Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi with ASSOCHAM President, Shri Balkrishan Goenka at ASSOCHAM’s Centenary Celebrations.
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I would like to begin by wishing you heartiest Season’s Greetings and a Happy New Year 2020!

As we conclude another successful year in the journey of ASSOCHAM, I would like to express my profound sense of privilege and honour at having led an organisation embodying such stature, legacy and stellar contributions to nation building. My tenure with ASSOCHAM has been truly remarkable, stimulating and fulfilling in many ways.

When I assumed office, I had inherited the contribution that the distinguished visionaries before me had made to industrial progress. I had the onerous task of building on the achievements and take the platform even higher. The challenge was to make the voice of industry even more focused and future-oriented yet retain its inclusiveness.

However, my task was made simpler through the Hon'ble Prime Minister’s mandate to economy of achieving the USD 5 trillion mark. This has enthused industry and given rise to a renewed energy in moving towards national goals. I have been privileged also because my tenure gave me the opportunity to witness India’s transition from an emerging to a progressive economy due to the government’s reformist policies. The government’s initiatives and reforms have elevated India’s stature and influence in the economic, political and international spheres.

As a primary step towards aligning ASSOCHAM with national socio-economic objectives, the journey gave me the opportunity to envision a guiding philosophy of 4-Sight, encompassing the four pillars of Entrepreneurship, Digitization, Sustainability and Women Empowerment. The initiatives conceived and implemented for these and many other segments have been instrumental in reiterating ASSOCHAM’s endeavours in nation building and enhancing inclusive growth.

In order to consolidate the strengths of ASSOCHAM, collective efforts have gone into bringing about a transformation in the structure, approach and operations, to provide greater sharpness and focus in aligning with government agenda. ASSOCHAM’s sector-specific councils have been re-oriented and made contributions participative, resulting in numerous successful policy recommendations to the government. Our economy stands on robust structural ground, from which many disruptive ideas and newer ventures are emerging. I am pleased that these start-ups have been nurtured and guided towards growth.

ASSOCHAM also continues to widen its national and international reach. Heeding the clarion call of our Hon’ble Prime Minister, ASSOCHAM has opened its regional office in Jammu & Kashmir, with industry’s commitment to contribute to the region’s welfare and progress. ASSOCHAM has earlier spearheaded sizeable participation in initiatives such as Vibrant Gujarat and Emerging North-East to forge greater state-level development.

At the international level, various interactions such as ASSOCHAM Diplomacy Business Initiative have commenced and are underway. Partnerships have been forged with renowned organisations such as Asian Business Leadership Forum to recognise commendable businesses.

Apart from hosting eminent dignitaries such as the Hon’ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, leading a strong Indian business delegation accompanying the Hon’ble President of India to Iceland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, accompanying Hon’ble Chief Minister of Gujarat to Uzbekistan and holding detailed...
interactions with the diplomatic community in India, ASSOCHAM has forged stronger international linkages. It is hoped that these would expand ASSOCHAM’s global footprint significantly.

In the process, I have sincerely strived to help ASSOCHAM transform as an organisation and become more streamlined and future-ready. Having begun its future journey after a glorious centenary, ASSOCHAM is positioned at the vantage point from where the future beckons with hope and radiance. **We were privileged to have our Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji along with five eminent Cabinet Ministers at our Centenary Celebrations and Annual Conference on 20 December 2019, wherein the expectations from industry have been outlined in the framework to building a USD 5 trillion economy.** The task is daunting, but the momentum has been built to navigate the roadmap for achieving even brighter economic prospects. I am confident that Indian industry is poised to fulfilling these expectations.

I derive immense fulfilment at having laid the foundation of a focused, streamlined, robust and vibrant ASSOCHAM, readying it for a future commensurate with India’s growing stature as a rising economic power. The membership base of ASSOCHAM has been strengthened and represents a cross-section of active industry segments. ASSOCHAM is now well positioned to manage growing challenges of economy, industry, global trade and growing national expectations.

In my journey during the past one year, I was privileged to have the support of the distinguished Past Presidents of ASSOCHAM along with Senior Vice President, Vice President, Managing Committee Members, Chairs and Co-Chairs of National Councils. I wholeheartedly express my sincere gratitude to all of them for their guidance and support.

My tenure was made fulfilling with the opportunities provided to me by the senior representatives of our Political Leadership and Government at the central and state levels, to represent the concerns of industry. I am delighted that these concerns have been considered and addressed favourably. The media in our country is lauded as one of the most liberal in the world, to which I credit depicting a comprehensive illustration of ASSOCHAM’s initiatives in general and my Presidentship in particular.

The ASSOCHAM Secretariat merits my highest endorsement as a coherent and vibrant unit which has spearheaded innovative and pertinent initiatives effectively to align the organisation with national goals. Industry representation is in very capable hands and is confident of maintaining impetus towards the future.

As ASSOCHAM embarks upon its future journey, I extend my continued best wishes and am pleased that the chamber is more vibrant, focused, nimble and driven with renewed energy towards a bright future.

Best wishes,

_Balkrishan Goenka_
Vision for the future
What is expected of an industry body like ASSOCHAM, is to be the forerunner in establishing the interest of various share-holders of the organization in tandem with the government’s vision for the future. ASSOCHAM has been at the forefront as the propeller of change for the last 100 years.

What India needs at this juncture is to consolidate its position as the fastest-growing economy in the world. The cast for that has been dyed in the last five years by way of many reforms and changes in the way we do business or run our economy. We had been partnering with the visionaries at every step and in every aspect to propel the economy towards the Prime Minister’s vision of the ‘New India’.

Under my leadership in the future, we would like to channelize the efforts in the following manner:

Equitable Growth
we would aim at ensuring equitable growth through generating employment opportunities, ensuring favorable ease of Doing Business Environment for all the stakeholders, provide equal opportunities for all, strive to get better policies for best governance, resolve the country’s agrarian crisis, ensure food & water security, address the issue of urban-rural divide, increase women power into GDP, ensure business with responsibility and finally promote private partnership in public infrastructure.

Enhancing the Skill and Education Ecosystem
As an industry body, we would also target enhancing the skill and education eco-system by channelizing the skilling initiative of our members, creating a blueprint for National Skilling Mission, training the trainees across the Board, skilling the rural youth, providing vocational training for jail-inmates, juvenile homes, child rescue homes, providing school and college circular augmentation program, setting up skill upgrading centers in industry clusters and setting up of a special knowledge-sharing forum for bringing women into the organized workforce.

Sustainable Development
Our thrust would be to enable sustainable development through reducing carbon footprint by adopting green technologies, conserving nature & habitation, safeguarding rivers & water bodies, improving the standard of lives, creating sustainable cities and communities, striving to generate affordable & clean energy and clean water & sanitation facilities.

Improving Infrastructure
To ensure the establishment of World-Class Infrastructure like roads, Metro Rail, Highways, Airports, Ports, Inland Water Ways, IT Parks, Digital & IT Infra all across the country by lending support to the government’s initiatives.

Encouraging Innovations & Entrepreneurship
The growth of the nation lies in free-spirited entrepreneurs. The onus would be on us for encouraging innovations & entrepreneurship. ASSOCHAM would assist in fostering innovation, help Start-Ups, provide financial aid to small ventures, set up micro-financing for rural women for small business & self-employment, set up knowledge centers for MSME and finally, create digital platforms for speedy dissemination of information.

Sr. Vice President’s Message

Niranjan Hiranandani
Extending greetings for 2020 to the esteemed readers of ASSOCHAM Bulletin, I share my pride and sense of achievements during 2019 as we celebrate centenary of ASSOCHAM. Your chamber earned the coveted position of hosting Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Annual Conference on December 20, choosing the most apt theme of “India aspiring for a USD 5 trillion economy”.

Besides Shri Modi, a power-packed Vigyan Bhawan witnessed five Cabinet ministers addressing the ASSOCHAM Annual Conference on a comprehensive agenda, dealing with the major issues of investment, infrastructure, external environment, MSMEs and gender parity. Over and above an inspirational address of the Hon’ble Prime Minister exhorting the industry leaders to regain their confidence, senior ministers shared their vision for taking the country to the coveted USD 5 trillion mark. The event received a massive media coverage even as we had made arrangements for direct telecast of the Prime Minister’s address through all our regional offices and affiliated organisations. The quality and the range of discussions was of a global standard with a lot of positive takeaways for the participants. The most important takeaway came from the Prime Minister’s address, assuring the banks and the industry of all the support in their endeavour of nation building.

As the voice of Corporate India, ASSOCHAM has always been a front runner in articulating its concerns in the government, right up to the highest level. We also affirm our commitment to India’s vision of achieving equitable growth.

Deepak Sood
MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its year-long centenary celebrations from December 11, 2019.

The Chambers of Commerce play a significant role in articulating the needs and interests of its members. They are also key stakeholders in the development of Indian industry, business and economy. In this regard, ASSOCHAM has also played an important role as one of the leading Chambers of Commerce in the country. I am sure that the centenary would mark a new beginning for ASSOCHAM and encourage its future endeavours.

I extend my warm greetings and felicitations to all those associated with ASSOCHAM and wish them all success in their future endeavours.

(Ram Nath Kovind)

New Delhi
November 22, 2019
I congratulate the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Trade of India (ASSOCHAM), for stepping into the centennial year.

The continued participation of the association in providing an interactive platform not only to the Indian Industry but also to international trade delegates is much appreciated. I am sure the platform provided by the chamber will continue to aid in formulating policy recommendations to facilitate economic and social growth.

I extend my greetings and congratulations to management and all the staff members of the ASSOCHAM and wish the centenary celebrations a grand success.

New Delhi

(M. Venkaiah Naidu)
Prime Minister

MESSAGE

I am pleased to learn about the centenary celebrations of The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). The initiative to bring out a Coffee Table Book to mark the occasion is a thoughtful one.

Our entrepreneurs are the harbingers of India’s economic growth. We want every sector to grow speedily, expand on a larger scale and create more employment opportunities.

Our Government remains firmly committed to all-round and all-inclusive development. Over 1400 laws have been repealed. Remarkable improvement in our country’s ease of doing business is a result of our collective efforts. From bank accounts to access to affordable pensions and insurance, we are strongly focussed on financial inclusion. Economic reforms are taking place at an unprecedented speed which has unleashed new economic opportunities. The present is changing rapidly and a ‘New India’ is taking shape. The role of institutions such as ASSOCHAM assumes a critical importance in such a scenario.

As ASSOCHAM celebrates the 100th year of its existence, it must take pride in its achievements, but not remain contented and draw inspiration from the occasion to chart out a futuristic, visionary roadmap to enhance its contribution in the nation’s economic growth.

Greetings and best wishes to everyone associated with ASSOCHAM in its centennial journey. May the institution script greater success for itself and enhance its contribution to nation-building in the years to come. I am sure that the centenary celebrations and the publication of the Coffee Table Book will be a remarkable success.

New Delhi
अप्रैल 05, शक संबंध 1941
26th November, 2019

(Narendra Modi)
MESSAGE

I am glad to know that ASSOCHAM is celebrating its 100 years from 11.12.2019 and as part of the centenary year, ASSOCHAM is organizing a year-long celebrations.

The 100 years journey of an organization such as the ASSOCHAM of India needs a special mention in the economic landscape of India. As a partner in nation-building for the last century, the organization has made its presence felt at various platforms and voiced their opinions for the betterment of the community and businesses.

I would like to applaud the whole team of ASSOCHAM for the successful journey and wish them luck to continue working towards strengthening the country and economy in the coming years.

(Amit Shah)
December, 2019

MESSAGE

Happy to note that The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its centenary year celebration w.e.f. 11th December, 2019 and bringing out a Coffee Table Book for commemorating the occasion.

Confident that ASSOCHAM will succeed in achieving its vision, mission and value creation for Indian Industry.

Best wishes for the success of the event.

[ Nirmala Sitharaman ]
MESSAGE

It gives me an immense pleasure that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its completion of 100 years.

ASSOCHAM has been one of the best platforms not only for domestic industrialists but also for international trade delegates. Its contribution in providing a single platform for the voices of the industry from the past 100 years is praiseworthy. The suggestions and recommendations in formulating a policy for the economic and social growth of the nation have been very consistent and I hope it will continue in future also.

On this occasion, I once again congratulate the entire team of ASSOCHAM for their achievement of completing a century.

Date: 28th November, 2019
Place: New Delhi

(Nitin Gadkari)
Message

I am delighted to congratulate ASSOCHAM on its Centenary Foundation Year. Being one of the oldest and largest business chambers in India with a national character, ASSOCHAM has played an apex role in promoting and developing Indian industry. It has provided a platform for our business leaders and contributed to developing policy and programmes.

Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has set an ambitious goal of becoming a $5 trillion economy by 2024. ASSOCHAM has an instrumental role to play in this journey. The Chamber has contributed immensely to various Government programmes including Invest India, Start up India and others to help us move towards our vision of “New India”. In fact, India’s rise in the World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business rankings has also been made possible due to the support provided by various Chambers of Commerce.

I congratulate all those associated with ASSOCHAM on its centenary year. I wish all success to the Chamber and am confident that it will continue empowering Indian enterprises, and play a role in contributing to the development of India and Indian entrepreneurship.

Piyush Goyal
MESSAGE

I heartily congratulate The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) on its 100th anniversary celebrations. ASSOCHAM is a forward looking and proactive industry body with more than 400 Chambers and Trade Associations under its fold, and serving more than 4,50,000 members from all over India. It is heartening to note that this premier industry body has been playing a significant role in shaping the policy landscape of India by aggressively engaging with the Government, policy makers and the business community and thereby, meeting the requirements and aspirations of the corporate India.

ASSOCHAM as an industry body will keep responding to the changes happening in India and globally and adapt itself to meet the expectations of its members, Government and the civil society. ASSOCHAM will have to find new and innovative solutions for the challenges facing "New India". I am confident that it will rise to the occasion and reach new milestones in the coming years.

My best wishes.

(Kamal Nath)
MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating the completion of 100 years of its eventful journey in serving the industry sector.

I congratulate all the office bearers and the members of ASSOCHAM on this historic occasion.

ASSOCHAM is a professional industry body like no other. With more than 400 Chambers and Trade Associations in its fold, and serving more than 4,50,000 members from all over India, this premier industry body has today become a forward looking institution which has equipped itself to meet all aspirations of corporate India. Nevertheless, I firmly believe that the industry body has a huge potential and there is still so much to do.

I hope ASSOCHAM will continue to work with added zeal and dedication.

My best wishes.
No. 1065/Press/CMO/19.

3rd December, 2019.

MESSAGE

I am happy to note that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India is completing 100 years.

Over the last one hundred years, ASSOCHAM has rendered yeoman service to the business community in our country. I am sure that you will continue contributing to the growth of commerce and industry in India.

My best wishes to ASSOCHAM on your centenary year.

Pinarayi Vijayan

The Associated Chambers of Commerce
and Industry of India
First Floor, Richmond Plaza
Bangaluru - 5600 025
MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that ASSOCHAM has completed 100 years of its service to the industry. On this occasion, I would like to congratulate the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India for its many achievements over the past 100 years and wish all those associated with it for this remarkable feat.

Since the last 100 years, there has been a rapid increase in the rate of technological advancement which has created profound changes in work force demands and economic realities in India. ASSOCHAM has responded to these changes and adapted itself to meet the needs of its members, helped to find solutions to many of these new challenges by providing a platform for reflection, consultation, debate, cooperation and collaboration.

I would also like to commend the valuable role of ASSOCHAM in empowering the Indian business community to become leaders in their respective business segment.

(Jai Ram Thakur)
MESSAGE

It is heartening to know that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) have completed 100 years this year. I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to this organization on reaching its centenary. It is a remarkable accomplishment and certainly something worth praising. I can definitely vision a long and productive future of this organization and members associated with it. ASSOCHAM is a significant contributor to the emergence of new-age Indian Corporates, characterized by a new mindset and global ambition for dominating the international business.

I wish the event a grand success.

(Bhupesh Baghel)
MESSAGE

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India is all set to complete a century in the coming year and it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge and congratulate the contribution of its members and industry body for the past 100 years. I strongly uphold the fact that this organisation has been a significant voice to the Indian industrial players. It has successfully represented its members on various national platforms economic and trade issues becoming an integral part of the developments of the country.

Wishing them success in the coming years, I believe it would continue to grow in the future and reach every milestone that comes in their path.

The Chairman
ASSOCHAM Karnataka Council
K.G.Road, Bangalore.
MESSAGE

Commerce is the equalizer of the wealth of nations.
— William E. Gladstone.

Commerce and trade is one of the most important tools for the development of the Nation. 21st century has aligned Indian industry to global market economy. Gujarat is a state that encourages and provides the best environment for the business sector.

It gives me immense pleasure to know that The ASSOCHAM is celebrating the successful completion of its 100 years in serving the industry sector. I wish to extend my sincerest congratulations to the organization and all the members on the historic occasion and wishing team ASSOCHAM a great success in coming years.

(Vijay Rupani)
Message

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its' 100th year on 11th December 2019 and a year-long celebration during the centennial year and to mark this occasion, a Coffee Table Book is also being brought out.

ASSOCHAM is a professional industry body like no other. With more than 400 Chambers and Trade Associations in its' fold, and serving more than 4,50,000 members from all over India, this premier industry body has today become a forward looking institution, which has equipped itself to meet the all aspirations of corporate India.

Nevertheless, I firmly believe that the industry body has a huge potential and there's still so much to do to uplift the Industry sector in India.

I congratulate ASSOCHAM on this auspicious occasion and extend my best wishes for the success of centennial year.

(Arvind Kejriwal)
MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India is celebrating its Centenary Day on 20th December, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

I extend my warm greetings to the members of the ASSOCHAM on this joyous occasion and wish the centenary celebration all success.

(NAVEEN PATNAIK)
MESSAGE

I am happy to learn ASSOCHAM is celebrating 100 years of its Foundation. I am pleased, as industry body ASSOCHAM has been in service the nation since 1920 and I congratulate all the ASSOCHAM members for this. ASSOCHAM reflects the journey of India and its growth.

Agriculture is the backbone of our economy and it remains one of the biggest employers in our country. I am happy to learn in today's program ASSOCHAM is focusing on developing multimodal logistics solutions involving, water, surface, air to support farm produce and also to support processed food industry of the country. At Government level we are have created and are committed to a conducive environment for all and we request private sector to come up in a pro-active manner to invest in agriculture sector. We all need to work collectively to support agri sector entrepreneurs and it gives me immense pleasure to see many startups now are emerging in the Agri sector.

I wish ASSOCHAM a successful deliberation at its program focusing on Logistics for the sector. As we move forward to prepare for modern India, my message to all of you is to come forward and with your combined strength we shall scale newer heights.

(PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)
MESSAGE

I am delighted to learn that The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its Centenary Foundation Celebration Day on 20th December, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

100 years in the life of an organisation is a momentous occasion and especially so when it has contributed to the nation’s growth in every spheres. It is heartening to know that ASSOCHAM has been in service of the nation since 1920 and has a membership base of 4-5 Lac corporate and there are more than 400 associations affiliated to it.

On this momentous occasion, I would like to congratulate the members of ASSOCHAM who have traversed a long yet fruitful journey, contributing immensely in the growth trajectory of our great country.

My best wishes on the 100 years of ASSOCHAM and wish the organisation have unending glorious years of existence.

ITANAGAR
December 14, 2019

(Pema Khandu)
Message

I am happy to know that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is going to celebrate 100 years of its existence. Yearlong centennial celebrations will also be organised.

Over the last 100 years, there has been a rapid increase in the rate of technological advancement which has created profound changes in workforce demands and economic realities in India.

ASSOCHAM, as an industry body, has responded to these changes and adapted itself to meet the needs of its members. It has helped to find solutions to many of these new challenges by providing a platform for reflection, consultation, debate, cooperation and collaboration.

I would like to congratulate the ASSOCHAM for its many achievements. I also appreciate the valuable role of ASSOCHAM in empowering the Indian business community to become leaders in their respective business segment.

I wish ASSOCHAM all the success for all the endeavours.

( Yogi Adityanath )
MESSAGE

It is a matter of pleasure to know that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is going to celebrate its "Centenary Foundation Celebration Day" on 20th December, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The Chamber is credited with bringing out outstanding research papers on the issues pertaining to various segments of the economy and business environment. The Chamber has been doing commendable work in providing excellent platform to the Industry and Government through its summits on various topics which helps to formulate policy decisions intended to boost the growth and competitiveness of Indian trade and industry in national and international markets.

I extend my greetings and felicitations to the organisers and participants and wish the Centenary Foundation Celebration all success.

(Nitish Kumar)
MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that The Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is celebrating its 100 years of success in serving the industry sector.

I take this opportunity to congratulate ASSOCHAM on this historic occasion.

ASSOCHAM is a significant contributor to the emergence of new-age Indian corporate, characterized by a new mindset and global ambition for dominating the international business.

I strongly uphold the fact that this organization has been a significant voice to the Indian industrial players. It has successfully represented its member on various national platforms economic and trade issues becoming an integral part of the development of the country.

I wish ASSOCHAM great success in coming years.

(Dr. Pramod Sawant)
Now a strong foundation for the $5 trillion economy has been laid. We are placing India’s economy on two important pillars of Formalization and Modernization. Various efforts have been made such as increasing digital transactions, GST, Aadhaar Linked Payment and DBT to bring most of the sectors of the economy into a formal system.
Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that the goal of achieving the USD 5 trillion Economy is achievable.

He was addressing the inaugural session of the 100 Years of ASSOCHAM in New Delhi.

Addressing a gathering of leaders from the Corporate World, Diplomats and others, the Prime Minister said that “the idea of making India a 5 Trillion Dollar worth economy is not a sudden one.”

He said that in the past five years the country had made itself so strong that it not only could set for itself such a target but also make efforts in that direction.

“We brought in fundamental changes in India’s Economy so that it can run with set rules in a
disciplined manner. We have met with the decades old demands of the Industrial Sector and we have built a strong foundation for a 5 Trillion Dollar Economy.”

“We are building the Indian Economy on two strong pillars of formalisation and modernisation. We are trying to bring in more and more sectors into the horizon of formal economy. Along with this we are linking our economy with latest technology so that we can speed up the process of modernisation,” he said.

“Now instead of several weeks it merely takes a few hours to register a new company. Automation is helping quick Trading across borders. Better linking of infrastructure is reducing the turn-around time at Ports and Airports. And these are all examples of a modern economy.”

“Today we have a Government that listens to the Industry, understands its needs and which is sensitive to its suggestions.”

Prime Minister said that the country could make a significant jump in the rankings of Ease of Doing Business due to a sustained effort. “Ease of Doing Business may sound just like four words, but in order to improve its rankings...
there is a lot of effort that goes into it including changing the policies and rules at the ground level.”

Prime Minister also emphasised the efforts being made towards a faceless Tax Administration in the country in order to reduce the human interface between the tax payer and the authorities.

“In order to bring about transparency, efficiency and accountability in the Tax System, we are moving towards a faceless Tax Administration,” he said.

Prime Minister said that the Government has decriminalised several laws in the Corporate Sector in order to reduce the burden and allow the industry to function in a fearless ecosystem.

“You know that there were several provisions of the Company Act as per which even small deviations were also dealt as a Criminal Offence. Our Government has now decriminalised many such provisions. And we are trying to decriminalise many other provisions.”

Prime Minister said that the Corporate Tax at this time in the country is the lowest ever and this would propel a boost in the economic growth.
“The Corporate Tax is the lowest at the moment, meaning if there is any Government that is taking the lowest Corporate Tax from the Industry, then it is ours”

Prime Minister also spoke about the efforts being made towards bringing about Labour Reforms.

He also spoke about the sweeping reforms in the Banking Sector to make it more transparent and profitable.

“Owing to the steps taken by the Government today 13 Banks are on the path of profit of which 6 banks are out of PCA. We have also hastened the process of unification of the Banks. Today banks are expanding their countrywide networks and are in the direction of achieving Global recognition.”

He said with this all around positivity the economy is propelling towards a 5 Trillion Dollar target. Prime Minister said that the Government would invest 100 Lakh Crore Rupees in the infrastructure sector and another 25 Lakh Crore Rupees in the Rural Sector in order to provide support to achieve the target.

In his centenary celebrations’ address, the ASSOCHAM president Mr. B K Goenka said he has personally seen how the Prime Minister gives a positive dimension to all challenges turning them into opportunities. “Certain defining reforms like formalisation of economy through GST, and direction from the top for reforms in tax administration would infuse
confidence among the industry,” Mr. Goenka said.

ASSOCHAM Secretary General, Mr. Deepak Sood said the chamber would work as an active partner of the government towards realizing the untapped potential of Indian economy, taking advantage of a strong leadership of the Prime Minister. “Even in the midst of the ensuing budget session, senior ministers have found time and responded positively to listen to the industry leaders, sharing the government perspective on its key policies,” he said.
India is well poised to reach $5 trn economy

Nirmala Sitharaman

“I keep telling this to banks, there is no point in saving it in the Reserve Bank, you have to keep moving it further through NBFCs, through direct lending and so on.”

Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman addressing the ASSOCHAM Annual Centenary Celebrations.
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday asked India Inc to come out of “self doubt” mood and unleash the animal spirit as she stressed that steps taken post Budget have started showing some results on the ground.

The government has shown conviction to change India’s system, take some tough decisions and make sure it is responsive to industry, she said at industry body ASSOCHAM’s event. According to the minister, major steps taken in the past few years make India stand out in the world and industry is part of the change.

“I would appeal to you that please get out of the mood of self doubt. Can we do it? Can India do it?... why is this negative mood? Get out of this self doubt,” she said and emphasised that most of the macro economic indicators are strong.

“Inflation has been under control, macro economic fundamentals absolutely strong, FDI inflow has been strong, foreign exchange reserve is at record high, PSU banks have been professionalised,” Sitharaman said.

Her comments assume significance in view of muted private investment and economic slowdown.

Urging India Inc to participate in the growth story, Sitharaman said...
Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs releasing ASSOCHAM-primus-partners report along with (L-R) Shri Anil Agarwal, Executive Chairman, Vedanta Resources Limited; Shri Sajjan Jindal, Past-President, ASSOCHAM; Shri Deepak Sood, Secretary General; President, Shri Balkrishan Goenka; Senior Vice-President, Dr Niranjan Hiranandani; Shri Junaid Ahman, Country Director, World Bank India and ASSOCHAM’s Vice-President, Shri Vineet Agarwal at ASSOCHAM’s Centenary Celebrations.
they should participate in the disinvestment programme by becoming the first bidders.

“This government does not want businesses to close. We want to help them to be revived by legislative and other administrative changes... we are with you. I want this mood of self doubt to be completely removed from your minds.”

“Believe in India. You have done that for last 100 years. There is a need for all of you do it even more now. You have to be the change agent and don’t ask animal spirits to be brought to you. You have inside, get it out,” she noted.

Emphasising that development and growth are the two priorities, she said this government remains committed to reform.

“Several steps (have been) taken post Budget which were essentially responding to the industry and some of them are probably showing some impact on the ground now,” she said.

Highlighting some of the steps taken by the government post Budget, she said, “liquidity crunch was addressed, capital was infused in public sector banks as well as NBFC sector and professionalisation of PSU boards was done.”

“Besides, the government announced 100 lakh crore for infrastructure sector and provided relief to real estate sector,” she added.

Further, the minister said the government has slashed corporate tax in September which has made a difference and a lot of new investments are expected to flow into India. The Finance Minister also emphasised that the government has brought in transparency and technology in tax collection and eliminate harassment. “With introduction of faceless assessment, tax harassment is going to be a thing of past,” she added.
Think big for a better India

Piyush Goyal

The time has come when big and small industry have to work along with the government towards a common objective where certain sacrifices are going to be called for, both by industry and the government.
The Indian Railways plans to invest USD 700 billion through partnerships, joint ventures and collaborations to strengthen the infrastructure and reach the farthest corners of the country in the next 12 years,” said the Commerce and Industry & Railways Minister, Piyush Goyal. He was addressing

The government was considering Rs 50 lakh crore of investment (nearly $700 billion) over the next 12 years, through partnerships, joint ventures and collaborations to modernise the Indian Railways. The programme aims to bring down costs of logistics, improve the share of freight and build a truly world-class railway network.
ASSOCHAM which is celebrating 100 years on Strengthening India’s Global Positioning.

In his address the Commerce and Industry Minister urged Indian Industry to be in constant dialogue with the Government so that all the problems and hurdles that industry and business face today may be dealt with and the Government’s commitment for a better India, for the 1.3 billion aspirational citizens who are looking for a better quality of life, can be met at the earliest.

Government of India will be a facilitator and an enabler for industry and entrepreneurship to ensure that harassment at the hands of government functionaries, both at the centre and the states comes to end. For this he urged ASSOCHAM with its 4 lakh plus members to give feedback that will help Government both at...
the Centre and the States to look at regulatory, non-regulatory, judicial and any other impediments that are roadblocks for industry and entrepreneurship. Commerce and Industry Minister urged industry to adopt and encourage innovation by funding research and development and work closely with academia so that India may become a true innovative nation where startups can flourish and become positive disruptors in industry by creating more jobs for the youth of the country. He gave the example of the United States of America and China that have more than 4,200 and 1,200 researchers respectively. While India has only 216 number of researchers per million people.

Commerce and Industry Minister congratulated ASSOCHAM in its centenary year and appreciated the commendable work it has done for a century for Indian industry and business.
USD 5 trn economy requires everyone’s contribution

Nitin Gadkari

Moving towards a $5 trillion economy requires every stakeholder’s contribution, as they are all wealth creators, as well as employment creators of the economy.
The turnover of khadi and village industries is Rs 75,000 crore at present. Steps are on to take it to Rs 2 trillion in five years, Gadkari said. Speaking on the occasion of 100 years of ASSOCHAM he also added that plans are afoot to take khadi and village industries turnover to Rs 2 trillion in the next five years from Rs 75,000 crore at present.

Urging the industry to expand its share in global trade to about 10 per cent, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) the Minister urged players to grab the opportunity to expand in the wake of China — that accounts for 17 per cent of the global trade business — battling increased cost and difficulties.

He also said that “infrastructure sectors along with MSME has potential to help India become $5 trillion economy.”
“China has a good record in trade business and accounts for 17 per cent of the global exports. Our share is barely 2.6 per cent. We have an opportunity to take it to 8 to 10 per cent... especially when China is facing difficulties at present besides increase in costs. We should eye at increasing our share,” the minister said, adding “it is a blessing in disguise”.

He said he was “saddened” to see India importing commodities like coal, newsprint, and other things despite having huge dry-fuel reserves and scope of indigenous production.

“I am saddened to see huge imports...It is a matter of concern that...”
we have capacity to export huge coal but we are importing it. Coal can be transported from Paradip port to Kandla for power plants in the Western region. This will bring down power prices by 35 to 40 paise per unit,” Gadkari said.

The minister also said he will not allow driverless cars in India, which has a shortage of 22 lakh drivers. Speaking at ASSOCHAM’s annual event, he said, “Many times I am asked what about driverless car? Then I say till the time I am transport minister, you forget that. I will not allow driverless car to come in India.” Stating that India has a shortage of 22 lakh drivers, Gadkari said there was a need for growth of employment as well as industry in the country. Global enterprises are welcome in India, but they need to follow the law of land.
Global enterprises are welcome in India provided they follow the law of land, said Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, adding that he wants to make India a hub of electronic manufacturing and data processing. The minister said that he appreciates the success of tech giants such as Facebook, Google and Twitter having their biggest markets in India. “But, they will have to work in the ecosystem of law developed in India,” he said, while addressing a plenary session at the centenary celebration of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).

Lauding the achievements of Modi government in the technology sector, he said, “India’s Aadhaar and UPI have become...
a global example. Even Sunder Pichai recommended the US Federal Reserve that we should have something like UPI.” He also said that to achieve the $5 trillion economy goal, electronic manufacturing is the future, because it is a soft power like Information Technology. India has become the second largest mobile manufacturer in the world. It is home to 268 mobile manufacturing facilities as compared to only 2 in 2014 when we came into power, Prasad said.
Today, e-commerce in India is being propelled by semi-urban Electronic manufacturing in rural areas. This was the real future. We want to take this growth of India forward and our aim is to make India an important part of the digital world.
Smriti Irani, Union Cabinet Minister for Textiles and Women & Child Development, chaired a roundtable discussion on ‘The Role of women in new India: A Roadmap to $5 Trillion Economy’ at the centenary celebration. The roundtable was attended by eminent personalities like Juhi Chawla, Kavita Bhartiya, Dipali Goenka, Saroj Pandey and Navneet Rana. The session looked at pertinent issues that affect women and focused on boosting their role in achieving the $5 trillion target.

“I think that many people have reduced themselves to just making polite noises about women. The level of participation for discussion (on women) reflects that polite noises are not enough. It seems that to be seen to be active on the gender issue, merely making a noise about these issues is enough” she stated.

She stressed that men should be equal partners in conversations on participation of women in economic areas. “For instance, take the example of 26 weeks of ma-
ternity leave. In how many com-
panies does one hear, if we have
to grant her 26 weeks of maternity
leave, then who will hire women?
Which means you need proactive
participation from the industry as
much as from the government and
civil society.”

The Nirbhaya Fund Framework
provides for a non-lapsable cor-
pus fund for safety and security of
women.

Under the NIRBHAYA Fund,
projects of Rs 7,000 crore, includ-
ing setting up of 1,023 fast-track
courts, have been approved by the
Modi government, Women and
Child Development Minister Sm-
ritiIrani said.

In a tribute to the 23-year-old
Delhi gangrape victim. Then
Congress-led government had
announced setting up ‘Nirbhaya
Fund’ of Rs 1,000 crore for safety
and empowerment of women in
the Budget presented in February
2013.

Nirbhaya (fearless) was the pseu-
donym given to the victim to hide
her actual identity.

In 2013-14, before the NDA gov-
ernment came into the picture
there was zero utilisation of the
NIRBHAYA Fund, and since this
government came into play it has
okayed projects worth Rs 7,000
crore, she said.

“The issue is that what are the kind
of projects you support. One, we
have given financial approval for
setting up of 1,023 fast track courts
across the country after looking at
density of court cases per district. Secondly, we have funded women help desks across all police stations in the country,” she said.

The minister added that anti-trafficking units to protect women and children have also been funded.

The Nirbhaya Fund Framework provides for a non-lapsable corpus fund for safety and security of women to be administered by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) in the Ministry of Finance (MoF).

Further, it provides for an Empowered Committee (EC) of officers chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) to appraise and recommend proposals to be funded under this framework.

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**Roadmap of US$ 5 trillion Economy-India Inc’s vision**

The round table discussion was robust with active participation from dais and audience members alike. India Inc sought collective encouragement to invest in greenfield investments in areas such as defence manufacturing, chip manufacturing, lithiumion battery plants etc. In order to achieve the $5 Trillion goal, it is imperative for investments to create immense economic value from scratch over incremental economic value. Structural reforms both within the policy machinery as well as external functioning shall further aid India’s mission to $5 Trillion economy.
Glimpses of ASSOCHAM’s
centenary Celebrations
Managing Committee Meeting
“As ASSOCHAM celebrates the 100th year of its existence, it must take pride in its achievements, but not remain contented and draw inspiration from the occasion to chart out a futuristic, visionary roadmap to enhance its contribution in the nation’s economic growth.”

Inaugural Address by
Hon’ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi

100 YEARS OF ASSOCHAM
THE KNOWLEDGE CHAMBER

Annual Conference
New India: Aspiring $5 Trillion Economy
20 December 2019, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

Distinguished Speakers

... and many more distinguished speakers from industry

"While we celebrate the centenary year of ASSOCHAM, we as the knowledge chamber also look forward to the future, being a proactive partner to government’s vision for $5 trillion economy."
Live Telecast of ASSOCHAM’s Centenary Celebration Day across various cities
ASSOCHAM's Centenary

Celebrating 100 Years
Celebration Day
The Results

Special Mentions

Top Posts

#100YearsOfASSOCHAM

Prime Minister @narendramodi addresses at the inaugural session of #100YearsOfASSOCHAM in New Delhi today, says the goal of achieving #5TrillionDollar Economy is achievable: tinyurl/udSp4ao

ASSOCHAM
Celebrating 100 Years

Spoke at the ASSOCHAM Centenary year celebration and Annual Conference and highlighted Govts efforts towards engaging with the industry to resolve issues, implement schemes and encourage innovation for a better, more prosperous India.
Congratulations to ASSOCHAM India for completing 100 years. Growth of MSME is our priority and we have extended our support to them. Urged industry leaders to innovate in sustainable technologies to boost India’s trade and exports. We will achieve our goal of $5 trillion economy.
Print Coverage

Business Standard

Business Standard

Business Standard

Business Standard

Amar Ujala

Bright Punjab Express

Deccan Chronicle

Dainik Jagran

Dainik Bhaskar

Dainik Bhaskar

Dainik Bhaskar

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Forthcoming Events

January-February 2020

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<td>IPR Awareness Programme at Saveetha Engineering College</td>
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<td>Uplifting Organic Food Processing of Sikkim for Global Connect</td>
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<td>IWA!S Stakeholders’ Conference : Integrating Inland Waterways into Coastal Shipping</td>
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