

# IOD HOSTS A SPECIAL RECEPTION FOR POLISH BUSINESS DELEGATION IN DELHI

The **Institute of Directors, India** in collaboration with the **Centre for International Relations from Poland** organised a reception in honour of the visiting high level business delegation from Poland on the **April 19, 2023**. The delegation comprised of a diverse set of senior officials, executive and senior leadership from various sectors of Polish and multinational organisations based out of Poland. This delegation was led by **Dr. Nika Bochniarz**, former Minister of Industry and Trade, Poland and also President of the Supervisory Board of Lewiatan Confederation in Poland.

The reception provided an attractive setting for exchange of views on some of the common issues pertaining to business and also helped in exploring the possible opportunities for India-Poland business engagement.

The meeting was presided over by **Mr. Ashok Kapur, IAS (Retd.)**, Director General of Institute of Directors, who delivered the 'Welcome Remarks'.

At the end of his remarks he invited **Dr. Malgorzata Bonikowska (Dr. Gogo)**, President, Centre for International Relations, Warsaw, Poland to deliver her 'Special Remarks' for the evening. Dr. Bonikowska was instrumental in putting together the business delegation and bringing it to India. She was hopeful that such delegations will pave the way for more intense levels of engagement and interaction between businesses in India and Poland. She talked about the positives and takeaways of the visit and voiced her desire to host an Indian business delegation in Poland in the days to come.

While delivering the 'Guest of Honour Address' Leader of Polish Delegation **Dr. Nika Bochniarz**, former Minister of Industry and Trade, Poland touched upon the key takeaways of the visit and how the delegation has benefitted from it. The importance of creating a level playing ground to promote trade and exchange in the days to come was something that she highlighted during her address. She saw immense opportunity for Indian businesses on the back of the ongoing discussion on free trade

## GLIMPSES FROM THE RECEPTION



agreement with European Union and was hopeful that Poland would be India's one of the preferred destination for trade of goods and services. She concluded by thanking all the stakeholders for materializing and executing the delegation visit.

Some of the key members of the Polish delegation were **Monika Bednarek**, Member of Supervisory Board at BNP Paribas [2010-2016]; **Monika Kordowska**, Tribe Leader Operational Excellence in OPS and Business Support Area at BNP Paribas Bank; **Krystyna Jarek**, Partner Associate at Deloitte; **Joanna Chrobak**, Executive Headhunter, Senior Mentor Practitioner - European Mentoring and Coaching Council EMCC; **Magdalena Bezulska**, President of the Management Board, General Manager of Veolia term S.A. Energy Company; **Marek Kulczycki**, Supervisory Board member at Nest Bank; **Piotr Wielgomas**, President at BIGRAM S.A. - the biggest recruitment company in Poland; and **Piotr Stolarczyk**, Managing Director Export and Trade Finance, Bank Pekao.

Along with them, some of the eminent dignitaries from India who joined the reception included **Peter Hassan**, former Advisor to Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for Investment Promotion and External Affairs; **Ashok Jha, IAS** (Retd.), Former Finance Secretary to Government of India; **Ambassador Sudhir Devare, IFS** (Retd.), former DG, Indian Council of World Affairs (Sapru House); **J. K. Arora**, Chairman & CEO, Tradologie.com, India; **Sadaf Sayeed**, CEO Muthoot Fincorp; **Devesh Uttam IFS**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; **Shekhar Dutt, IAS** (Retd.), former Governor of the State of Chattisgarh, India; and **Anurag Goel, IAS**, former Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

**Manoj K. Raut**, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-General, Institute of Directors, India delivered the 'Vote of Thanks' post the introduction and exchange of views and opinions. The evening culminated into a networking occasion for the dignitaries of India and Poland over the special reception. ■



Distinguished delegation along with **Manoj K. Raut**, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-General, Institute of Directors