chamber’s Bengaluru Chapter Committee organised a webinar ‘Regional Collaboration to achieve a safe and trusted cyberspace’ on Wednesday, 29 July 2020 with support from Infosys (member) and the Australian Consulate General in Chennai.

Expert insights were shared by Dr Tobias Feakin Ambassador for Cyber Affairs, Government of Australia and Mr Vishal Salvi CISO & Head of Cyber Security Practice, Infosys Ltd in a panel discussion moderated by Dr Greg Adamson, Associate Professor (Hon), The University of Melbourne. Mr John Kenny, Chairperson, Bengaluru Chapter welcomed the attendees. Ms Susan Grace, Australian Consul General in Chennai delivered the Opening Remarks. Mr Ashok Mysore, Vice President, Regional Head – Delivery & Operations, Infosys, introduced the speakers and Mr Deepak Padaki, EVP, Strategy, and Chief Risk Officer, Infosys and Committee Member, Bengaluru Chapter Committee delivered the closing comments. The key areas that the discussion focussed on were:

- Australia-India collaboration in cybersecurity
- International trends in the cyber arena from a Government perspective



Panel discussion between Dr Tobias Feakin (right) and Mr Vishal Salvi (left)

Ms Susan Grace, delivering the Opening Remarks



Mr John Kenny (center) & Ms Thomas welcoming everyone

Mr Deepak Padaki (right) presenting the Closing Remarks

- Challenges for international collaboration in the commercial sector from a global/industry perspective ❖

[Link to Photos](#) [Link to Recording](#)

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Webinar on ‘Leadership in the Unknown’: an interactive session – 03 July 2020

The Chamber’s Bengaluru Chapter organised ‘Leadership in The Unknown’ – an Interactive Session on Friday, 03 July 2020, facilitated by a new member, Potential Project, India. This highly engaging session provided insights into the three mental challenges – distractions, empathy and ego – that leaders must overcome in a crisis, explore ways to enhance mental agility in leadership and learn practical applications to manage through uncertainty.

Mr John Kenny, Chairperson, Bengaluru Chapter, IACC welcomed the attendees and presented the Opening Remarks while Ms Thomas, Director, IACC gave the Closing Remarks. Mr Atul Padalkar, Director and Ms Marut Bhardwaj, Country



Director, Potential Project, India (member) facilitated this session that was both relevant to these unprecedented times and received excellent feedback from attendees. ❖

Webinar on ‘Australia: Trade & Investment Opportunities: 2020 and Beyond’ – 11 June 2020

The Chamber, organised a webinar on ‘Australia: Trade & Investment Opportunities – 2020 and Beyond’, on Thursday, 11 June 2020. Over 350 people registered and approximately 220 attended. The Hon. Barry O’Farrell AO, Australian High Commissioner to India, spoke about the India-Australia strategic partnership and how Australia can be a major partner for India. Ms Catherine Gallagher, Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner & General Manager – South Asia, Australian Trade and Investment Commission presented an overview of the Australian market & opportunities for collaboration.

Our expert panel comprising of Mr Rohit Manchanda, Trade & Investment Commissioner for India, New South Wales Government, Ms Michelle Wade, Commissioner to South Asia, Global Victoria, Mr Gitesh Agarwal, Queensland Trade & Investment Commissioner – India, Trade and Investment

Queensland, Mr Peter Baldwin, Commissioner, Government of Western Australia and Mr Todd Miller, Manager, International Market Development, Dept of Trade & Investment, South Australia shared their insights on the current business environment in Australia and the Trade & Investment opportunities for Indian companies looking at collaborating with, investing in, doing business with or considering expansion in Australia. The session was conceptualised and moderated by Ms Petula Thomas, Director, IACC. ❖

[Link to Photos](#)

[Link to Recording](#)

[Link to the Article in *The Hindu BusinessLine*](#)

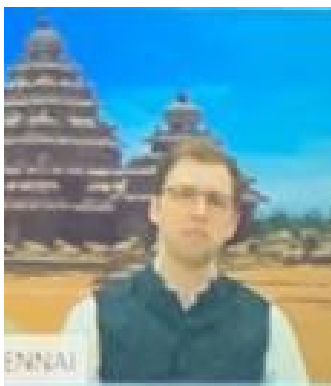


The Hon. Barry O’Farrell AO, Australian High Commissioner to India and Ms Catherine Gallagher, Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner & General Manager – South Asia, AUSTRALIA speaking at the webinar

Webinar on 'COVID-19: Survival and Growth Strategies for IT/ITeS companies' – 29 May 2020

The Chamber's Bengaluru Chapter Committee organised a webinar on 'COVID-19: Survival & Growth strategies for IT/ITeS companies' on Friday, 29 May 2020 in collaboration with Infosys Ltd.

Mr Michael Costa, Deputy Consul General at the Australian Consulate presented the Opening Remarks. Mr Pravin Rao, Chairman, NASSCOM & COO, Infosys provided Industry insights on the topic. Ms Meena Nagaraj, IAS, Director, Department of Electronics, IT & BT and MD, Karnataka



Mr Michael Costa, Deputy Consul General, delivering the Opening Remarks



Mr Vidyanand Sagaram, Director, Strategic Projects, State Government of Victoria moderating the Q&A

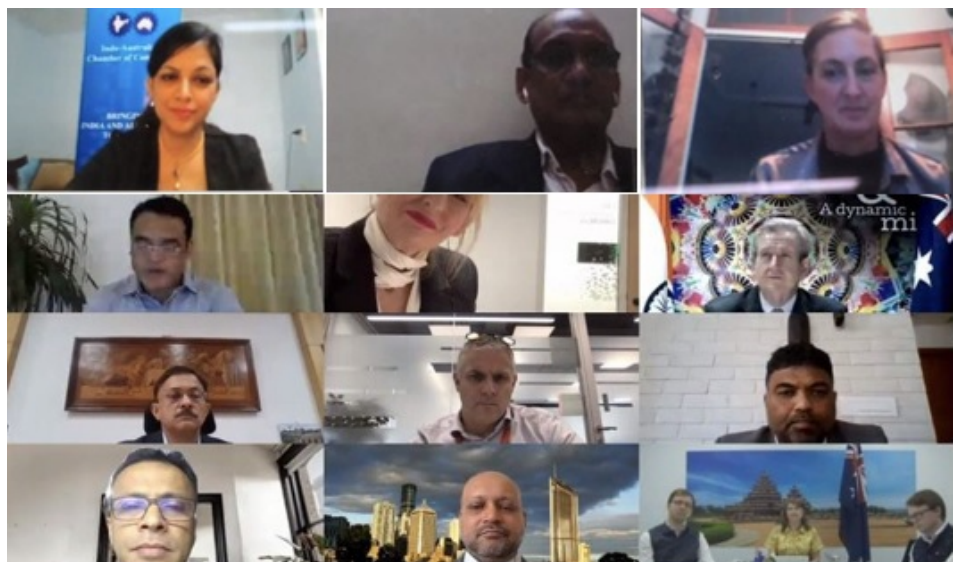
Innovation Technology Society, Government of Karnataka spoke on Indian Government (and Karnataka Government) support for IT/ITeS companies impacted by Covid-19, while Mr Andrew Tulloch, Executive Director, Innovation, Digital & Bio Economy, State Government of Victoria, Australia provided an Australian Government perspective on the topic.

The Q&A session was moderated by Mr Vidyanand Sagaram, Director, Strategic Projects, State Government of Victoria and the closing remarks were presented by Mr Deepak Padaki, EVP, Strategy & Chief Risk Officer, Infosys Ltd. The session was well attended and we received some great feedback. ❖

[Link to Photos](#) [Link to Recording](#)

Participation in Virtual Delegation Meeting between Govt of Australia and Govt of Karnataka

With thanks to the Australian Consulate General in Chennai, the Chamber's Director and some of its Australian company members participated in the virtual delegation meeting on 25 August 2020. The Hon. Deputy Chief Minister, Govt of Karnataka, Sri C N Ashwath Narayan delivered the Keynote Address and the Special Address was given by The Hon Barry O'Farrell AO, Australian High Commissioner to India. ❖



ECONOMIC RECOVERY

What opportunities in Australia may look like

When will the so-called economic recovery from Covid-19 pandemic start? We do not know. It is something we just cannot predict we have not experienced anything like this for over a century.

We are all currently in unknown territory with Covid-19 still rampant across India, Australia and most of the world.

In Australia, despite the lockdowns, business continues albeit with the assistance of some very strong and needed Government financial support. People movement dependent industries including travel, hospitality and some retail are effectively closed and may take years to recover.

On the upside and moving forward, there are a number of known truths:

- There will be massive pent up demand in the Australian economy, especially in the aforementioned industries.
- It will be an ideal time to promote Indian tourism and on the other side of the coin, Australian tourism.
- Australians have always been strong IT and tech users; with the current pandemic conditions this appetite has grown. There will be increased demand for IT related services and products.
- Australians, and as have many Indians found, can work successfully from home. There will be greater flexibility in

the workforce, increasing demand on digital technologies and possibly a reduction in the demand for commercial office leasing.

- Our governments are only closely together and whilst a formal trade agreement is a big way off, the spirit of cooperation is a great sign of things to come.
- When the Global Financial Crisis hit a decade ago, we found many foreign businesses were cashed up and looking for investment opportunities. We feel this may be the case when the pandemic subsides.
- Our capital markets have a strong upside and base. Read our article on this [here](#).
- Australia will beat India (one day) in a test cricket series.

Seriously, we look forward to our economies being open to be able to enjoy our Cricket at the MCG and to be able to travel India and do business with our Indian friends.

My fellow Director David Lissauer and I were in India in early March and were astounded at the quality of innovation, products and services to which we were introduced. We look forward to the opportunity to work with these connections.

We are always pleased to answer your questions on daily business in Australia. ❖



***Peter Pryn** is a Director at Hall Chadwick Melbourne, a Chartered Accounting and Business Advisory firm in the state of Victoria, Australia. Peter is a widely experienced and well-connected accountant and advisor who has assisted a broad range of international companies successfully entering and operating the Australian market. Contact Peter Pryn at india@hallchadwickmelb.com.au*

Webinar on 'HR & Employment Issues' – 01 June 2020

A member of the Chamber, King Stubb & Kasiva, Advocates & Attorneys organised a webinar on 'HR & Employment Issues', which focused on HR & Employment Legal Framework, Rights & Responsibility of Employers, Rights of employees, ease of doing business and the government steps to tackle COVID-19 impact. Ms Thomas, Director, IACC was invited to present the Opening Remarks. ❖



The Quest Continues: Sustainable Ingredients

From humble beginnings to a global wellness brand, Swisse has always had a mission to inspire health and happiness around the world. We have been working hard as always to keep making millions healthier and happier, and continuing our mission to create a better future for both people

and the planet. One of the fantastic and fascinating initiatives we have been investing in, is upping our sustainable ingredient game. To be able to marry up sourcing ingredients with our sustainability principles is an exciting step forward and the way of the future!

It's estimated that up to 25% of apples are rejected before they reach retailers' shelves, simply for cosmetic reasons such as being too big or too "ugly". The majority of these apples typically end up in landfill.

Given that a large portion of the apples which go to waste are fine from a quality perspective, we are using ingredients sourced from these apples in our new Apple Cider Vinegar Tablets, thereby preventing a portion of the rejected fruits from going to landfill and tackling the ever-present issue of food-waste whilst maintaining our approach to using the best quality ingredients possible. ❖

Article by H&H Group (IACC member)



MEMBERS MAKING NEWS

Infosys Ltd

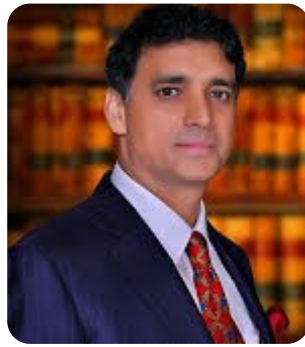
Infosys wins two diamond awards at ITSMA's 23rd Annual Marketing Excellence Awards 2020. The company was awarded in the category of 'Driving Strategic Growth', for building and scaling Big Bet Campaigns and 'Scaling and Optimizing Account-Based Marketing'. The ITSMA Award honours marketing programs and campaigns globally that have delivered superior performance in the four most impor-

tant aspects of marketing success: customer focus, innovation, execution, and business impact.

The IT company said in a regulatory filing on Wednesday (11 November) that this recognition serves as a testament to the three key pillars strategy underpinning Infosys' ABM program, to personalize the vision, revolutionize the experience, and humanize relationships. ❖

Kochhar & Co., New Delhi

Mr Rohit Kochhar, Chairman & Founding Member, Kochhar & Co., Delhi, has been conferred the Inspiring Entrepreneurs of India Award by The Economic Times. Mr Kochhar has been recognized for “exemplifying the spirit of entrepreneurial passion and for his outstanding contribution to the legal sector”. Other stalwarts also on the Honours List include Ms Kiran Mazumdar Shaw (CMD, Biocon), Mr



G.M. Rao (GMR Group) and Mr Ajay Bijli (PVR Group). The Awards, announced recently at the ET Inspiring Entrepreneurs of India Virtual Summit celebrate the accomplishments and success stories of achievers who have led by innovation in business; and have walked shoulder to shoulder with their global peers and counterparts to establish brands that are synonymous with trust, reliability, quality and esteem. ♦

MEMBERS' CORNER

New & Renewing Members



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A warm welcome to our 40 new Corporate and Individual members and thank you to our renewing members for your continued support



India, Australia and Japan to form pact on supply-chain resilience

Australian vaccine reduces COVID-19 symptoms and is safe for humans

India's biggest toy manufacturing hub to come in Greater Noida

Woolworths to transform Melbourne supermarkets into online delivery hubs

Australia to make Facebook, Google pay for news in world first

'Ola Corporate' ride service enters Australia, New Zealand, UK

Qantas says goodbye to piece of aviation history

Australia has its foot firmly in the global race for vaccine, Scott Morrison says

Virgin Australia and WA government launch flight deals to support Kimberley tourism industry

PM announces \$400 million lure for film studios to base productions in Australia

Railways To Move To 100% Electrification In Next 3.5 Years: Piyush Goyal

Google's Rs 75,000-Crore Fund To Help Accelerate India's Digital Economy

To improve highway infrastructure, NHAI to collaborate with premier technical institutes

Human trials begin on coronavirus vaccine at the University of Queensland, on track for 2021 rollout

India to invite Australia for Malabar naval exercise

Australia's first COVID-19 treatment approved

India's pharma industry an asset for entire world, says PM Narendra Modi

Australia Post delivers extra 26 million packages during pandemic

India to Allow Startups, Private Firms to Build Rockets and Satellites, Provide Launch Services

'Silicon Valley of Australia': Sydney set for ground-breaking tech hub with new Atlassian HQ




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- Job assistance after acquiring permanent residency status.
- Authorized to Liaise directly with the Department.
- Occupations on-demand list: IT Engineering, Medical, Auditing, Teaching, Telecommunications, Architects, etc.

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