

FGD must for thermal plants

The new emission norms issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India has made it mandatory for all the Thermal Power Plants to install Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) systems to restrict the levels of SO₂ discharge in the environment. The power plants have to comply to these norms and implement the FGD systems by 2022.

FICCI organized an interactive workshop on 'Importance of SO₂

Analysis system in FGD process and challenges in India context'. The objective of the Workshop was to deliberate and understand the issues and challenges in measurement of pollutants for complying to the new emission norms for thermal power plants.

It was highlighted during the workshop that the installation of FGD takes around 2.5 to 3 years, achieving the timely compliance to the new norm remains a serious challenge.

National PR Day celebrated

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The Public Relations society of India, Visakhapatnam Chapter celebrated its 33rd National Public Relations Day. Speaking on the occasion, **Prof D V R Murthy** former Chairman PRSI Visakhapatnam Chapter, Chief Guest addressed the members and highlighted the importance of National PR Day, advising members to maintain spirit of solidarity amongst themselves. **Mr. P L K Murthy, U S Sarma,** and others participated.

VCCI takes delegation to South Korea

VIS News Service

The Vizagapatam chamber of commerce recently took a delegation to South Korea wherein its members got a chance to interact with some of the business leaders of South Korea.

'We met the Chairman and CEOs of Global CEO Club of South Korea wherein 12 CEOs of different companies participated and interacted to have first-hand information about the existing business opportunities in South Korea as well as Investments opportunities in India. They hosted us for Lunch too. We also had a meeting with members of Korean Chamber of Commerce, Indian Chamber of commerce in Korea', said **Mr. Mr.DV Raju**, President, VCCI.

These meetings were



assisted with the help of the Indian Ambassador in Seoul.

Identifying a South Korean company looking to do business in India Mr Raju said 'M/s MECEN IPC CO.LTD. has shown interest in setting up

a manufacturing plant XLPE foam products by way of joint venture'.

He informed that XLPE foam has a wide range of applications mainly used as insulated wall paper and various kinds of mat for

children, picnic, camping, etc. as well as insulation of HVAC duct, air conditioner pipe etc.

Interested members can contact Mr.DV Raju, President for further details.

PHDCCI delegation calls on RBI Governor

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A delegation led by **Mr Rajeev Talwar**, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with senior officials met Governor of RBI, **Mr. Shaktikanta Das** at the RBI headquarters to discuss the concerns related to the growth of MSMEs, NBFCs, Affordable Housing and Real Estate sector.

In its submission PHD Chamber urged RBI to increase the limit for classifying over dues of MSMEs to 180 days from the current level of 90

days. This is due to the fact that working capital cycle of MSMEs keeps prolonging due to delays in realisation of their bills/receivables, said Mr Rajeev Talwar.

Mr Rajeev Talwar also said PHD Chamber requested that at-least one year period should be considered for stressed MSMEs' for eligibility under the restructuring scheme. All such Accounts which turned into defaults or became NPAs after 1st January, 2018 should be covered under the policy of RBI for being eligible for restructuring.

MSME Business conclave

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CII Telangana is organizing a one day MSME BUSINESS CONCLAVE in

association with HDFC Bank, on 'Leveraging Technology & Capitalizing on Finance for MSME Competitiveness' on May 4 in Hyderabad.

India needs more Entrepreneurs less bureaucrats

Harsh Chopra

Entrepreneurship is not for the faint hearted with the odds of success stacked against you : 1 out of 10 start ups succeed. While stories of Flipkart, OYO, Ola and Facebook dominate the press no one talks about the failures. An entrepreneur risks his capital, toils a 15 hour day and devotes the best years of his life to his company. And it is the SME sector that is the real driver of the economy and the second biggest employer after agriculture. In fact the only sector capable of employing the 12 million young jobseekers who enter the job market every year.

Ease of doing business index is a World Bank standard which compares



regulations across 190 countries to assess how easy or hard it is to do business in a country. The criteria cover the ease of registering a new business, construction permits, simplicity of the tax regime, electricity connection and contract enforcement among a total of 10 indices. While India's rank in the Ease of Doing business improved

by a dramatic 23 places from 100 to 77 in 2018 and an equally impressive 30 positions in the previous year, a lot remains to be done.

It takes more than 100 clearances to build a 500 MW power plant or a large hotel and any one of them can stop the project. Complex tax returns and ever changing GST regulations add to the cost. Tax litigation typically takes 5 to 10 years to resolve. And God help an entrepreneur whose business fails. Businesses can fail for many legitimate reasons in a changing environment. Instead of building a climate which encourages startups to take risks and try out innovative ideas, Tax and bank officials descend on the hapless

entrepreneur of a failed unit for recovery. Add to this mix an archaic Factory's Act 1948 which weighs 1 kilo and is packed with unnecessary regulations. This maze of over regulation does not help the consumer, the entrepreneur, the government or the workforce – it only paves the way for the inspector to celebrate a Happy Diwali at the expense of the nation.

It is not difficult to understand why the brightest talent and the best ideas relocate to Singapore and Dubai. Governments in South East Asia are now offering a range of mentorships, seed funding, fast regulatory clearances, and a proactive approach to solving problems. Singapore has a tax rate

that is half of India, superb infrastructure, zero corruption and a regulatory system in which it is easy to enforce contracts. 1 in 7 startups in South East Asia are started by Indians.

If this flight of talent and capital is to be reversed the starting point is a national level recognition of entrepreneurship and business at large and the role it plays in nation building, employment generation and poverty reduction. National awards like the Padma Shri recognize sportsmen, doctors, actors, politicians, social workers but rarely entrepreneurs who are the unsung heroes of the nation. A recalibration in the mindset of the entrenched bureaucracy from a "regulatory" to a

"promotional" approach is a first step. Unless they start seeing entrepreneurs and the business community as nation builders who bring prosperity and jobs, India will not be able to make the kind of progress our East Asian neighbors have made in the last few decades. The nation needs more entrepreneurs and fewer bureaucrats, more factories and less factory inspectors, and a simplification of the archaic regulatory framework.

(The writer is the founder of Partners4Growth, which consults to family managed companies helping them manage internal conflict. He also advises business families on Strategy, Structure & Succession Planning and is a speaker at Family Business Forums.)