

Institute of Directors, India
Tamil Nadu Region
presents

Regional Directors' Conclave 2021

The Board's Role - Tamil Nadu \$ 1 Trillion Economy ~ A Curtain Raiser

December 18, 2021, ITC Grand Chola, Chennai

The **Institute of Directors (IOD)** – Tamil Nadu & Puducherry Region organized its “Regional Directors' Conclave” on December 18, 2021 at **ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, India**. The Theme of the Conclave was '**The Board's Role – Tamil Nadu – One Trillion Dollar Economy**'.

The event witnessed participation with around 200 business participants' comprising foreign delegates, international speakers, government officials, business leaders, IOD members, board members, directors, industry & board experts, chamber members, policy-makers, educationists, etc.

PLENARY SESSION – I – INAUGURAL SESSION

Mr. M. S. Sundara Rajan, Chairman, Chennai Region, Institute of Directors, India; Former CMD, Indian Bank in his '**Welcome Address**', introduced the theme of the Conclave and welcomed all the dignitaries, participants, speakers and valuable partners participating in the event. He shared his thoughts behind the Conclave by highlighting the importance of the Board's Role in making Tamil Nadu a One Trillion Dollar Economy.

Lt. Gen. J. S. Ahluwalia, PVSM (Retd.), President, Institute of Directors, India in his '**Inaugural Address**' welcomed the august



Distinguished guests during the **Lighting of the Lamp** (from L to R): **Mr. Prem Anand Narasimhan**, Director, Praghya AI Pvt. Ltd., **Mr. Sayani Haribabu**, Director, Gemini Cooling Systems Projects Pvt. Ltd., **Mr. G. Mahalingam**, Former Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India, **Mr. R. Srinivasan**, Regional Director (Chennai Region), Institute of Directors, **Mr. M. S. Sundara Rajan**, Chairman, Chennai Region, Institute of Directors, India; Former CMD, Indian Bank, **Mr. Oleg N. Avdeev**, Consul General of the Russian Federation in Chennai, **Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan PV**, Chief Human Resources Officer, Omega Healthcare Management Services, **Dr. Sundari Suresh**, Regional Manager (Chennai), Institute of Directors, **Ms. Lalana Jitsattanane**, Deputy Consul General, Royal Thai Consulate General, Chennai, **Mr. Kannan Sugantharaman**, Chief Financial Officer, Omega Healthcare; and **Dr. B. Ramakrishnan**, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Corporate Clinic



Lt. Gen. J. S. Ahluwalia, PVSM (Retd.) President at Institute of Directors, India – Inaugural Address (Virtual mode)

gathering virtually and briefed the audience on the various activities and mission of Institute of Directors.

This was followed by '**Special Address**' by the following distinguished speakers:

1. Mr. Kannan Sugantharaman

Chief Financial Officer
Omega Healthcare

2. Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan PV

Chief Human Resources Officer
Omega Healthcare Management Services

Mr. Sugantharaman in his '**Special Address**' appreciated the IOD's Conclave theme which supported the Tamil Nadu CM's vision. He assured that Omega Healthcare would strive along with the Government to achieve this mission.

Dr. Guruvayurappan PV in his '**Special Address**' highlighted that Tamil Nadu is ideally positioned to become a pioneer in healthcare services and tech led services. He reiterated that Omega Health Care Management Services can lend a helping hand to the Government of Tamil Nadu by offering their expertise in the area of Skill Development.



Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan PV, Chief Human Resources Officer of Omega Healthcare Management Services delivering the '**Special Address**'

Dr. B. Ramakrishnan (BRK) – Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Corporate Clinic in his '**Keynote Address**' stated that the One Trillion Dollar Economy goal is ambitious but attainable because Tamil Nadu soil is so fertile that anything could be cultivated and the environment and the ideal political climate makes it ideal for successful investment.

Mr. R. Srinivasan, Regional Director (Chennai Region), Institute of Directors proposed the '**Vote of Thanks**' for **Plenary Session-I**, by thanking all the speakers, esteemed dignitaries and guests at the Conclave.

THE PLENARY SESSION – II – TAMIL NADU: A PREFERRED INVESTMENT DESTINATION

The '**Guest of Honour Address**' was delivered by:

1. Mr. Oleg N. Avdeev

Consul General of the Russian Federation in Chennai

2. Ms. Lalana Jitsattanane

Deputy Consul General
Royal Thai Consulate General, Chennai

Mr. Avdeev stated on the long standing good relations of India and Russia and the cooperation between both the Governments in several areas and mutually enriching both the economies.



Keynote address by Mr. Oleg N. Avdeev, Consul General of the Russian Federation in Chennai, India

Ms. Jitsattanane delivered the 'Guest of Honour Address' and greeted all the dignitaries and Guests of the Conclave.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - LAUNCH OF OGMO & SAARAL PRODUCTS

(Natural Health Food Company)

There are three primary ways that small businesses contribute to our nation. They give people the opportunity to achieve financial independence, encourage innovation, and create employment opportunities. New and improved products, services, or technology from entrepreneurs enable new markets to be developed and new wealth to be created. Additionally, increased employment and higher earnings contribute to better national income in the form of higher tax revenue and higher government spending. IOD – as a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, encouraged 2 small entrepreneur start-ups, namely OGMO and SAARAL to face the limelight and projecting its Conclave platform to exhibit their products' to the outside world.



Ms. Nina Reddy, Joint Managing Director at Hotel Savera during the launch of OGMO & SAARAL Products with **Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan PV**, Chief Human Resources Officer at Omega Healthcare Management Services.

Ms. Nina Reddy

Joint Managing Director
Hotel Savera

Ms. Reddy gave a Special Presentation on the Launch of the OGMO & SAARAL Products, along with **Dr. Dhanasekar**, Pediatrician and the products were received by **Mr. Kannan Sugantharaman** and **Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan**, **Ms. Shiny Surendran**, Sports Nutritionist and Dietician & **Ms. Shridevi Ramesh**, Women Entrepreneur, who were present during the launch.

PLENARY SESSION – III – HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF TAMIL NADU

The Session had the following distinguished speakers:

1. Mr. G. Mahalingam

Former Whole Time Member
Securities and Exchange Board of India

2. Mr. Kannan Sugantharaman

Chief Financial Officer
Omega Healthcare

&

Dr. (HC) Guruvayurappan PV

Chief Human Resources Officer
Omega Healthcare Management Services

3. Ms. Vallery Rath

General Manager
Indian Bank

Mr. Mahalingam elucidated on his view point on how the goal of 1 Trillion Dollar Economy was highly ambitious but yet attainable in an extended time frame, provided we follow the 3 golden rules:

1. Allow capital markets to do the heavy lifting while the Bank's burden is alleviated.
2. Invest in Start-ups
3. Comply with Environment, Social and Government (ESG) aspects.



Mr. G. Mahalingam, Former Whole Time Member at Securities and Exchange Board of India

Mr. Sugantharaman and **Dr. Guruvayurappan PV** addressed on '**Governance required while achieving Trillion \$ Economy**'. They cited that they would be happy to collaborate with the Government and help Tamil Nadu achieve this dream. The key to achieving this dream they said was to ensure the plan of action was rolled out with sufficient skill development Schemes.

Ms. Rath addressed her views on the topic "**Financial & Bankers' on Tamil Nadu's 1 Trillion Dollar Economy**". She said that to achieve 1 trillion dollar by 2031, the GDP of Tamil Nadu should grow at an average of 15% every year for the next 10 years. And we are in an advantageous position with established industrial corridors and SEZs, export oriented economy and more. It is vital that we leverage the long coastline with ship building, transportation, export oriented economy by



Mr. Kannan Sugantharaman, Chief Financial Officer at Omega Healthcare

addressing needs in the rural and agricultural sector. She also briefed on the role of Indian Bank in revitalizing the Tamil Nadu economy.

Plenary Session – III – Tamil Nadu: One Trillion Dollar Economy-Challenges and Opportunities

The session had the following distinguished speakers:

1. **Mr. Rajasekaran**
Managing Director
Infant Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
2. **Mr. A. Chandrasekaran**
Founder Director
Infocareer Pvt. Ltd.; and
Author of "Road to Project Success"
3. **Mr. Sanjay Mehta**
Partner
Surana & Surana International Attorneys
4. **Mr. Arun**
Director Manufacturing
Nippon Paint India
5. **Mr. Manoj Babu S.**
Managing Director
Entos De-pest Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
6. **Dr. B. Ramakrishnan (BRK)**
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Clinic
7. **Mr. J. Sundharesan**
Founder & Chief Advisor
J Sundaresan & Associates
Governance & Compliance Advisors

Mr. Rajasekaran spoke on '*Role of MSMEs in achieving One Trillion Dollar Economy and its expectation*'. He opened his talk on a very positive note by saying that we need to revise our targets and goals. One trillion dollar was too less a target to look forward to. He said the ideal target goal was to benchmark

England and set to emulate its economy growth in the next ten years. But for MSMEs to emulate the growth as in England they must be given the financial assistance and the burden of compliances must be eased out.

Mr. Chandrasekaran spoke on '*Tamil Nadu Trillion Dollar Economy – Challenges and Opportunities*'. He delved at length on the Challenges and Opportunities in pursuit of Tamil Nadu's goal of One Trillion Dollar Economy. He shared that anticipating pitfalls will enable a better chance for us in achieving those goals.

Mr. Mehta spoke on '*Defense Corridor Projects*'. Working on the Defense Corridor Project connecting Hosur, Salem, Coimbatore, Chennai and Tiruchirapalli can culminate in other sectors and industries like special automobile production, architecture, food, apparel besides ammunition. This could provide a boost to economy by 25% to 30 % contributing to the One Trillion Dollar Economy goal. As far as Defense Corridor Projects are concerned, its quality that matters over quantity.

Mr. Arun, Director Manufacturing, Nippon Paint India spoke on '*Green Revolutionary Process*'. He explained how the green revolutionary process can significantly improve the product along with the disposal process complying with green norms and ESG Compliances. He detailed on how Nippon Paint has a holistic Green Manufacturing Process to reduce energy and water consumption and do their part in realizing a trillion economy.

Mr. Babu S. spoke at length on the '*Core values based culture for a Trillion Dollar Economy*'. He emphasized on the need to embrace a core value based culture:

- Giver's Gain
- Building Relationship
- Life Long Learning
- Mix of Tradition & Innovation
- Positive Attitude
- Accountability
- Recognition

He also came up with a success formula for One Trillion Dollar Economy = Core Belief + Core Values are the two most essential elements of success.

Dr. Ramakrishnan spoke on '*Optimizing cost of capital in present economic scenario*'. He shared, how it is possible to reach the goal of One Trillion Dollar Economy and the strategies to maximize the profit and hence ensure that we attain our goals.



Dr. B. Ramakrishnan (BRK), Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer at Corporate Clinic addressing the gathering



Dr. Saundarya Rajesh, Founder & President at AVTAR Group

Mr. J. Sundharesan - Founder & Chief Advisor, J Sundaresan & Associates, Governance & Compliance Advisors shared on his take on the One Trillion Dollar Economy. He said the real test and success rests on the fact as to how well businesses played on: Ethics, Compliance, and Governance (ECG). Excellences in these 3 aspects are vital to reach the goal. Other aspects to keep in mind are: Environment, Climate, Culture, Gender, Global and Geo-political. Boards must be able to rise up to the challenge.

PLENARY SESSION – IV – WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FOR ECONOMY GROWTH

The session had the following distinguished speakers:

- 1. Dr. Kalpana Sankar**
Chairperson and Managing Trustee
Hand in Hand India
- 2. Dr. Saundarya Rajesh**
Founder & President
AVTAR Group

Dr. Sankar delved at length on the various projects by Hand In Hand which have helped to emancipate women economically and empower them with the necessary education and skills.

Dr. Rajesh touched on Board diversity and gender sensitization. She addressed on the deep seated biases with regard to women in Boards and deep need to usher more women onto the Board Rooms.

Dr. Sundari Suresh - Regional Manager (Chennai), Institute of Directors proposed the '**Vote of Thanks**'. Sincere thanks were conveyed to participants, delegates and management for helping to make the Regional Conclave a grand success.

Special thanks were conveyed to Event Partners. The **Platinum Partner** was Omega Health Care. The **Gold Partners** were Apollo Hospitals and Corporate Clinic. The **Associate Partners** were Entos De-pest Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Arun Excelllo, Nippon Paint India, Union Bank of India, HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Company Limited, OGMO, Legrand, Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute-TN, Info Career Services Private Limited, Edelweiss, Saaral and Equitas Small Finance Bank.

The **Outreach Partners** were FICCI FLO, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce and Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI).

The Conclave was also hosted online via IOD's licensed Cisco Webex account and also streamed live on YouTube.

The Regional Conclave culminated with the playing of the National Anthem.

This report is compiled by:

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and

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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

PLATINUM PARTNER



GOLD PARTNERS



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