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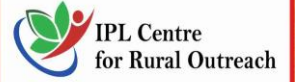
“ESG FOR INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION”

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Chennai

12th September 2022

Technical Partner



Industry Partner



*Organized
By*



National
Productivity
Council



Confederation of
Indian Industry





राष्ट्रीय उत्पादकता परिषद्

(उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार विभाग,
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
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NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL

(Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade,
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)
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संदीप कुमार नायक,
आई.ए.एस.
महानिदेशक

Sundeep Kumar Nayak,
IAS
DIRECTOR GENERAL



New Delhi

15th November, 2022

FOREWORD

It is a well-recognized aspect of business that businesses are established to generate profits for its stake holders and that of governments is to improve welfare of the citizens. It is also well known that the permission to undertake business is granted by the governments with the consideration that the allowance of profiting will yield better welfare to citizens than without. While this objective was well understood, increasingly the society is veering to the viewpoint "we trust the parties are doing their best to meet the objectives but wish to verify also". The application of the principle "trust but verify" by various stakeholders is driving the reporting/mandating reporting requirements by businesses and governments.

ESG reporting requirement is a measure to ensure the principle that the businesses are not just asking to be trusted but providing a measure of verification of how the trust is being fulfilled and how governments are guiding and enforcing the verification process. The Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) requirements mandated by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is a step in the direction of providing verification means of businesses contribution to societal and planet welfare.

While the objectives of this mandate are noble, the methods of measurement, reporting and verification are in nascent stage, which are further complicated by the multi-dimensional and multi-domain knowledge requirements. On the other hand, the need to report in a manner comprehensible for all stakeholders requires development of metrics easily understandable and verifiable without the deep knowledge of experts and inter-alia expertise of various subjects. This is also required to reach out to the financial community of investors who are increasingly being asked to account for the implications of their funding actions.

To address these issues and identify possible opportunities for sustainable development and work towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat" in a productive way the "Conference on ESG for Industry Transformation" was organized by National Productivity Council. NPC has also developed a "seven-step approach (Saptapadi)" providing end-to-end solution for effective implementation of ESG by organizations which was deliberated in this conference, second one after the Delhi ESG conclave on 29th July 2022 as part of its pan India ESG drive.

The conference proceedings bring out the views and experiences of key stakeholders outlining the policy-production-finance-regulation perspectives. It is sincerely hoped the proceedings will help understand the current thinking on the subject and how to map one with respect to their ESG actions and evolve action plans to support the national objective of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Sundeep Kumar Nayak
Director General

(In the rank of Secretary to the Government of India)
National Productivity Council

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ABBREVIATIONS

AUM	Assets Under Management
BRR	Business Responsibility Report
BRSR	Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report
CDP	Carbon Disclosure Project
CDSB	Climate Disclosure Standards Board
CIFs	Climate Investment Funds
COP	Conference of Parties
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSRD	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
GHG	Green House Gases
GOI	Government of India
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
IIRC	The International Integrated Reporting Council
ISSB	International Sustainability Standards Board
MCA	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
NFRD	Non-financial Reporting Directive

NGRBC	National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct
NPC	National Productivity Council
NVG	National Voluntary Guidelines
SASB	Sustainability Accounting Standards Board
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEBI	Securities and Exchange Board of India
SFDR	Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulations
SFG	Sustainable Finance Group
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGC	The United Nations Global Compact

1. INTRODUCTION

The risks of climate change, resource scarcity, damage to common goods and property for businesses are drawing attention of stakeholders beyond financiers and regulators. Businesses for their continued operations and to seek investments for growth are being asked to report how these risks are being taken into cognizance and how they are addressing them to prove the investments are not at risk and to indicate the businesses perception on way forward pertaining to risks and opportunity and the basis of their thinking. Environment-Social-Governance (ESG) reporting is increasingly becoming an accepted way to address the risks.

To enable uniformity in reporting structure, to ensure right indicators and metrics are considered, to enable verification of materiality assessment of ESG aspects affecting their business across the life cycle, various governmental and non-governmental agencies are mandating/proposing guidelines/standards.

In India, the market regulator SEBI, came out with “the Business Responsibility and Sustainable Reporting (BRSR)” guidelines to make investors all over the world aware that Indian industry and governments realize the importance of these issues and how they affect not only India but nations across continents.

To deliberate on this a conference was organized by National Productivity Council on 12th September’2022, at Chennai, Tamilnadu.

2. ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

With myriad challenges being faced with respect to economic growth, environmental issues, social aspects and governance, under non-financial reporting disclosure etc, SEBI, the market regulator mandated the sustainability disclosures vide its circular no. 18/2021, dated 10th May 2021 titled the “Business Responsibility and Sustainable Reporting (BRSR)” for the top 1000 listed entities (by market capitalization) from FY 2022-23 in line with Environment-Social-Governance reporting being practiced globally.

To comprehend the requirements of BRSR compliance and to understand the business challenges out of these requirements besides the allied opportunities, the ESG conference

theme presents both aspects for business and all stakeholders The conference on “ ESG for Industry Transformation is accordingly organized with the following objectives.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE

- Deliberate on various dimensions of sustainability
- Discuss about reporting & compliance under BRSR framework of SEBI and challenges/ issues faced by industries
- Share best practices adopted in terms of resource efficiency, socio-economic measures, community development, corporate governance practices etc
- Discuss how to integrate ESG agenda into business strategy and source of competitive advantage and share thoughts on how ESG theme can be used for industrial transformation and emerge as a leader in terms of sustainability

4. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Senior and middle management professionals from operational, technical, financial, legal and auditing background attended the conference. 177 participants registered for the conference and 143 participants attended the conference (list attached at annexure 1).

5. INAUGURAL SESSION



Speakers (Left to Right)

Mr. G. Sarvanan, Director, National Productivity Council; Mr. Ravi Purushothaman Chairman, CII Southern Region Sustainability Subcommittee, President, Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd; Ms. Pooja Kulkarni IAS, MD & CEO Industrial Guidance Department, Government of Tamil Nadu; Dr Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd), Director, ICRO-IPL, NPC Delhi; Mr. Kamal Bali; Deputy Chairman CII Southern Region & President, Managing Director Volvo Group, India; Mr. Sriramulu Balakrishnan, Managing Director, KG Denim Ltd, and Mr. NMP Jeyesh, Regional Director (South), CII.

The conference started with lighting of lamp by dignitaries who included senior government officials and industry captains. The inaugural session started with Dr Ravi Purushothaman, Chairman, CII Southern Region Sustainability Subcommittee, President, Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd welcomed the Chief Guest, Dr Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd), Director, ICRO-IPL and other dignitaries and gave his welcome remarks. The chief guest and dignitaries delivered special addresses and shared their experiences and perspectives. The highlights of each dignitaries speech is presented below:

Mr. Ravi Purushothaman welcomed the dignitaries and participants and presented his welcome remarks. The summary of the remarks are:



**Mr Ravi Purushothaman
Chairman, CII Southern Region Sustainability
Subcommittee. President, Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd**

1. The UN's call seeking action for transformative economic, social and environmental solutions for meeting SDG goals is driving a lot of initiatives across the globe.
2. Indian industry is being asked and questioned about the sustainability commitments, and their impact on society and the environment. This conference highlights the urgency for all stakeholders to meet, interact, ideate, share knowledge, and harness the potential of ESG activities/actions.
3. ESG is gradually becoming the license to do business and requires
 - (a) Initiatives to reduce emissions,
 - (b) prioritizing the environmental performances,
 - (c) working to produce cleaner products and product traceability.
4. Businesses should focus on ensuring utmost quality & transparency in data disclosures, provide clarity on how outcomes are measured and benchmarked to ensure good competitive landscape and enhance improvements on a continuous basis.

Mr Sriramulu Balakrishnan in his special address highlighted the sustainability journey of K G Denim and the relevance of sustainability in today's context. Summary of his address statements are given below:



**Mr Sriramulu Balakrishnan, Managing Director
KG Denim Ltd**

1. It is becoming imperative to move corporate governance practices from financial aspects to ESG issues.
2. Businesses need to align business strategy with the ESG and move forward to ensure sustainability in every commercial activity and noted that every profitable entity may not guarantee sustainability for years to come, on the other hand, every sustainable business entity will certainly guarantee profitability.

3. He outlined KG Denim's initiatives on energy, water conservation, waste minimization, chemicals management, post-consumer waste and polyester recycling and protection of biodiversity across the locations.
4. Stressed on the need to ensure reliability of actions through 3rd party verification from reputed organizations like Sustainable Apparel Coalition, where KG Denim was rated as one of the highest-ranking companies in the world. In this regard, stated that monitoring ESG aspects is like Master Health Checkup and needs to be undertaken for the health of the organization.

Mr Kamal Bali presented the pros of complying and adopting ESG principles and the losses of not adopting. He propounded eight ESG themes for industry transformation. Key aspects of the themes he addressed are:



Mr Kamal Bali
Deputy Chairman, CII Southern Region & President,
Managing Director, Volvo Group, India

- 1) ESG and Sustainability needs businesses to have national perspective besides business perspective and address economic-environment-social-governance aspects.
- 2) ESG is essential to Protect businesses going further for following reasons.
 - a) from 2015 to 2022 a number of companies committed to net zero emissions and science-based targets setting was initiated by companies that increased from 115 to more than 3000 companies across the World.
 - b) Globally \$ 40 trillion linked to ESG assets. ESG becoming critical to attract finance.
 - c) In India, failure to take actions on ESG front will cause a loss of Rs 7 lakh crores over the next few years and if actions taken it will yield benefits accordingly.
 - d) Carbon borders likely to create non-tariff barriers.
- 3) Fulfill stakeholder expectations.
- 4) People, diversity and inclusion is an intrinsic part of sustainability; getting women into the mainstream, human rights, giving right working conditions to employees, are all important aspects. Need to find ways to get the value from these issues.
- 5) Accelerate circularity and resource efficiency
- 6) Accelerate innovation. Large companies encouraging Startups for innovative solutions.
- 7) Sustainability should not be considered as just a CSR activity. Culture matters and companies need to have an understanding on the issue.
- 8) Skill set change needs to be recognized and workers upskilled accordingly.

Ms Pooja Kulkarni highlighted the relevance of sustainability and briefed on Tamil Nādu’s initiatives in supporting investments by industry in a compliant manner. Her perspectives are highlighted below.



Ms Pooja Kulkarni IAS *
MD & CEO
Guidance-Tamilnadu Industries Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu.

1. Sustainability can no longer be taken as a token effort but to be considered essential for business continuity. External impacts due to climate change like recent Bengaluru Floods caused loss of 225 crores in one day, which was more than the profits earned in whole year.
2. Pointed out the cost-benefit issues of ESG activities and ESG trends by stating that:
 - (a) Sustainability is becoming number 1 topic in all forums globally.
 - (b) ESG dominated portfolios of Mutual Fund houses touching \$ 3 trillion across the world. ESG portfolio on the NIFTY did better than the NIFTY 50 index during the previous year.
 - (c) New generation is attaching themselves to ESG and looking for ESG record of companies besides the regulatory mandate on ESG by SEBI.
3. She outlined the initiatives of Tamil Nadu government on different aspects of ESG to reflect upon the government’s resolve to handhold and support industry in being ESG compliant by giving the examples as follows:
 - a) Textile garment industry achieved sustainability through “Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD)” regulation, adopting wind energy and through banking incentives. The tough regulation helped industry to show their compliance record and garner export markets.
 - b) Policies pertaining to women and technical education, ensuring safe workplace for women, providing good public health care facilities supports industries ESG activities which in turn attracts more investments for the state.
 - c) The industrial policy provides subsidies and incentives to sunrise industries such as wind and solar manufacturing industries to encourage green industries in the state.

Dr Rajeev Ranjan, the Chief Guest of the inaugural event deliberated on the context and need for organizing this conference. The summary of the context he deliberated is presented below:



**Dr Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)
Director, ICRO-IPL, NPC Delhi,
Chief Guest giving inaugural address**

1. ESG is not just an evolved version of CSR but it's much more than that and emphasized that both behavioral change as well as regulation are important for effecting change, and more so in case of ESG.
2. He spoke about how the international developments and especially the commitment of India to tackle climate change, ought to serve as the larger motivation for adoption of ESG by the corporates.
3. He highlighted the five elements of Panchamrit announced by Hon' Prime Minister at Glasgow Summit, namely: (a) Increasing the non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030, (b) 50% of energy requirements to be met from renewables by 2030, (c) Reduce carbon emissions by 1 billion tonnes by 2030, (d) Reduce carbon intensity by 45% (2005 levels as base) by 2030, and (e) Achieve net zero emissions by 2070.
4. The climate change and its effects on the economy are real and if no concerted action is taken, the global temperature is likely to rise by 4% by 2100, which will be a catastrophic scenario, likely to be causing floods, food shortages and other problems.
5. Cited Gaia theory, to emphasize the interconnectedness of the life and other systems, and stressed that everyone needs to take and act responsibly individually and jointly to address the collective issues in a harmonious manner. This conference is conceptualized to harmonize and find ways to address these issues.
6. Recounted initiatives of central government like PLI scheme and advocated to look at ESG from Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) perspective to attain Amrit Kaal such that India becomes a developed nation.
7. Highlighted that we should evolve from 'doing good' which was the motto of CSR to 'being good' which can be the motto of ESG.

Mr. S. Krishnan delivering the keynote speech highlighted environment as a common good and to use it judiciously to sustain ourselves and for balancing weightage of social and governance factors in decision making. Key thoughts of him are summarized below.



Krishnan, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary, Industries Department
Government of Tamil Nadu

1. He stated, “environment is a common good” and everyone must take care of it.
2. Companies realize Zero Liquid Discharge a regulatory requirement in Tamil Nadu, but compliance to it brought allied benefits offsetting costs of compliance.
3. Cautioned against cutting corners in compliance.
4. He said given that the environmental impact and footprint of companies being critical, further advocated that companies must see ESG compliance as a virtue for their own benefit.

5. He stressed on the need to balance the land use between industry, household, agriculture, and forestry by all the stakeholders, and act accordingly.
6. He emphasized that ESG indicators should be simple, well understood, and robust. From a regulation point of view, the regulation must be simple, well understood, easy to comply with, and easy to enforce, to ensure the that the compliance will lead to sustainability.
7. Citing “The Economist” he highlighted that Environmental aspect of ESG is overemphasized and the other two aspects - Social and Governance - are not given due importance.
8. He pondered over the issue of constitution of Board of Directors, diversity of thinking of board members, exercise of authority and other issues. Highlighted the need of the board to educate themselves for the upcoming challenges.

Mr NMP Jeyesh, Regional Director (South), CII, graced the occasion with his presence, and presented mementos to the speakers.

Mr G Saravanan, Director, National Productivity Council, proposed vote of thanks to the dignitaries.

6. TECHNICAL SESSION PROCEEDINGS



Speakers (Left to Right)

Dr. Girish Kumar, Company Secretary, Indian Potash Ltd, Chennai; Mr. R. Arun Kumar, Partner Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP; Mr. Subrat Mahapatra, Head-Operations & Strategy (CSR), Tata Steel Ltd; Mr. K.D. Bhardwaj Director & Head (ECA Group), National Productivity Council; Mr. Keerthi Thej, Deputy Official Liquidator, Southern Region, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India; Mr. S. Devarajan, Sr Vice President, TVS Motor Company Ltd; Mr. Navneet Vaibhav, Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

Dr. Girish Kumar chaired the session and made his opening remarks regarding the risks and relevance of ESG and opened the session for technical presentations. The speakers presented the technical, operational, legal, social and audit aspects related to ESG reporting and the issues and challenges that may arise and how they can be addressed and how their respective organizations can assist in ESG reporting. The key elements of each of their presentation is given below.

Dr Girish Kumar chaired the Technical Session and made opening remarks, highlighting the need to recognize ESG risks and take appropriate actions which are summarized below:



1. He indicated about IPL’s industrial partnership with the conference as co-sponsor and as knowledge partner with ICRO-IPL.
2. He expressed that climate change concerns and sustainable development have taken centre stage in global priorities in recent years and the growing recognition of the significant financial and economic impacts of environmental, social and governance risks across the globe.

3. He opined that the climate change issues demand companies to transition to ESG and informed that SEBI has replaced the reporting framework from BRR to BRSR with effect from FY 2022-23.
4. Urged to realize that it is vital for industries to continue to be more competitive and resilient by adopting environmental, social governance for overall sustainable development and growth.

Mr. K. D. Bhardwaj presented how NPC can assist industries to be ESG compliant in a sustainable manner with NPC’s Saptapadi approach. A brief of his presentation is given below:



1. He briefed about National Productivity Council and how the BRSR principles were mapped with the services of NPC.
2. He explained how NPC is in a better position to cater to the needs of India inc for filing BRSR reports. In particular, he delved on the expertise and the experience of NPC in the domains of Energy Management and Environment Management groups and substantiated those.
3. He highlighted NPC’s uniquely designed 7 step approach (Saptapadi) which serves as end-to-end solution approach for ESG implementation in the Indian industry and elaborated the approach citing examples of NPC’s work experiences.
4. He provided comparative features of ESG framework by different countries and presented background of BRSR reporting in India.

Mr. Navneet Vaibhav presented the legal perspective pertaining to ESG Reporting in India. Brief summary of his comments are given below:



- 1) He expounded ESG as an opportunity rather than a threat for industry.
- 2) He stated that ESG aspects are already dealt by Indian Laws and hence the concept is not new and expressed that industry will be able to deal with the reporting requirements with proper planning.
- 3) He explained that essential indicators are required by law and leadership indicators are to portray commitment to ESG activities.
- 4) He explained the evolution of regulatory developments related to ESG in India.
- 5) He spoke on the structure of the BRSR format followed by the requirements of the same under various sections.

Mr. S. Devarajan presented the best practices of TVS Motors and their ongoing initiatives as summarized below:



1. He briefed on TVS Motors best practices with respect to ESG activities. Stated that 10 out of the 17 SDGs are found to be relevant to them.
2. Stated TVS belief: “Only one earth” and we need to protect it.
3. Reflected on TQM and productivity achievements and producing in 27 seconds one 2-wheeler.
4. Citing recovery of energy from paint sludge by thermal degradation and using resulting ash in cement and stated how sustainable actions may also lead to financial benefits.
5. Highlighted TVS Motors initiatives on a) enhancing water efficiency, wastewater management, rain water harvesting; (b) Responsible Consumption and Production, Extended Producer Responsibility, Extended Business Responsibility (c) Climate action; (d) Promoting biodiversity; (e) Industry innovation & infrastructure.

Mr. Keerthi Thej deliberated on how BRR reporting evolved to BRSR and how to integrate ESG aspects in Business Strategy. Highlights of his thoughts are given below.



Mr Keerthi Thej
Deputy Official Liquidator, Southern Region
Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.

1. He stated that ESG report was an important metric to gauge corporate governance.
2. Informed that there are about 24 lakh registered companies with all having a role to play in Atma Nirbhar Bharat.
3. Observed positive ESG compliances by corporates are positively correlated to returns.
4. The investors are paying close attention to compliance of ESG and ESG reports should bring out aspects of ESG risks, strategies companies will adopt to mitigate them and other finance risks.
5. Stated how the 9 principles of NGRBC forms the basis for the development of BRSR framework and how they will help the company in identifying and mitigating risks.
6. ESG report likely to unveil the profile of the company in a comprehensive sense, which will provide useful information not only for the regulator but also for everyone.

Mr. Subrat Mahapatra presented Tata Steel’s Best Practices in CSR area as summarized below:



Mr Subrat Mahapatra
Head-Operations & Strategy (CSR),Tata Steel Ltd,

1. Presented Tata Steels’ perspective of a business, society and country leading its Sustainability thinking stating its founder’s vision that “Tata Steel exists for the purpose of the community”
2. Highlighted need to establish strong cultural foundation so that new employees embrace and follow the value principles.
3. Stressed that reporting in an integrated framework encapsulating finance and ESG aspects will yield better outcomes.
4. For effective sustainability initiatives the following questions need to be addressed:
 - How deeply should we understand the communities we work with?
 - How are the least served and most silent challenges being addressed?
 - What influence should CSR have within our organizations?

Mr. R. Arun Kumar delved on the challenges in BRSR Reporting and advocated long term planning and advised to treat ESG actions as a journey rather than a one-off activity as briefed below.



**Mr R Arun Kumar,Partner
Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP.**

1. He highlighted the major challenges in BRSR reporting and stressed
 - Ownership of report is essential and should not be considered as a corporate or secretarial function.
 - Process and controls for reporting is less rigorous for ESG as of now compared to financial reporting.
 - Systems and tools exist for capturing financial data is centrally but for ESG data dispersed. Aggregation of data, maturity in harvesting and analytics are still evolving to ensure reliability and data assurance.
2. Opined BRSR framework will provide opportunities for India Inc.
3. Urged companies should take ESG as a journey with 10–20-year plan rather than as a one-off activity.
4. There are various tools available, in the form of enablers and guidance, for the effective implementation of ESG. In particular, the resources like SEBI's guidance note for BRSR, and ICAI's online course and Sustainable Reporting Maturity Model (SRMM) were cited.

7. PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW CAN CFOS REFRAME THEIR ESG AS A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE THAT DELIVER VALUE?



Panel discussion members: Left to Right

Mr. G. Saravanan, Director (IE), National Productivity Council; Mr. Venkataramanan, Executive Director – Finance & CFO, Tata Coffee Ltd; Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd), Director, ICRO-IPL; Ms. Subhasri Sriram, Executive Director and Group CFO, Shriram Capital Ltd; and Mr. Navneet Vaibhav, Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

The panel discussion started with opening remarks by Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, followed by the members presenting their views regarding the role of ESG in making/taking financial decisions, imperative of ESG as a need more than a choice, operational productivity related synergy with ESG goals and concluded with question-and-answer session. The brief of the discussions is presented below.

Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, panel chair, initiated the panel discussion by requesting the speakers to give their signature statements and introduced the members to the audience.



**Dr Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)
Director, ICRO, NPC Delhi.**

Answering during the question-and-answer session he made the following observations:

1. A larger framework of debate is needed and tradeoffs need to be worked out with respect to whether electric vehicles can be considered environment friendly if electricity is generated from fossil fuels like coal .
2. Regarding ESG related course’s introduction into education he suggested integration of subject into existing academic curriculum keeping in mind not to overload the student and the need to look from National Education Policy perspective.

Ms. Subhasri Sriram opined ESG actions need to be fitted into the cost-profit framework of businesses and stated ESG reporting is a need rather than a choice. Key statements are summarized below:



**Ms Subhasri Sriram, Executive Director and Group CFO
Shriram Capital Ltd,**

1. She informed that in NBFC segment, Shriram Capital holds the distinction of being the only institution which raised ESG bond and social bonds worth 3000 crores over the past three years at 100-150 basis points less than normal rate.
2. The demand for ESG bonds in market is 3-4 times higher from investors.
3. Any effort that results in reducing the cost and increasing the profits in a sustained manner will enhance value for all stakeholders.
4. The financing for second hand vehicles has environmental implications and predominantly to small truck drivers who aspire to be truck owners serves the social aspect and where limiting finance to 3-year-old vehicles and providing exchange avenue for 10 year-old vehicles serves both environment and business purpose.
5. ESG reports will eliminate choice making in financing as to whom to finance and hence is in the interest of business and this needs to be done.

Proceedings of the conference on “ESG for Industry Transformation”

Mr. Venkataramanan, shared Tata Coffee’s experiences in ESG implementation as briefed below:



**Mr Venkataramanan, Executive Director – Finance & CFO
Tata Coffee Ltd,**

1. He stated that the agri-commodity business is sensitive to the climate change issues and hence ESG and Sustainability issues are of prime importance for Tata Coffee.
2. Some experiences of ESG implementation shared are as follows:
 - a) Considering the nature of operations, the water foot print is high. So, the need to conserve water assumes significance.
 - b) The organisation has undertaken various initiatives such as replacing fossil fuel use with renewables, placing sensors, using drones, etc., whose payback period may not be short; however, they made a sense when ESG agenda is taken into account
 - c) The organisation brought in a system to measure and interpret data so that suitable actions can be taken to minimize the business risks.

Mr. Nawneet Vaibhav deliberated on moral and legal imperative for ESG Reporting. His deliberations are summarized below:



**Mr Navneet Vaibhav, Partner
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas**

1. Companies should be ethical and moral when it comes to ESG implementation and reporting - We should not claim to be doing something when we are actually not doing it.
2. Media plays an important role in ensuring that the companies are walking the talk and not just do greenwashing.
3. He stated that it is essential that the companies comply with the norms and do all that the laws require them to do (water conservation; recycling and refurbishment; forest conservation, etc.).

Mr. G. Saravanan, drew attention to the fact how efficiency, productivity and performance improvement will help some essential indicators reporting requirements of BRSR reports. His observations are summarized below.



**Mr G Saravanan, Director
National Productivity Council**

1. Strategic alignment of business performance with BRSR principles is key for compliance of ESG and at the same time create value for the organization.
2. According to DPE publication, the average inventory is INR 260000 Crore per annum, and capital expenditure is in the range of INR 500000 crores per annum. The optimization of either or both of these will positively favour ESG.
3. The improvement of plant efficiency will yield good score for Principle 2 – Essential Indicator 1 and at the same time will increase business performance. Similarly, the reduction in inventory will yield good score for Principle 2 – Essential Indicator 1 while simultaneously resulting in increased business.

The panel discussion concluded with question-and-answer session and ended with Dr Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd), Director, ICRO-IPL, thanking all the panelists.

8. VALEDICTORY SESSION



Valedictory Session Member (Left to Right)

Chief Guest Mr. P. K. Bansal, IAS, Managing Director, NCDC Ltd; Mr. Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development; Mr. Karthik Jayaraman, President & Co-Founder, Way Cool Foods; and Mr. D Sreenivasulu, Director (AIP), National Productivity Council, Chennai.

The valedictory session started with Mr. Shikhar Jain welcoming the Chief Guest Mr. P. K. Bansal, and other speakers and participants and requested the chief guest to deliver the valedictory address. The chief guest advocated pro-active actions rather than wait for regulatory or other stakeholders forcing us. Mr. Shikhar Jain shared his experiences in CII on the subject, and Mr. Karthik Jayaraman highlighted how ESG theme itself can be considered as a business model citing the example of his company WayCool Foods.

Mr. P. K. Bansal, the chief guest recounted his experiences and summed up his address advocating proactive actions rather than wait for stakeholders to demand them. Key examples of his experiences that are relevant to ESG actions are summarized below.



**Mr PK Bansal, IAS,
Managing Director, NCDC Ltd,**

1. Citing some of the industry-society conflicts especially with local community, he highlighted that the adoption of ESG will build trust among the stakeholders, which will avoid potential conflicts.
2. Giving an example of one of the extreme flood events in Chennai, he highlighted how the extreme climate change events lead to the business losses.
3. ESG reporting is an opportunity to bridge trust deficit in society has of corporates.
4. He shared the experience of ESG related initiatives as the MD of Chennai Metro Rail Ltd. In particular, the initiatives pertaining to efficient operations and optimum utilization of resources. He also recalled the EHS practices followed during the construction phase of the metro.
5. He advised, it's better to start doing something on our own rather than waiting for somebody to force us to do something. The same thing applies to ESG as well. Irrespective of whether we are mandated or not, all must implement ESG because it's for our benefit.

Mr. Shikhar Jain shared the experience of CII on the subject matter as briefed below.



**Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head,
CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development.**

1. ESG is not a non-financial reporting, but its an essential reporting. The business risks owing to non-financial aspects will have considerable financial implications, and hence ESG is an essential reporting.
2. Recounting the experience of the business losses due to floods in Chennai in 2015, he highlighted that ESG issues has as much to do with the financials of a company as it helps to identify the risks and mitigate them.
3. ESG is not mandated for non-listed companies, however the promoters of the small companies too should take the sustainability aspects seriously and give due importance in their business strategy.

Mr S. K. Jain, shared the experience of Indraprastha Gas Ltd.’s ESG experiences and advocated NPC and CII need to provide supportive role to help industries in effective ESG reporting. His views are summarized below.



**Mr S K Jain, Company Secretary
Indraprastha Gas Ltd**

1. The corporates should go beyond numbers, the obligations and interests of the stakeholders must be looked into for sustainable growth as well for sustainability.
2. The environmental issues of global warming and climate change are posing an alarming situation. He cited one of the studies on the economic impact of climate change, which says that if the average temperature goes up by 3.2 degrees, 18% of the GDP will be eroded by 2050.
3. All corporates should come together to strive to achieve the ambition of Government of India i.e., net zero emissions by 2070
4. The companies should build a harmonious relation with the local communities. Corporates should go beyond the mandated 2% of profits application for CSR activities.
5. The importance of ESG comes in tangible as well as intangible form. ESG compliant companies are able to raise funds at a lower cost. In such scenario, one must integrate ESG into their core business strategy.
6. Suggested NPC and CII can support industry’s ESG initiatives through bringing out compendium of best ESG reports for benchmarking purposes and develop modules for energy & waste management, IT tools to support ESG reporting and other capacity building tools.

Mr Karhtik Jayaraman, explained how his company’s strategy itself is made around ESG by creating social and environmental impact as the key USP of their business. The summary of his companies actions, impacts and benefits are summarized below.

1. He stated that the food loss was reduced from 15% to 2.4% in the food supply chain they deal with and the social impact is seen in terms of increase in net income realized by the farmers to the tune of 15-30% .
2. He explained the three principles of their business enterprise Way Cool Foods:



**Mr Karthik Jayaraman,
President & Co-Founder, WayCool Foods**

- a) Action rather than activism: The focus areas were energy (green energy and energy optimization) and water. Some of the initiatives included roof top solar, fleet of electric vehicles, zero liquid discharge, etc.
- b) Execution rather than reporting: Relies on evidence for business decision making using smart meters, automation of business processes, etc.
- c) Climate smart is equivalent to business smart: Reengineered their operations to optimize cost thereby making it viable.

The conference concluded with proposition of vote of thanks by Mr. D Sreenivasulu, Director (AIP), National Productivity Council, Chennai.

9. KEY LEARNINGS AND ACTION POINTS FROM THE CONFERENCE

9.1 How are businesses viewing ESG issues and trying to leverage them?

1. Investing and funding agencies need to ascertain investing and funding opportunities by floating ESG bonds, designing and executing credit guarantee schemes (For example Shriram Capital may require a directory of ESG principles compliant products like electric 2 wheelers). APO’s eco-product directory, BEE star labelled products, ESCO services are good examples of this plug and play product and ESG investment service choices of NBFCs and certain banks.
2. ESG impact varies among companies. For some like mining and minerals extraction, metals, rayon, leather, textile, the major impact is during production process, while companies like paints, consumer goods major impact may be in the supply chain or user end, and at their production site would, for example carbon and water footprint are generally quoted but not pollutants in water or other gases in air. Even relating to carbon footprint easier options of solar, wind and other renewable energy actions are given prominence.

Action Points on ESG for Industry Transformation:

- If billions of dollars in ESG funds are available to be invested, there is a need to find channels of investment. One way of creating this channel for investing agencies like private equity, pension funds, sovereign funds and funding/loaning agencies like Banks and NBFCs will be able to provide a directory of certified products and services they can fund using ESG investors’ money. NPC may consider redoing the eco-product directory. As a start, APO assistance can be sought to support creating Indo-Japanese Eco-products directory of Japanese Companies in India and support financing of these products by Indian NBFCs and Banks through Japanese investments.

Directory of forest-based products (eg: bamboo/ ayurvedic-Medical/lifestyle products) where the product is directly linked to forest livelihoods and protection of forests which serve the cause of ESG perfectly will be a good case of attracting ESG funds and investments for marginal communities. Ministry of Ayush could be a stakeholder interested in forest based ayurvedic/life style products related directory where ESG finance could be attracted for investments in medicinal plants to ayurvedic industries.

Data on ESG principles compliant products/services along with market size and demand will enable funding agencies to float green/ESG bonds and provide a channel for these funds. Further, adoption of block chain technologies may enable

elimination/reduction of intermediaries and reduce income leakages by linking producer to consumer directly. Actions of this nature may

- Reduce the current perception of governments creating islands of excellence around urban areas.
 - Create technology enablers like block-chain and infrastructure like warehouses etc to reduce income leakages and integrate hinterlands with mainstream economy.
 - Broaden investment scope of ESG funds.
- Companies whose impact is mainly from their operations: NPC’s environment service profile fits for addressing this space. For social and governance aspects there is a need to tie-up or ally with suitable organizations or individuals.
 - Companies whose impact is due to their supply chain or at user end remains a grey area for all concerned. Industries may be trying to address this component using LCA data bases. However, considering the Indian MSMEs scale using data from LCA data bases of developed countries will make the E- assessment off the mark. Considering this there may be a market demand for local LCA databases.
 - If different companies’ impact ESG aspects differently there is a need to define appropriate weightage for each issue. For example, for banks governance may be important when NPAs are rising, environment when the operations and technologies they are funding are not green or social where child labor or other social issues sectors are being funded.

9.2 How are government agencies viewing ESG issues?

1. Regulation is necessary along with voluntariness. Carrot and stick policy essential to enable ESG compliance.
2. Governments have a role in balancing growth and allocating resources to ensure holistic & equitable growth and in harmony with nature which is the prime objective of ESG.
3. Right planning and design ensure avoidance of future problems. Accordingly, if plans of governments at national and state level are in line with ESG principles many future problems can be avoided.

Action Points on ESG for Industry Transformation:

- The business of government is sustaining and improving welfare of citizens and the license to conduct business is given to maximize welfare. The business of business is to maximize profits within the legal and administrative framework prescribed. The need for ESG report, at its best is stakeholders demand that they may be trusting the business ethics and principalities of both the parties, but they need to verify and

at worst may be a demand to prove they can trust both the parties. The hypothesis requires both parties to report on ESG matters.

- Like Climate Change Action Plan an ESG Action Plan may be proposed by Niti Aayog and a self-mandatory ESG report needs to be considered by respective ministries and state governments. With right associations, NPC can jointly consider taking the idea to Niti Aayog or other ministries offering support, as the plan will not only provide directions for line ministries but also help industries to take the right cues regarding what ESG activities government is attaching importance to and will enable ease of ESG planning.
- Government/regulatory agencies may not have complete market or technical information. For example, Zero Liquid Discharge is not a panacea for all water problems. In many cases it consumes energy for thermal evaporation leading to higher carbon emission without corresponding benefit of either water conservation or wastewater treatment. Neutral agencies like NPC may create trade-off solutions to achieve better benefits at lower costs.

9.3 What impact will ESG reporting have on supply chain companies?

1. If the top 1000 companies by market capitalization are to mandatorily prepare ESG reports, and they wish their reports are not considered as ESG wash, their vendors must accordingly prepare ESG reports and provide data assurance. A major portion of 24 lakh registered companies accordingly need to address ESG issues and may have to report to their principal large customers.

Action Points on ESG for Industry Transformation:

- If the ESG issue is seriously raised, companies whose impacts are due to their supply chain may consider the ESG requirement a hindrance in doing business. How to address compliance of ESG without affecting ease of business may become a concern.
- One way would be to create IT infrastructure by MCA to generate “Annual Compliance Statement (ACS)” like “Annual Income Statement (AIS)” by Income tax department. Similar to AIS aggregating income from all sources ACS can be planned to aggregate compliance records from all sources (Pollution control boards, safety inspectorate, factories inspector, boiler board, mining, explosive, forests and other departments and agencies). This may enhance ease of business and improve compliance reliability and productivity.
- A little less effective but may generate revenue for NPC is to advocate ESG touch points for MSME ministry to provide sector specific or supply chain specific ESG

guidelines, or create LMCS like scheme for addressing ESG issues, for example “ESG- Compliance Assistance Scheme”.

9.4 What knowledge and skills may be required for ESG reporting?

ESG report can be divided into three parts, namely:

1. ESG information presentation in a format understood by multiple stakeholders, (more of a macro picture presentation without providing much insight into materiality assessment details).
2. Data assurance (both legal and technical documentation need to assure the organization the disclosures don't create future legal tangles by making appropriate disclaimers).
3. Data collection, verification, collation, analysis and drawing conclusion. The perspectives on weightage to be assigned with respect to ESG issues relevant to the business and their impact on stakeholder besides own business remains unclear and each business may be interpreting as convenient. More efforts are visible in standardizing reporting structures than standardizing verification mechanisms.

Action Points on ESG for Industry Transformation:

- Capturing market from organizations who already dominate BRR and who can extend their services to BRSR easily, will be difficult. The big four, namely PWC, KPMG, Deloitte and E &Y along with legal firms like Shardul Amarchand & Mangal Das Co. have an edge on two components leaving the 3rd component to all other players. The best option may be to associate or jointly take work based on institutions and NPC's perceived strengths by itself and the market.
- Also, ESG reporting work will consume more time in the first year and will progressively reduce thereafter. If the contract for ESG report is for 1year and the subsequent year the company decides to move out to other company the loss will be huge if budgetary estimates are not worked out properly. Any ESG proposal, hence, needs to be considered for a period of minimum 5 years with progressive correlation in professional charges. Existing players who already have baseline data and did BRR reports will likely be able to provide services at lower costs.

9.5 Conclusion

ESG for industry transformation requires not just reporting as per BRSR guidelines. It needs to integrate ESG impact issues like finance, investment, technology, culture, the supply chain, user end and other stakeholder aspects. While external LCA data bases are a good starting point to garner primary baseline information, accuracy and impact can be better gauged if local Life-Cycle data bases are developed. The need for transparency should be balanced with ease of doing business issues by appropriate reform and technical solutions. Right channels and information need to be developed to absorb ESG funds for appropriate investments to derive business, technology, and societal growth opportunities. In addition, it would be appropriate to assess and monitor flow of ESG funds and the channels they take and resources that contribute for ESG activities along with exploring the returns on ESG funds invested as well as the impacts and positive outputs and outcomes anticipated for the companies and corporates and stakeholders that shall be deeply engaged in the ESG related eco-system.

10. FEEDBACK:

Relevance in terms of knowledge and information	Highly relevant (%)	Relevant (%)	Useful(%)
	46.67	37.78	15.56

Areas where support is needed	NPC as one stop service provider for ESG (%)	Institutional support for ESG initiatives and integration (%)	Making existing ESG more robust (%)	Independent impact evaluation of existing ESG/BRSR initiatives (%)
	21.79	26.92	29.49	21.79

Key takeaways	
Environmental	Reduce dependence on fossil fuels and increase use of renewable sources
	Increase recycle and reuse quotient.
	Less input with more output.
	Business Responsibility and sustainability Report
	Net zero initiatives
	Reduce CO2 footprint
	Water conservation and waste reduction
	Focus on biodiversity aspects
	Elevating brand image
	Energy and safety management system
Social	Employee safety
	Sustainable commitments
	Transparency
	Needs more focus on employee engagement
	Higher corporate social responsibility
	World beyond CSR
	Social inclusiveness
	Gender diversity
	Non-financial metrics
	TATA Steel examples
Organisation's impact to the society and social improvements	
Governance	Subsidiaries and initiatives
	R & D policies
	Voluntary to mandatory phase
	Regulatory framework
	Leadership
	Transparency
Board engagement level and competency drives internal change	

Factors driving ESG focus in their organisation	Management Commitment
	Investment
	Branding
	Compliance
	Construction
	Local governance
	Leadership
	RBI approved targets
	Competitive advantage
	Sustainable investment
	Resource commitments
	Compliance of environmental measures
	Skillset identification
Important skills/tools needed to implement ESG mandate	Funding
	Effort maximisation
	Data efficiency
	ESG validation through public platform
	Knowledge of BRSR and business plan
	Software for ESG metrics computation
	Disclosure framework
	Process expertise
	Governance adherence to policy
	Roadmap for progress
	Vendor engagement
Challenges faced in ESG/BRSR Reporting	Data collection
	Lack of consistency in follow up
	Reluctance to switch over to new system
	Managing and quantifying ESG risks
	Lack of awareness
	Needs more effort to reinforce in genes
	Linking ESG with SDG

11. ANNEXURES

- 11.1: Final program schedule**
- 11.2: Speaker profiles**
- 11.3: List of participants**
- 11.4: Media Coverage**

11.1 Final program schedule

Conference on ESG for Industry Transformation **“Environmental – Social – Governance for Aatmanirbhar Bharat”** **12th September, 2022; Hotel ITC Grand Chola; 10:00-16:30 hrs**

1000-1055 hrs: Inaugural Session

10:00- 10:05 hrs	Lighting of the lamp	
10:05-10:12 hrs	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Ravi Purushothaman Chairman, CII Southern Region Sustainability Subcommittee & President, Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd
10:12-10:19 hrs	Special Address	Mr. Sriramulu Balakrishnan Managing Director KG Denim Ltd
10:19-10:26 hrs	Special Address	Mr. Kamal Bali Deputy Chairman CII Southern Region & President & Managing Director Volvo Group, India
10:26-10:33 hrs	Special Address	Ms. Pooja Kulkarni, IAS Managing Director & CEO, Guidance- Tamil Nadu Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu
10:33-10:40 hrs	Special Address	Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd) Director, ICRO, NPC Delhi
10:40-10:48 hrs	Keynote Address	Mr. S Krishnan, IAS * Additional Chief Secretary Industries Department Government of Tamil Nadu
10:48-10:55 hrs	Vote of Thanks	Mr. G Saravanan Director National Productivity Council
10:48-10:55 hrs	Presentation of Mementos	Mr. NMP Jeyesh, Regional Director (South), CII,
10:55-11:05 hrs	Break	

11:05-13:00 hrs: Technical Session
(led by SEBI & NPC)

Companies achieve competitive advantage through guided Sustainability disclosures. The vast proliferation of the ESG frameworks and its standards, had resulted in numerous metrics in the ESG ecosystem including those of Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB), the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), and the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). ESG reporting in India started in 2009 with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) issuing the National Voluntary Guidelines (NVG) on Corporate Social Responsibility, since then the reporting landscape has come a long way, and we now have the newly introduced Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) as mandatory for ESG reporting. The session will highlight ESG Investing, ESG metrics, ESG policy, ESG framework, ESG reporting and ESG certification. It will draw focus on the process of reporting to improve the quality of disclosures on their economic, social, governance and environmental (ESG) performance drawing reference of BRSR specifically.

11:05-11:15 hrs	Opening Remarks by Session Chair	Dr Girish Kumar Company Secretary Indian Potash Ltd, Chennai
11:15-11:35 hrs	Assistance to Industries to be ESG compliant in a sustainable manner	Mr. K D Bhardwaj Director (ECA Group) National Productivity Council
11:35-11:45 hrs	ESG related developments in India	Mr. Navneet Vaibhav Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co;
11:45-12:15 hrs	Integrating ESG in Business Strategy: Policy Perspective	Mr. Keerthi Thej Deputy Official Liquidator, Southern Region Ministry of Corporate Affairs Government of India
12:15-12:35 hrs	Best Practices: Industry Perspective	Dr. S Devarajan Sr. Vice President & Head of Advanced Manufacturing/ Production Engineering TVS Motor Company Mr. Subrat Mahapatra Head-Operations & Strategy (CSR) Tata Steel Ltd.
12:35-12:45 hrs	Challenges in BRSR Reporting	Mr. R Arun Kumar Partner Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP
12:45-12:55 hrs	Closing Remarks by Session Chair	Dr Girish Kumar , Company Secretary, Indian Potash Ltd, Chennai
12:55-13:00 hrs	Presentation of Mementoes	Mr. K Ramesh , Director, CII- Southern Region
13:00-14:00	Break for lunch	

14:00-15:00 hrs: How can CFOs reframe their ESG as a competitive advantage that deliver value?

With ESG considerations also becoming the threshold for investing, CFOs are needed to dedicate more time scrutinizing and strengthening ESG metrics and reporting them appropriately to sustain relevance with institutional investors, asset managers, and other investors. Now CFOs have a unique opportunity to lead sustainability conversations as they are better equipped to derive and create value out of sustainability pursuits of their organizations. The session aims to engage the CFOs and enable them to share their experiences in ESG implementation, challenges faced, and solutions employed to address them in their organisation.

14:00-14:30 hrs Signature Statements by Panelists

Mr. Venkataramanan
Executive Director – Finance & CFO
Tata Coffee Ltd

Ms. Subhasri Sriram
Executive Director and Group CFO
Shriram Capital Ltd

Mr. Navneet Vaibhav
Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co;

Mr. G. Saravanan
Director
National Productivity Council

Panel Discussion Moderated by

Mr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)
Director, ICRO & Advisor, NPC Delhi

14:30-15:00 hrs Question-Answer Session

15:00-15:10 hrs Presentation of Mementos

Mr. D. Sreenivasulu,
Director (AIP), NPC Chennai

15:00-15:15 hrs Break

15:15-16:30 hrs: Valedictory Session on Integrating ESG agenda into Business Strategy

Every business is deeply intertwined with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) concerns. It makes sense, therefore, that a strong ESG is essential to supporting an organization's purpose and growth, creating intrinsic and economic value. Though ESG and sustainability cannot be used interchangeably they are intricately woven together in the development paradigm, ultimately creating businesses that are sustainable. The thrust of ESG in the strategizing phase will help identify key risks and in charting out short-term and long-term strategies to address these risks. The session will highlight the process of imbibing ESG into business strategy, understanding companies' intent on ESG, its implications on operations and how this will set the direction of future growth of the company.

15:15-15:25 hrs	Opening Remarks	Mr. Shikhar Jain Deputy Head CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development
15:25-15:35 hrs	Special Address	Mr. S. K. Jain Company Secretary Indraprastha Gas Ltd
15:35-15:50 hrs	Special Address	Mr. Karthik Jayaraman President & Co-Founder WayCool Foods
15:50-16:05 hrs	Keynote Address	Mr. P. K. Bansal, IAS Managing Director, NCDC and Chairman, IPL
16:05-16:20 hrs	Vote of Thanks	Mr. D. Sreenivasulu Head, AIP NPC (Chennai)
16:20-16:30 hrs	Presentation of Mementos	Mr. G. Saravanan, Director (IE), NPC, New Delhi

11.2 Speaker profiles

Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)
Director, ICRO, NPC Delhi

Dr. Rajeev Ranjan has impressive academic accomplishment and holds an MBA from IIM- Ahmedabad; PG degree in public policy from the London School of Economics and a Ph.D. in Management Sciences (intellectual property rights) from Anna University. He is from the 1985 batch of the Indian Administrative Service, has held various positions in his over 36-year- long service in Government both in central and state level. He began his career as Sub- Collector in Thiruvannamalai (1987 – 89) and rose to be the Chief Secretary to Tamil Nadu Government in February,2021. He has represented GoI in various international conferences / meetings, including meetings of WIPO (Assemblies) PCT, SCP, IGC etc) and UNIDO.

After his retirement as CMD, TNPL, Dr. Ranjan continues to be active in advisory and policy advocacy sphere. He is the Co- Chairman of the Sixth Common Review Mission- Ministry of Rural Department, GOI. He also extends his advisory role to National Cooperative Development Corporation, a statutory Corporation under the Ministry of Cooperation, GOI and National Productivity Council (NPC), DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry. His main focus now is creating awareness on ESG for industry transformation and has initiated a rural outreach programme as Director of the IPL Centre for Rural Outreach (ICRO).

Mr. Pankaj Kumar Bansal, IAS,
Managing Director, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi

Mr. Pankaj Kumar Bansal, IAS, a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India, is currently serving as the Managing Director of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). He had previously served as the Managing Director of Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL). Prior to joining CMRL, he worked with various state-level departments including health and family welfare, urban development, planning, and water supply and sewerage.

A 1997 batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, Bansal has worked in various capacities at the district and grassroots levels. He has held the posts of sub-collector, additional collector and collector, and has experience in fields such as land records, education, health, rural and urban development, law and order, and general administration. Besides, he has also worked as Project Director in various multilateral agencies, including the Danish International Development Agency, the World Bank and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Mr. Bansal has a Mechanical Engineering Degree from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) (Banaras Hindu University), Varanasi. He also has a Master’s in Thermal Engineering from IIT Delhi. Determination, diligence and being target-oriented are his main attributes. He says, “I regularly inspect work on site, review work with contractors and periodically discuss the progress with stakeholders. This provides me with first-hand information to take timely decisions and corrective action.”

Mr. S. Krishnan, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary- Industries
Government of Tamil Nadu

Mr. S. Krishnan is currently the Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, with a service record of more than 30 years. Mr. Krishnan holds many accomplishments, such as serving as the Senior Advisor in the Office of the Executive Director for India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Bhutan in the International Monetary Fund (Washington DC), representing the Government of India in the G20 Expert Groups on International Financial Architecture and Global Financial Safety Nets, and assisting in preparing the Union Budget as well as the Tamil Nadu State Budget during multiple years, to name a few.

He has also been Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu in Finance Department; Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu in Housing and Urban Development and in the Planning, Development and Special initiatives Department. He was the founder CEO of the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board.

Through his multiple roles as a public administrator, Krishnan has demonstrated expertise in aspects of policy making, public finance, and socio-economic development issues. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from St. Stephen’s College, Delhi University.

Smt. Pooja Kulkarni, I.A.S
Managing Director & CEO, Guidance- Tamil Nadu Industries Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu

Smt. Pooja Kulkarni has served in various capacities with departments like Rural Development, Chennai Corporation, Elections, School Education, Industries, and Finance Department over the past 16 years. Prior to joining Guidance, she was the Special Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu Finance Department and CEO of Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board (TNIDB). As the Special Secretary, she was also part of the Governing Body/Board of Directors of various statutory bodies including Guidance, Chennai Smart City Limited, New Tirupur Area Development Corporation Limited, ELCOT, TEDA, TANCEM, TDFC and TNUIFSL among others. As CEO, TNIDB, she has structured several Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects in urban infrastructure and initiated detailed Project Reports for key projects in Greater Chennai Corporation.

Mr. Sriramulu Balakrishnan
Managing Director
KG Denim Ltd

Mr. Sriramulu is the Managing Director of KG Denim Limited and Sri Kannapiran Mills Ltd. He has 2 decades of experience in varied domains including sourcing of raw materials, manufacturing and product development and sales. He gained experience in finance as the lead for the company’s IPO in 1993. He is instrumental in conceiving and

launching of the Brand Trigger Jeans in India, and in driving its sales to become one of largest domestic Jeans Brand.

He launched the business of Home Textiles in 2006 as a diversification strategy. He is the President of The Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Coimbatore.

Mr. Sriramulu holds a Master’s Degree in Textile Technology from University of Manchester.

Mr. Kamal Bali
Deputy Chairman CII Southern Region &
President & Managing Director, Volvo Group, India
Bangalore

Mr. Kamal has been spearheading reputed Indian & multinational organizations as President & CEO for two decades now. He is currently the President & Managing Director of Volvo Group, India, a role that he took on in April 2014 and the Deputy Chairman of CII southern Region.

Mr. Kamal is based in Bangalore, is an alumnus of IIT Roorkee, and has an illustrious career spanning 40 years, largely in automotive and engineering industry

In December 2019, Mr. Kamal was knighted and awarded one of Sweden’s highest honors in the Royal Order of the “Polar Star: Commander” by their Majesties, the King and Queen of Sweden for his untiring support to the Swedish Commerce & Industry in India. He is the recipient of the prestigious “2019 Machinist Lifetime Achievement Award” by the Times of India Group for his outstanding contribution in the field of Manufacturing. Featured in ‘2021 Star List’ by The Machinist publication and felicitated as one of the Top Industry Leaders in India. Felicitated with Economic Times inspiring CEO 2021 Award.

A thought leader, Mr. Kamal also wears governing council and Board of Director hats with distinguished institutions from industry, academia, and public sector.

Mr. Ravi Purushothaman
Chairman, CII Southern Region
Sustainability Subcommittee &
President
Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd

Mr. Ravi is the President, Danfoss Industries Pvt Ltd, a 100 % subsidiary of leading family owned Danish MNC, Danfoss A/S headquartered in Denmark & present in over 100+ Countries across the globe. Mr. Ravi has been handling several roles since 2002 in Danfoss across several Asia Pacific markets He has been with Danfoss since 2002 and earlier with Siemens in India & Germany.

Mr. Ravi is a Member of Danfoss Global management team, Board Member & Global mentor since 2013. He has been active working in Energy, Water, Food & Agri and

Technology space supporting and mentoring several early-stage startups in India in various roles.

Mr. Ravi’s areas of work cover Climate change, Energy Efficiency, Decarbonization & Food Loss; Contributing to the field through several thought leadership initiatives.

Dr. Girish Kumar
Company Secretary
Indian Potash Ltd, Chennai

Dr. Girish Kumar has completed his Law Degree, Company Secretaryship, MBA Finance, Diploma in Clean Development Mechanism and Doctorate in Law.

He has more than 25 years of experience of Public Sector, Private Sector and Listed Public Sector Companies in the field of Engineering Consultancy, Energy Efficiency, Financing for MSMEs, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Solutions, Implementation of various ICT Turnkey Projects in the Government Sector/ Autonomous Bodies/ PSUs/Courts etc. Further he is having experience of working in Fertilizer Manufacturing and Trading Companies and also in the field of Finance & Accounts, Tender, CAG Audit, Statutory Audit, Personnel & Administration including HR and Legal etc.

Dr. Girish Kumar is at present working as a Company Secretary, Chief Manager- legal and additional in charge of Administration & HR of Indian Potash Limited (IPL), which is the largest importer of Potash in India.

Mr. K.D. Bhardwaj
Director (ECA and Energy Group) and
Group Head – International Services
National Productivity Council

Mr. Bhardwaj is an Environmental Engineer by qualification with more than 27 years of professional experience in Environment and Energy Management and productivity promotion including more than 17 years with the National Productivity Council of India and 10 years with the Tokyo based Asian Productivity Organisation (APO).

As a recognized expert on 3R and green growth for UNEP and UNCRD, he played a key role to make India the host country and successfully organized the prestigious 8th Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in April 2018, Indore, M.P. The UNCRD, Japan Govt, and MoHUA sponsored multi-activity Forum with 900 high- level participants from 40 countries that rejuvenated 3R campaign among Indian cities.

Mr. Bhardwaj led and coordinated development of user- friendly Tool kits on 6 waste Management Rules for the effective implementation. He also led and coordinated the UNEP project on countermeasures against marine plastic litter and a series of related webinars. He has also been involved in energy efficiency studies for MSMEs,

Extensive environment consultancy work has introduced him to diverse areas from field to policymaking in air & water pollution, waste management, ESG, circular economy,

sustainability, climate change etc and stimulated actions leading to policy reforms, sustainable investments and long-term capacity building.

Mr. Bhardwaj initiated strategic planning for Green Productivity (GP) programs and was instrumental in strategizing the core programme of GP and leading its projects.

Dr. S Devarajan
Sr. Vice President & Head
Advanced Manufacturing/ Production Engineering
TVS Motor Company

Dr. Devarajan has completed his BE-Mechanical Engineering, MBA in Industrial Engineering, MS in Engineering; and holds a Doctorate in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from University of Warwick, UK, He has been working with TVS Group for the past 38 years and presently Heads Advanced Manufacturing / Production Engineering in TVS Motors. He has worked extensively in setting up facilities of press shop, welding shop, painting plants, heat treatment plant, machining of steel and aluminum engine parts, assembly lines and has been leading many projects in TVS Motors and TVS Electronics. Presently his efforts are concentrated on New Process Technology, Lean Manufacturing Systems, Digital Manufacturing, TPM and JIT implementation in TVS Motors. He has received the prestigious “Rolls Royce Award” for Excellence in Manufacturing concepts and implementation in UK. He has also been recognized with “Thought Leadership Award” by Automotive Manufacturing Solutions, UK.

Mr. Arun Kumar Rajagopalan
Partner
Price Waterhouse Coopers Chartered Accountants
LLP

Mr. Arun is a Partner in Assurance practice operating out of Chennai having more than 21 years of audit experience of leading listed clients with large and established India operations and other complex entities

Mr. Arun leads Environment, Social and Governance related reporting initiatives in Chennai within his firm and has been working with clients in their sustainability related reporting initiatives.

He is also a part of the Capital Markets Advisory Group within the firm and advises companies on Ind AS conversion and other accounting advisory related requirements.

He has conducted various training sessions within the firm and has contributed to the firm’s thought leadership publications. He has also conducted workshops on specific accounting topics for clients and spoken on various accounting and regulatory topics under the auspices of SIRC of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

Mr. Subrat Mahapatra
Head- Operations & Strategy (CSR)
Tata Steel Ltd

Mr. Subrat Mahapatra has spent over 21 years in Tata Steel in various functions starting with Marketing & Sales and then Corporate Services. Of these, he has been in the Corporate Social Responsibility functions in Corporate Services for over 8 years now heading the Public Health and Operations & Strategy functions respectively. In his current role, through the Tata Steel Foundations, he has worked closely with sustainability experts in the company and has brought in his experience in the CSR domain which has resulted in improvements in understanding of some of the key ESG metrics and their reportage

Ms. Subhasri Sriram
Executive Director and Group CFO
Shriram Capital Ltd

Ms. Subhasri Sriram has nearly 3 decades of professional experience including 24 years in Shriram Group’s Finance Services business. She held the position of CFO for 18 years in listed companies viz as Executive Director and CFO of Shriram City Union Finance Ltd (SCUF) for 15 years and as Executive Director and CFO of Take Solutions Ltd for 3 years. She has handled many critical assignments related to implementing new organization structures, improving business processes, raising several rounds of equity from marquee investor across globe and raising external commercial borrowings. She has won the “Best Performing CFO in the NBFC Sector” for 2013 at the 8th edition of the awards instituted by as a leading business television channel CNBC TV 18 and in 2016 she was also chosen as one of the most influential CFOs in India by CIMA.

Mr. Keerthi Thej
Deputy Official Liquidator,
Southern Region
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Government of India.

Mr . Keerthi Thej is an Officer of the 2010 batch of Indian Corporate Law Service. He has served as Assistant Registrar of Companies, O/o The Registrar of Companies, Karnataka, Deputy Registrar of Companies, Central Registration Centre, Gurgaon and is currently posted as Deputy Official Liquidator, O/o The Official Liequidator, Chennai.

Mr. Venkatramanan,
Executive Director – Finance & CFO
Tata Coffee Ltd.

Mr. Venkat is a Chartered Accountant and a Cost Accountant, He has been with the Tata Group for the last 35 years and currently is the Executive Director- Finance and Chief Financial Officer of Tata Coffee Ltd. Prior to the current position, he was Vice President Finance and CFO for Tata Global Beverages Ltd.

Mr. Nawneet Vibhaw
Partner
Shardul Amarchand
Mangaldas & CO

Mr Nawneet Vibhaw has 14 years of experience and specialises in environmental advisory and environmental disputes, which is a niche practice area in the Indian legal domain.

He regularly appears in environmental matters before the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India and the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and has been advising clients in diverse environment related areas. He has also been advising clients on issues relating to Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) aspects and is a member of FICCI’s task force on ESG.

Mr. Nawneet has received awards and fellowships from BELSPO, UKIERI, Robert Bosch Foundation, Asian Development Bank and Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India. He has been recognized as a key lawyer for environmental disputes by Legal 500 in 2022, as one amongst the top 100 lawyers in India by Forbes India in 2021 and as one amongst the top 40 legal professionals under the age of 40 in India by Business World Legal in 2020 (BW legal 40 under 40)

Mr. Nawneet has authored three books on environment, energy and climate change, all of which have been published by Lexis Nexis. He has also been actively contributing to chapters in international publications and columns and articles in mainstream Indian media and publications. He has been involved in several speaking engagements at prestigious seminars and conferences related to environment, sustainability and climate change in India, USA, UK, Australia, Germany, Spain, Philippines and Belgium.

Mr. G. Saravanan
Director (Industrial Engineering)
National Productivity Council

Mr. Saravanan is currently heading the Industrial Engineering & Inspection Division of National Productivity Council (NPC). He worked at various levels in NPC offices located at Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and New Delhi. He holds Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Engineering.

He has over 20 years of Consultancy and Training Experience in Productivity Improvement with special focus on Improving Utilisation of Assets (Human resources, Equipment, Material)

His experience cuts across different sectors and Industries ranging from MSME, Large scale both in Private and Public Sector units.

Mr. Shikhar Jain
Deputy Head
CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable
Development

Mr. Shikhar Jain has over 25 years of experience as business sustainability expert. Has developed, implemented & integrated various EHS best practices, enhanced compliance & risk management framework, for several top Indian & global firms. Has designed, implemented, and integrated Quality, Environmental, Health & Safety and Social Programs / Management systems in over 500 facilities and for corporate-wide operations. His responsibilities include policy dialogue & consultation with government, development agencies, think-tanks & various stakeholder groups on ESG ratings, sustainability strategy, circular economy, and aspects of strategic importance to corporates.

He had been lead trainer & faculty for various accredited training courses for IRCA (UK), IEMA (UK), SAI (US), GRI (EU), QCI (India) and has conducted over 500 trainings (open & in – company) helping raise awareness & competence on GRI, sustainability disclosures, stakeholder engagement, environment, occupational health & safety, social accountability, carbon neutrality, zero-waste to landfill, regulatory compliances.

Within CII-Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD), Mr. Jain’s responsibilities include training, advisory and consulting on a wide spectrum including leadership & strategy on sustainability, sustainability assurance, management systems, sustainability reporting & sustainability management framework across value chains. He has extensive work experience on USAID, WORLDBANK, ADB, EU, GIZ donor agency funded projects on environment & sustainability related aspects.

Mr. S.K. Jain
Company Secretary Indraprastha Gas Ltd

Mr. S.K. Jain is a Law Graduate from University of Delhi, an Associate member of Institute of Cost Accounts of India and a Fellow member of Institute of Company Secretaries of India. He is presently the Senior Vice President heading Company Secretariat, legal, Regulatory & Corporate affairs and Risk Mitigation in Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL), a leading City Gas Distribution company of India.

He has more than 30 years’ experience in Corporate Sector in diverse fields of Finance & Accounts, Taxation, Legal, Regulatory & Corporate Affairs, Risk Mitigation and Company Secretariat functions in reputed companies of DCM Shriram Group. Jindal’s and IGL, (JV of GAIL & BPCL)

Mr. Karthic Jayaraman
President & Co-Founder
Way Cool Foods

Mr. Karthik comes with a diverse experience spanning nearly 25 years in the fields of engineering, automotive and management consulting. In the past, he has been associated with leading firms like Ashok Leyland, McKinsey and Company, Tata Motors, Timken.

In his tenure in these companies, Mr. Karthick has been part of transformational programs.

Mr. Karthick started his entrepreneurial journey with WayCool in 2015 with his partner and Co- Founder Sanjay Dasari. which through its agricultural extension program – ‘Outgrow’, works with a base of over 150k farmers to source produce, and equips farmers with next-gen tech, while promoting principles of regenerative agriculture. He has driven WayCool Foods in becoming India’s largest Agri-Commerce company today. He has built a strong culture of innovation resulting in WayCool leading automation and running a highly efficient business model in the industry.

Mr. Karthick is an IIT Madras alumnus with a Masters Degree from Purdue University and an MBA from Indian School of Business.

Mr. D. Sreenivasulu
Director & Head, AIP,
Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Productivity, NPC (Chennai)

Mr. Sreenivasulu is a Chemical Engineering Graduate from Andhra University, holding PG Certificate in Industrial Pollution Prevention and Control from NPC Chennai and Masters in Process Engineering, from IMT Atlantique, Nantes, France. He has 28 years of experience in Environmental domain, especially in Industrial Pollution Prevention and Control. He has worked in the areas of development of emission, and pollution norms for various industrial sectors, waste inventorization at state level, cleaner production and clean technologies, assessing environmental impact of products, sustainability reporting and development of sectoral environmental audit protocols.

11.3 List of participants

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1	Abacqz Software & Engg	Mr. George Vergese
2	Aditya Birla Management Corporation	Mr. Sundarajan. K
3	Amara Raja Batteries Ltd	Mr. M. Prasad
4	Amara Raja Batteries Ltd	Mr. Hari Babu Sakhamuri
5	Ananas Designs	Mr.Rambabu Thummala
6	Anjan Drug Pvt Ltd	Ms. Devi TK
7	Anjan Drug Pvt Ltd	Mr. K. Sathish Rajan
8	Apollo Hospitals	Mr. SM Krishnan
9	Apollo Hospitals	Mr. Lakshminarayana Reddy
10	Apollo Hospitals	Mr. K. Ramasubramanian
11	Apollo Tyres Ltd	Mr. Prithvi Raj
12	Ashok Leyland Limited	Mr. Dinesh R G
13	Ashok Leyland Limited	Mr. Gukul M.C
14	Bala Associates	Mr. M S Ravichandran
15	BET Medical Pvt Ltd	Mr. Sateesh
16	BET Medical Pvt Ltd	Mr. Prakash
17	Blue Star	Mr. V Purushothaman
18	Brakes India Pvt.Ltd	Mr. R. Madhusudhan
19	Brakes India Pvt.Ltd	Mr. D. Daniel
20	Butterfly Gandhimathi Appliance Ltd	Ms. Priya Varshinee
21	Butterfly Gandhimathi Appliance Ltd	Mr. Sundarajan
22	Butterfly Gandhimathi Appliance Ltd	Mr. Lawrence
23	Cameoholi	Mr.Aravind
24	Carborundum Universal Ltd	Ms. Rekha Surendhiran
25	Chennai Consultancy	Mr. Ramaiah Chidambaram
26	Bala Associates	Mr. R. Balakrishnan
27	Bala Associates	Mr. M.S. Ravichandran
28	Bet Medical Pvt Ltd	Mr. Satheesh
29	Bet Medical Pvt Ltd	Mr. Prakash
30	Biz Risk Pro	Mr. PLN Pavan Kumar
31	Blue Star	Mr. Purushothaman V
32	Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Co Ltd	Mr. Prakash. J
33	Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Co Ltd	Mr. Ajay Bhatia
34	Cognizant	Mr. Soma Shanmuga Sundaram
35	Cognizant	Mr. Navaneetha Krishnan ramachandran
36	Cognizant	Mr. Barath
37	Cognizant	Mr. Balakumar Thangavelu
38	Cognizant	Mr. Bhavan. D

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39	Cognizant	Mr. Noel.S
40	Cognizant Technology Solutions (I) Pvt	Mr. Kanipandi. G
41	Cognizant- JLL	Mr. Satish Cavin Roy
42	Dalit Welfare Trust	Mr. J.P. Nagabhushanam
43	DigiTiez Technologies and Business Solutions	Mr. S. Shanmuganandam S
44	Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute	Mr. E. Srinivasan
45	Everest Cement Pipes	Mr. Ragu
46	E.I.D Parry (India) Ltd	Mr. B. Satish Krishnan
47	E.I.D Parry (India) Ltd	Mr. R. Naveen Kumar
48	Eco Services India Private Ltd	Mr. Elango Kamalasekaran
49	EiSqr Solutions	Mr. Amarnath Govindaraj
50	Equitas Holdings Ltd	Mr. John Alex
51	Equitas Small Finance Bank	Mr. Dheeraj Mohan
52	GAIL India Ltd	Mr. J. Sitharam
53	Gmmco Limited	Mr. R. Sudhan Kumar
54	Green Era Recyclers	Mr. Prasanth Omanakuttan
55	Grundfos Pumps India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Ramesh Kannan
56	Grundfos Pumps India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Hema Karthi
57	Impressions Enterprises	Mr. Umamaheswaran Krishnan
58	Indo American Chamber of Commerce	Mr.Manohar Chikkanna
59	Institute of Directors	Mr. S. Kannan
60	Integra Software Service Pvt Ltd	Ms. Kalaimani
61	Integra Software Service Pvt Ltd	Ms. Vijayashree Manoharan
62	Integra Software Service Pvt Ltd	Mr. Ashok
63	Jones Lang Laselly	Mr. Jayaraman
64	Jupiter Enterprises	Mr. Sathish Kumar
65	Kemin Industries South Asia Pvt Ltd	Ms.Sinduga
66	Kontack Consortium India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Vijendra Bomb
67	Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd	Mr. Ganesh Kumar P
68	Loud HR Services Pvt Ltd	Mr. M.H. Raja
69	Lennox Intl.	Mr. Visaal Kumar.P
70	Lotus Industries Ltd	Mr. Imtiaz
71	LSK9Forms Consulting	Mr. S. Saravana Kumar
72	Lucas TVS	Mr. N. Lakshminarayanan
73	Lucas TVS	Mr. Sidhayohran
74	Lucas TVS	Mr. P.S. Mitun
75	Lucas TVS	Mr. Gobinath. P
76	Mahalakshmi Trading Corporation	Mr. Duraibabu. S
77	Michelin India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Asjok Kumar T
78	Michelin India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Ranganathan
79	Michelin India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Florent Chaussasa
80	Michelin India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Rajesth Kumar

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Sl. No	Company	Name
81	Nippon Paint (India) Pvt Ltd	Mr. Arun Seshadri
82	Novozymes	Mr. H. Navineet
83	Paques environmental technology India Pvt Ltd	Mr. PC. Ganesh
84	Param Project For Perfection	Mr. Parameshwar Babu
85	Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt Ltd	Ms. Mahalakshmi Barath
86	Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Bodhisatwa Ray
87	Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt Ltd	Ms. Sweta Agarwal
88	Ponni Corporation	Mr. B. Balasubramanian
89	Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation	Mr. D.V. Venkatagiri
90	PWC	Mr. Rachit Shyam
91	Right Health Platter Pvt Ltd	Mr. V. Rengaswamy
92	RRD	Ms. D. Rakshana
93	Saint Gobain India Pvt Ltd	Ms. S. Priyadharshini
94	Samco Metals & Alloys	Mr. Arumugam
95	SBI Life Insurance	Ms. Preethi S
96	Shri ram Engineering Company	Mr. R. Janardhanan
97	Skillwise Group	Mr. Bastian Babu
98	Srinivas Impex	Mr. Ashwin Karthik
99	Sundram Fasteners Ltd	Mr. Anand Babu
100	Sundram Fasteners Ltd	Mr. B. Umesh
101	Sundram Fasteners Ltd	Mr. L. Manikam
102	Sunwind eco Technologies	Mr. Srikanth Sarangapani
103	Supreme Petrochem Ltd	Mr.A. Kannan
104	Suryadesh Energy	Mr. Harish Jayaram
105	Sysfore Technologies Bangalore	Mr. Mahadeven Ramesh
106	Ultramarine & Pigments Ltd	Mr. Vishaka Ramanathan
107	VA Tech Wabag Ltd	Mr. TV Gopal
108	Wasmanpro Enviromental Solutions LLp	Mr. Karthikeyan Kathiresan
109	Waycool	Mr. Jayesh Shinde
110	Wipro Ltd	Mr. Arindam Das
111	Wipro Ltd	Ms. Aditi Saha
112	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. Idhayachandran
113	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. Natarajan
114	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. K. Vijayaraju
115	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. G. Saravanan
116	Kerala State Productivity Council	Mr. Sriram. A
117	Positive Living	Mr. Suresh Joseph
118	ZF Rane Automotive India Pvt Ltd	Mr. Sundaramoorthi
119	KRMPRAKASH KUMAR IIT, MADRAS	Mr. Prakash kumar
120	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. Sreenivasulu
121	Institute of Director Reginal Director	Dr. Sundari
122	National Productivity Council (NPC), Chennai	Mr. MD. Samdani
123	Hatsun Agro Pvt Ltd	Mr. Shashilchand singh

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Sl. No	Company	Name
124	Youth4jobs	Mr. Krishnam Mahadevan
125	Thiruvalluvar Farmers Club	Mr. S. Mugundan
126	Thiruvalluvar Farmers Club	Ms. S. Rajeshwari
127	Thiruvalluvar Farmers Club	Ms. Rahasekshmi
128	Tube Investment of India	Mr. Prasanna Kumar Gudaloor
129	Tube Investment of India	Mr. Vinoth G
130	Tube Investment of India	Mr. Manivanna
131	Tube Investment of India	Mr.Kumaravel A
132	Tube Investment of India	Mr. Chellappan SP
133	TVS Electronics	Mr. KV Rajesh
134	Arostar	Mr. Dipankar Ghosh
135	APFX Grp	Mr. Shylesh
136	Adam Ports	Mr. Sathish Kumar
137	Sri Rajeshwari, Global	Mr. P. Venkatachalapathy
138	Delphi TVS	Mr. Kumaresan
139	Indian Pdditues	Mr. A.C. Saravanan
140	Guhe Leather Land	Mr. G.Pranav Nath
141	CPATECSTART Pvt Ltd	Mr. C. Pradeep
142	Hindu	Mr. C. Kannan
143	WE Construction	Mr. Tamil Selvam

11.4 Media Coverage

The event was covered by leading newspapers in both digital and print editions. Snap shots of the coverage is given below:



Times of India
(13th September, 2022 Chennai Edition)



New Indian Express
(12th September, 2022 Chennai Edition)

Printed from

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Indian cos to lose 7L cr if they don't act on sustainability

TNN | Sep 13, 2022, 08:11 AM IST

Chennai: President & MD, Volvo Group, India, Kamal Bali, who is also the deputy chairman, CII southern region, said Indian companies will lose Rupees Seven lakh crore over the next few years if they do not do anything about sustainability.

In his address at the conference on ESG for industry transformation (Environmental – Social – Governance for Atmanirbhar Bharat), organised by the CII southern region here on Monday, he said, only 115 companies worldwide had committed to be net zero by 2030 across the world in 2015, but 3,000 companies have signed up today. “Another indication is the \$40 trillion Asset Under Management (AUM) that are linked to ESG globally. In India, the current 7% of AUM is expected to touch 30% by 2030.”

Noting that green financing projects, which are linked to sustainability is going to be the key, he said, “If we get it right, we can actually add another Rupees three lakh crore to the bottom line and top line.”

Additional chief secretary of Tamil Nadu government - Industries S Krishnan said, ESG is considered a necessity in Tamil Nadu. “Our zero liquid discharge policy and environment compliance standards are far more feasible and impactful when compared to others and thereby making the State a preferred destination for positioning viable businesses,” he said.

Pooja Kulkarni, MD & CEO, Guidance, Tamil Nadu, said, companies are looking to set up plants at locations that supports ESG standards. Pointing out that there is now a change in the mindset of businesses when it comes to sustainability and protecting the environment, she said, it is no longer a mere token effort for businesses when it comes to the environment but is more about business continuity.

Rajeev Ranjan, director, ICRO, NPC, New Delhi, said, India now stands committed to reducing its emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 per cent before 2030.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/indian-cos-to-lose-7l-cr-if-they-dont-act-on-sustainability/articleshowprint/94164406.cms>

1/1

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/indian-cos-to-lose-7l-cr-if-they-dont-act-on-sustainability/articleshowprint/94164406.cms> (13th September. 2022)

India’s top 100 firms now have to work towards green goals

“If there is an element of penalty involved, people will comply with the rules,” he says.



Published: 12th September 2022 08:25 AM | Last Updated: 12th September 2022 08:25 AM | A+ A A-



Image used for representational purpose only. (File Photo | AP)

By C Shivakumar

Express News Service

CHENNAI: Industries whose focus has been on making profits have now been given an additional role in reducing the carbon footprint and being socially responsible by mandatorily following the Security Exchange Board of India’s (SEBI) standardised Environment Social Governance (ESG) framework this financial year.

The framework brought in by the SEBI last year was initially a voluntary one, but the Union Commerce Ministry has made it mandatory this financial year for the country’s top 1,000 listed companies who will be provided with a rating, which will

9/13/22, 11:31 AM

help them in getting funds for their ventures, said Dr Rajeev Ranjan, director of Centre for Rural outreach and advisor to National Productivity Council.

To a query on whether the industries that fail to comply with SEBI's ESG framework will be penalised, Dr Ranjan said there should be a compulsion. “If there is an element of penalty involved, people will comply with the rules,” he says.

The National Productivity Council, an autonomous organisation under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, will be conducting five workshops to sensitise the industries about the ESG framework and the first such workshop is being held in Chennai from Monday, said Dr Ranjan, who was former chief secretary of Tamil Nadu.

Ranjan says India has pledged more than 45% reduction in the ‘carbon intensity’ of its economy by 2030. The workshops are being conducted to help the industry understand how the compliance work and also the unique challenges industries face in complying with the framework.

Some of the industries are energy-intensive or water-intensive, leaving a large carbon footprint. The focus will be on these industries going in for better technology to reduce the carbon footprint. Such solutions could be unique for industries in every sector to improve their ratings, he says.

To a query on Indian companies may find it difficult to implement environmental, social and governance ratings proposed by SEBI, Dr Ranjan said the ESG standardisation framework is an evolving one. “The industries should realise that climate change is a reality and if they don't comply, we all will face adverse climatic issues. Though there are challenges for the industries in complying with the guidelines the guidelines are evolving every now and then,” he said.

He said that during the workshop, NPC professionals will help the companies in filling up the forms pertaining to the ESG framework and work out a plan for improving it.

9/13/22, 9:31 AM

State fares well in ESG standards: officials - The Hindu

TAMIL NADU

State fares well in ESG standards: officials

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 23:39 IST

UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 23:39 IST

12th September, 2022, Chennai

Our zero liquid discharge policy is far more feasible: S. Krishnan

Tamil Nadu is doing well in terms of Environmental Social Governance (ESG) parameters, making it a preferred destination for sustainable businesses, State government officials said.

“Our zero liquid discharge policy and environment compliance standards are far more feasible and impactful when compared to others making the State a preferred destination for positioning viable businesses,” S. Krishnan, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, said.

He was speaking at a conference on “ESG for industry transformation (Environmental – Social – Governance for Atmanirbhar Bharat)”, organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Southern Region.

“As a State, we do not just promote companies that stand for ESG but also stand by them to comply with ESG norms,” said Pooja Kulkarni, MD & CEO, Guidance Tamil Nadu.

The State’s industrial policy provides a few subsidies and incentives to sunrise industries such as wind and solar manufacturing industries to adopt sustainable initiatives and green initiatives.

“Furthermore, now companies are looking to set up plants at locations that support ESG standards. We have been ranked no.1 consistently because of the initiatives taken by the government pertaining to Environment and Sustainability,” she added.

Kamal Bali, Deputy Chairman, CII Southern Region, and President and MD, Volvo Group, India, said it was estimated that companies would roughly lose ₹7 lakh crore if ESG norms were not followed. On the other hand, if they adopt to it correctly they can add ₹3 lakh crore to their bottom line.

India was heading in the right direction towards achieving net zero emissions by 2070, Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Director, ICRO, NPC, New Delhi, said.

Ravichandran P., Chairman, Sustainability Sub-Committee, and Sreeramulu Balakrishnan, Managing Director, KG Denim, spoke.

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NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL

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