



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Sagar Sandesh

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Logistics launch
book

FFFAI Diamond Jubilee Celebration

Commerce & Industry Minister endorses "FFFAI & Customs Brokers' important role to partner with Government in transforming the ecosystem of exim trade"



Commerce & Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal

Mr. Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry addressing at the Diamond Jubilee celebration event of the Federation of Freight Forwarders' Associations in India (FFFAI) which was held on June 9, 2023, in New Delhi with the theme "FFFAI Transcending Boundaries", stated that both collective and individual initiatives can make huge changes in the state of affairs of the exim traecosystemtem to achieve India's target of becoming a developed country in the Amrit Kaal i.e by 2047. According to him, Customs Brokers/Freight

Forwarders have a crucial role to play in this regard, helping the government by recommending steps to be taken for a transparent business atmosphere. Meanwhile, the Government has taken many steps to do away with physical interfaces that increase transaction time. In this regard, he highlighted the recent initiative of the DGFT office, which started a one-hour online grievance

addressing mechanism every day, from Monday to Friday.

Mr. Goyal emphasised on young entrepreneurs to envisage a new India with innovative ideas based on contemporary technology and digitisation. He pointed out that the fundamentals of India's economy are very strong which resulted in sustainable and phenomenal growth of the country's manufacturing and exports for the last couple of years. "The world is looking towards the success story of India and this century is going to be India's century," he said.



Commerce & Industry Minister felicitating Lt. Gen Sanjay Kulkarni

At this event, the **Minister of Commerce & Industry unveiled the FFFAI Diamond Jubilee Souvenir, Coffee Table Book, and eBL (e-Bill of Lading) to benefit the Exim trade.** He also felicitated **Lt. Gen Sanjay Kulkarni** for his outstanding contribution in strengthening National Security and presented a **posthumous award to Let Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra** being an outstanding Govt. Officer who worked for the nation during difficult times like COVID-19



Commerce & Industry Minister honouring Late Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra presenting posthumous Award to his wife Mrs. Anjali Mohapatra

pandemic till his last breath, from the ICU when he was suffering from COVID, and conferred **Mr. George Abrao with the Hall of Fame Award** for his phenomenal work for the development of the logistics industry. Mr. Goyal highly appreciated FFFAI leadership for felicitating the legendary figures for their immense contribution towards the Nation as well as its economy.

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FFFAI Diamond Jubilee..... From Page : 1



Commerce & Industry Minister presenting the Hall of Fame Award to Mr. George Abrao

During the event, FFFAI also felicitated the Founders, Board of Advisors & Trade Associations recognizing their contribution since 1962 towards the success story of FFFAI.



Chairman CBIC Mr. Vivek Johri

The mega event on the completion of the glorious 60 years journey of the Federation in serving the EXIM trade, thereby strengthening the economy of the country, was also a keynote address by **Mr. Vivek Johri, Chairman Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**. Present on the occasion were Mrs. V. Rama Mathew, Member, CBIC; Mr. S.K. Rehman, Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Delhi Zone; FFFAI Chairman Mr. Shankar Shinde; Chairman-Elect, Mr. Dushyant Mulani; Immediate Past Chairman Mr. A.V. Vijayakumar; Golden Jubilee event Convenor Mr. Amit Kamat; other Office Bearers; Executive Committee Members consisting of 30 Member Associations and guest participants from logistics industry stakeholders including Customs Brokers/Freight Forwarders from across the country.

In his Keynote address **Mr. Vivek Johri, said**, "The relation between FFFAI and Customs

is very strong which is evident from the fact that both FFFAI and Customs Act are celebrating their completion of 60 years' journey in facilitating the exim trade." He pointed out that during this long journey, the international trade facilitation mechanism has evolved to a new dynamism thanks to the trade-friendly initiatives of the Government/Customs partnering with FFFAI and logistics stakeholders. Mr. Johri made special mention of the initiatives for fast & faceless cargo clearance and grievances redressal mechanisms like SWIFT, DPD, Turant Customs, E-Sanchit, CBLMS, ECL, etc. The CBIC Chairman stated that now Customs aim is to go for "One Customs" i.e. cargo clearance in one hour's time at all customs locations in the country. He underscored the core function of CBIC and Customs Brokers/Freight Forwarders of serving the Exim trade as per their expectations and adhering to the Ease of Doing Business mission. According to the CBIC Chairman, Customs Brokers are the ambassador of Customs and hence they require enhancing

their knowledge base on changing Customs Rules & Regulations, services, etc, and that needs to be percolated down to the field workers. "There is a long way to go to achieve the target of trade facilitation in all aspects and the partnership between Customs and FFFAI would play a crucial role in this regard," he emphasized. Congratulating FFFAI on this auspicious occasion he appealed to the industry stakeholders to work together to rich the India story to a new high.

Also present on this occasion were the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) President – Mr. Ivan Petrov; International Federation of Customs Brokers Association (IFCBA) Managing Director & President-Japan Customs Brokers Association Mr. Seisaku Okafuji; DPWorld COO Mr. Mike Bhaskaran and National Association of Freight and Logistics (NAFL) president Ms. Nadia Abdul Aziz to address in panel discussions and interact with the logistics industry fraternity in India.

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FFFAI Diamond Jubilee..... From Page : 2

FFFAI is the National Apex Body of the Customs Brokers in India, was established in 1962 with the objective to organise united action to promote exim trade interests with professionalism in all its aspects of Customs Brokers and Logistics Service Providers at the national and international level.

Mr. Shankar Shinde,



FFFAI Chairman Mr. Shankar Shinde

Chairman – FFFAI earlier in his opening address and welcoming the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry; Chairman CBIC,

other dignitaries, guests, and FFFAI members emphasized on the effective relationship with the Government and was appreciated CBIC support with regular interactions on trade facilitations and policy matter for quick and hassle-free cargo clearance across the country. He also pointed out FFFAI's active role in the National

Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) formed by the government and International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) & TIR convention recommendation and project executed in partnering initiatives with the government to promote India's international trade. "The 60 years journey of FFFAI demonstrates the rich history of FFFAI. The Diamond Jubilee event of FFFAI gives an opportunity to honor the past performance and

envision the prospects for fraternity growth contributing to the Nation's growth. On this occasion FFFAI is Honouring the past, Celebrating the Present, and Welcoming the Future," Mr. Shinde emphasized.

The FFFAI Chairman stated that the Federation will continue with its endeavors to empower Customs Brokers and logistics service providers providing international platforms of FIATA and IFCBA for networking. He also highlighted that with continual training programmes through FFFAI's Training Institute Indian Institute of Freight Forwarders (IIFF) the logistics fraternity is being benefited in terms of enhancement of operational skills.

On the Occasion FFFAI also signed MoUs with JAPAN Customs Brokers Association & Service Export Promotion Council (SEPC) to exchange information and impart training to the CBs and their staff.

Mr. Shinde conveyed gratitude to all the members, stakeholders



Commerce & Industry Minister along with FFFAI members and guests at the Diamond Jubilee event of FFFAI

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MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

FFFAI Diamond From Page : 3

& Government Agencies for partnering with FFFAI to achieve this milestone of 60 years successful journey, celebrating Diamond Jubilee in the capital city, New Delhi.

He also acknowledged the vision of FFFAI's Founder Members, the important role played by Founders, Advisors & past Chairmen, Office Bearers, Executive Committee Members, and thirty Member Associations in achieving this height for FFFAI's success and hoped to have their dream fulfilled.

In his address, **Mr. Amit Kamat** welcomed all dignitaries, guests, and 30 FFFAI Member Associations and

expressed his gratitude to make this event a grand success. He also pointed out the growing importance of the Customs Brokers/ Freight Forwarders in building the national economy and employment generation.

Mr. Dushyant Milani concluded the Diamond Jubilee ceremony by proposing a vote of thanks. He appealed to the industry stakeholders to achieve the target set by the Government to make India a developed country by 2047 and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' through exponential growth as envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.

Sanjam Sahi Gupta Addresses Gender Equality and 'Breaking The Glass Ceiling' at G20's Women's Summit W20



Sanjam Gupta

Mahabalipuram, India on 16-06-2024 Ms Sanjam Sahi Gupta, a distinguished advocate for gender equality, was honored to speak at the highly anticipated W20 Summit, held in conjunction with the G20 summit. The W20 event, which focused on promoting gender equality with the principle of 'Leave No Women Behind,' brought together influential leaders, policymakers, and delegates to discuss strategies for advancing women's rights worldwide.

The panel discussion that Ms. Gupta invited was titled "Call to Action - Breaking the Glass Ceiling." The panel aimed to address the numerous barriers that women face in attaining leadership positions and to explore actionable steps toward dismantling the

glass ceiling for all women.

The distinguished panel consisted of the following accomplished individuals:

- **Bharati Ghosh**, Former Indian Police Official, Award-winning UN official, and National Spokesperson for BJP
- **K. Ratnaprabha**, Founder President, Ubuntu Consortium - A platform for Women Entrepreneurs Associations, Retired IAS and Former Chief Secretary of Karnataka
- **Dr. Nursem Keskin Aksay**, Asst Prof, Ibn Haldun University, Department of Sociology, Executive Board Member, KADEM, W20 Head of Delegation, Turkey
- **Adriana Carvalho**, CEO of Generation Brazil and Co-Head, W20 Brazil

The panel discussion was expertly moderated by **Prof. Dr. Neeta Inamdar**, Jean Monnet Chair, Head - Manipal Centre for European Studies, MAHE, India.

During the panel, Ms. Gupta shared valuable insights, experiences, and strategies on breaking through the barriers that hinder women's advancement, with a

particular focus on the maritime industry. She also spoke about the Maritime SheEO's Leadership Accelerator Program, and how with the support of IMO, she has been able to help 90+ women in leadership so far excel in their careers.

The W20 works collaboratively with stakeholders, including grassroots-level rural and urban women, G20 delegates, policymakers, and other engagement groups.

Additionally, the W20 engaged with organizations from G20 countries to develop policy recommendations that were directly submitted to G20 leaders for consideration. Its primary objective was to play a crucial role in economically empowering women worldwide, addressing the gender pay gap, and fostering a more equitable society.

As an advocate for gender equality and a firm believer in empowering women, Sanjam Sahi Gupta was humbled to have been part of this essential discussion. Addressing the challenges that women face on their professional journeys and creating an environment where they can thrive and excel was paramount.

Sanjam Sahi Gupta expressed gratitude for the exceptional opportunity to contribute to the global conversation on gender equality at such a prestigious platform. By working together, we can create a future where every woman has equal opportunities for success, breaking down barriers and empowering women worldwide.



Sanjam's left is Vanathi Srinivasan, National President of the Women's Wing of BJP



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