



PUNE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE



Annual Report 2021-2022








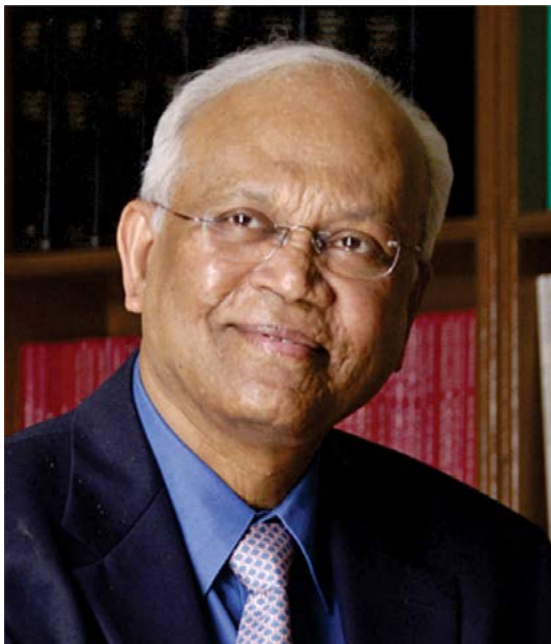
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Contents

Message from the President and the Vice-President	5
Director's Report	8
Mandate	11
Aims & Objectives	12
 Section A	
PIC Organisation Structure	14
Membership	16
 Section B	
Programmes	20
Pune International Centre's Social Innovation Lab	65
 Section C	
Publications	68
Finance	72
Staff	76
Acknowledgements	77

Message from the President and the Vice-President



It is with a great feeling of satisfaction and immense pride that we celebrate the completion of ten glorious years of our institution, Pune International Centre (PIC).

Established on 24th September, 2011, Pune International Centre has now entered its 11th year. Among others, this year has been so special for two reasons: the allocation of land by the Maharashtra Government for a PIC campus, and the publication of PIC's first book, *Rising to the China Challenge: Winning through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth*.

On 3rd January, 2022, PIC received a letter from the Maharashtra Government sanctioning a 2.80 ha plot of land at Pashan (S.No. 34A) for the construction of our campus. The letter from the government appreciated Pune International Centre's persistent efforts for national development and the inclusive aims, objectives and initiatives of PIC. The Government noted the fact that a number of highly qualified and eminent experts are a part of PIC's organisational structure.

With all humility, we wish to reiterate PIC's independence and its commitment to foster the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the UN Charter.

The pre-design work on the new campus has begun and the campus will take form and shape in the coming years, helping us establish a world-class think tank, promote an environment for free and fair public debates, and provide a platform to promote arts and culture. The campus will also help us meet another of our objectives, namely, engagement with the youth in the promotion of innovative, inclusive and progressive thinking in all fields of public life.

The publication of 'Rising to the China Challenge' was the other highlight at the PIC this year. Authored by Dr Ajit Ranade, Prof Ajay Shah, Dr Ganesh Natarajan, Ambassador Gautam Bambawale and the two of us, this book received the SKOCH Literature Award 2021 in the 'public policy books' category.

A major project initiated by PIC this year is the 'Making PMR (Pune Metropolitan Region) Net Carbon Neutral' project. This project is being led by Prof Amitav Mallik, who heads the EECC (Energy, Environment and Climate Change) research vertical, in association with BP, India, which is funding this project.

This year saw the peak and the subsequent waning of the Covid-19 pandemic. The times were tough but overall, the PIC delivered on all its commitments be it in terms of annual conferences, the publication of research papers and organising of webinars and programmes. All the conferences under the five research verticals of PIC were held online due to the pandemic and received a good response. Notably, the Asia Economic Dialogue (AED, 2022), held in association with the Ministry of External Affairs, saw speakers from 16 nations and viewers from 25.

Among the illustrious speakers at PIC events this year were the National Security Adviser, Mr Ajit Doval, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan (Chief Scientist, World Health Organization), Dr. Sam Pitroda, Mr T.R. Doongaji, Justice (Retd.) Rohinton Nariman, Dr. Arvind Subramanian, journalists Aakar Patel and Dr Sanjaya Baru, Ambassador Ronen Sen, Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav, former minister Mr Prakash Javadekar, and Prof. C. Raja Mohan.

The launch of an absorbing series of 10 lectures on the theme, 'India and the World's Great Religions', curated by Dr Latika Padgaonkar and Prof. Pradeep Apte, and a monthly programme in Marathi, named

'Pune Samwad', anchored by Mrs Hema Devare, Mrs Swati Raje and Mr Anil Supanekar, were among the new initiatives at the PIC this year.

We wish to thank the leaders of our research verticals, namely, Lt. Gen. Vinayak Patankar, Prof. Amitav Mallik, Amb. Gautam Bambawale (Convener, Asia Economic Dialogue), Prof. Pradeep Apte, Dr. Arvind Chinchure and all the members of our Infrastructure, Membership and Programmes committees for their active participation and contribution to PIC's activities.

The team at the PIC office led by the Director has also worked hard on multiple fronts and deserves our appreciation.

In spite of the constraints, this has indeed been a very satisfying year at the PIC and we look forward to working closely with all of you to collectively take our think tank to greater heights in the coming years.

Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar
President

Dr. Vijay Kelkar
Vice-President

Director's Report

I am very happy to share that the year that went by was a very productive and fulfilling one at the PIC in spite of the restrictions and limitations posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. This report will present you with a synopsis of the multi-faceted activities that took place at the PIC during the year.

The strength of the PIC lies in the strength of its members, its trustees, its sub-committee heads and constituents who have been instrumental in guiding the activities of the PIC throughout the year. I wish to specifically thank our Vice-President Dr. Vijay Kelkar for his weekly interactions with the PIC staff and his deep engagement with the planning groups and core committees for the rich bouquet of initiatives and programmes at the PIC. These included webinars and programmes, talks by eminent, thought-provoking speakers, book releases and discussions, national and international conferences and the publication of policy research papers.

This year, PIC completed a decade's journey since its inception on September 24, 2011. The highlights of the year are indeed a matter of pride for all of us.

PIC's membership strength now stands at 442 individual, 55 institutional and 13 corporate members. During 2021-22, PIC held 58 events (compared to 54 in the previous year), all online, and produced 8 research papers.

This year, PIC published its first book, 'Rising to the China Challenge: Winning Through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth', which originally began as a research paper to formulate India's long-term, strategic response to the challenge posed by China in the aftermath of its unprovoked aggression in Galwan. As the weekly and fortnightly discussions proceeded, the six eminent authors from PIC saw the scope for a book. The work, anchored by Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, expanded over the next nine months and the book was released by Rupa Publishers in September 2021.

The allotment of a 2.80-hectare plot by the Maharashtra Government for the construction of a PIC campus at Pashan, marks a high point in the history of the PIC. A lot of thought is being put by the PIC leadership into the pre-design work and other matters related to the development of the campus. We are grateful to our eminent members and advisers, Mr. Kiran Karnik, Architect Mr. Naresh Shah, and Mr. Alok Kumar (Vice President and Global Head – Delivery Centre Management and Shared Services, TCS) for their guidance in the campus development project. PIC's trustees Mr. Arun Firodia and Mr. Satish Magar are heading the infrastructure committee, which is overseeing the progress on the campus project.

PIC's Foundation Day lecture on September 24 was delivered by renowned political scientist and popular columnist Prof. Suhas Palshikar, who spoke on 'Majoritarianism and the Future of Democratic Politics in India.' On the eve of this lecture, Prof. Amitav Mallik, Trustee, PIC, took the lead in organising an online cultural event with performances by Mr. Mandar Karanjkar, Ms. Dakshayani Athalye, Dr Karthika Prasad, Mr. Ninad Daithankar and Mr. Parth Tarabadkar. During the year, Prof. Mallik (Head, Energy, Environment and Climate Change research vertical) and Team PIC also initiated a major project supported by BP, India, and titled, 'Making PMR (Pune Metropolitan Region) Net Carbon Neutral.' This project, which has now entered its second phase, has the active support of the Maharashtra Government and Maharashtra's dynamic Cabinet Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Tourism and Protocol, Shri Aaditya Thackeray, who visited the PIC office to take a review.

Two new programmes were initiated this year: a 10-part series on the theme, India and the World's Great Religions curated by Dr. Latika Padgaonkar and Prof. Pradeep Apte, and a monthly programme in Marathi named 'Pune Samwad', anchored by Mrs. Hema Devare, Mrs. Swati Raje and Mr. Anil Supanekar. This was the fulfilment of PIC's long-felt desire to have a programme in Marathi, to establish a stronger rapport with the people of Pune and Maharashtra.

The series of lectures on world religions saw such illustrious speakers as Justice (Retd.) Rohinton Nariman, Mr. Wajahat Habibullah, Amb. Pavan Varma, Dr. Abhay Firodia and Amb. Navtej Singh Sarna. All received a good response.

The flagship conferences of the PIC were resounding successes this year. The Asia Economic Dialogue 2022 in association with the Ministry of External Affairs and with Amb. Gautam Bambawale as Convener, was held on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of February 2022 under the theme, 'Resilient Global Growth in the Post-Pandemic World.' It saw participating speakers from 16 nations and viewers from 25.

The Pune Dialogue on National Security (PDNS, 2021) conference on 28th and 29th October, 2021 was steered by the PDNS Convener, Lt. Gen. Vinayak Patankar. The inaugural address for this conference was delivered by Mr. Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor, Government of India, keynote address by Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation, and the valedictory address by Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog.

We wish to express our deep appreciation for Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar, ICMR's former Head Scientist of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, who chaired a session in this conference and contributed significantly to its success.

The annual EECC (Environment, Energy and Climate Change) Conference on the theme, 'Decade of Change: India's Challenges in the Climate Challenged World', was held on 18th and 19th February 2022.

Senior Fellow, PIC, Prof. Aravind Chinchure, who authored the research paper titled 'Industry 4.0: Roadmap for India's Global Leadership', took the lead in organising the Round Table on Industry 4.0. Dr. Ejaz Ghani, Senior Fellow, PIC, who made a brief visit to India, participated in this conference.

Senior Fellow, PIC, Prof. Pradeep Apte and Dr. Vishal Gaikwad worked closely with Dr. Kelkar while organising the conference on 'Intra-regional Development Disparities: Experiences and Policy Options.' On the Social Innovation front, Mr. Mandar Joshi, Head of the Social Innovation (SI) Lab, organised and anchored the ninth National Conference on Social Innovation.

In addition to those mentioned above, among the illustrious speakers at PIC events this year were Dr. Sam Pitroda, Mr. T.R. Doongaji, Dr. Arvind Subramanian, journalists Sagarika Ghose, Aakar Patel, Rajdeep Sardesai and Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Amb. Ronen Sen, Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav, former minister Mr. Prakash Javadekar and Prof. C. Raja Mohan.

I wish to thank our Treasurer, Mr. Ravi Pandit, for holding the monthly MIS meetings with the PIC staff and our Secretary General, Mr. Prashant Girbane, for the stupendous work in follow-ups with the Maharashtra government and for the speedy processing of the PIC land documents.

This report would be incomplete without mentioning the enormous support I received from the PIC staff – Kiran, Amaresh, Deepak, Tejas and Mayur.

Post-pandemic, we are now ready to go into the hybrid mode with physical and online events and hope to see you again at PIC events.

Looking forward to an exciting new year ahead!

Thank you,
Abhay Vaidya

Mandate

Pune has always been a city of learning, scholarship, liberal values, enlightened thinking and action, and prides itself on the presence of thought leaders from all walks of life.

What this great city missed hitherto was a meeting point for all such thinkers and doers, a place where, in an intellectually stimulating and peaceful environment, enlightened discussions and debates could be held about the future of this city, this great nation and indeed the world. Other cities have such meeting places. In New Delhi, for example, the India International Centre (IIC) provides such an ambience. Over almost half a century, it has played a unique cultural and intellectual role in the life of New Delhi's citizens. On similar lines, Goa hosts the International Centre, Goa (ICG) and Bengaluru hosts the Bangalore International Centre.

Individuals with a distinguished record of public service in India and abroad conceived the idea of an international centre in Pune. The idea of setting up the Pune International Centre (PIC) received prompt and enthusiastic support.

Aware of the city's role during the freedom struggle, its pioneering contribution to social reforms and liberal politics, its reputation as a crucible of educational, scientific, literary and artistic endeavours, and its emergence as a centre of high-end entrepreneurial activity, the founders were determined to preserve, enrich and enlarge this legacy. As time progressed, more eminent people joined them and soon the idea gathered momentum. PIC, they reckoned, would provide a platform to all and, in particular, to younger generations who wish to promote innovative, progressive thinking in all fields of public life.

PIC is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950.

Aims & Objectives

- To create a platform for open discussion and for stimulating debates by mobilising the intellectual resources with which the city of Pune is so richly endowed.
- To promote activities and programmes with strong emphasis on involvement of youth so as to help build future leadership and to inspire a new generation to create positive social change based on the eternal human values enshrined in the UN Charter and the Indian Constitution.
- To undertake, organise and facilitate study courses, conferences, seminars, lectures in matters relating to the all-round socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Pune in particular, and the nation in general.
- To undertake, facilitate and provide for the publication of newsletters, research papers and books and a journal for the exposition of emerging cultural and socio-economic patterns and values.
- To establish and maintain libraries and information services to facilitate the spread of new information and knowledge and also the study of world cultures and socio-economic conditions.
- To offer prizes and to grant scholarships in furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.
- To provide a forum for the promotion of all arts including visual, performing and design arts and also literature.
- To do or get done all such other lawful things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of the above aims and objectives.



Section A

PIC Organisational Structure

Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President
Mr. Prashant Girbane, Gen. Secretary (Hon.)
Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Director

Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President
Mr. Ravi Pandit, Treasurer (Hon.)

Sub-Committees

Programme Advisory Committee

Chairperson: Prof. Amitav Mallik

Convener: Dr. Sangeeta Kale

Air Marshal Bhushan Gokhale
Ms. Falguni Gokhale
Ms. Lisa Pingale

Dr. Deepak Shikarpur
Dr. Latika Padgaonkar
Ms. Swati Raje

Membership Committee

Chairperson: Ms. Anu Aga

Convener: Mr. Suresh Pingale

Mr. Amit Paranjape
Mr. Mukesh Malhotra
Mr. Prashant Girbane

Mr. Saif Dhorajiwala
Dr. Padmini Sundaram

Infrastructure Committee

Chairperson: Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar

Co-Chair: Mr. Arun Firodia

Convener: Mr. Satish Magar

Mr. Ajit Nimbalkar

Ms. Falguni Gokhale

Mr. Hanumantrao Gaikwad

Mr. Pratap Pawar

Mr. Prashant Girbane

Mr. Suresh Pingale

Mr. Anil Supanekar

Mr. Gautam Bambawale

Mr. Pramod Chaudhari

Mr. Prakash Apte

Mr. Ravi Pandit

Dr. Vijay Kelkar

Membership

Trustees – 17

Mr. Ajit Nimbalkar
Prof. Amitav Mallik
Mr. Anil Supanekar
Mr. Arun Firodia
Air Marshal Bhushan Gokhale
Amb. Gautam Bambawale
Dr. Ganesh Natarajan
Mr. Mukesh Malhotra
Dr. Narendra Jadhav

Mr. Prashant Girbane
Mr. Pratap Pawar
Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar
Mr. Ravi Pandit
Mr. Satish Magar
Mr. Suresh Pingale
Dr. Vijay Kelkar
Lt. Gen. Vinayak Patankar

Honorary Members – 18

Dr. Abhay Bang
Dr. Ashok Ganguly
Mr. Sachin Tendulkar
Prof. Avinash Dixit
Ms. Shabana Azmi
Mr. Chandu Borde
Prof. CNR Rao, FRS
Dr. Farid Zakaria
Ms. Vijaya Mehta

Mr. Rahul Dravid
Prof. Madhav Gadgil
Prof. Man Mohan Sharma, FRS
Ms. Sai Paranjape
Mr. Nandan Nilekani
Ms. Suman Kirloskar
Mr. Sunil Gavaskar
Dr. Jayant Narlikar
Mr. Javed Akhtar

Institutional Members - 55

Alliance Francaise De Poona, Pune
 Azim Premji Foundation, Bengaluru
 Balaji Institute of Management Studies, Pune
 Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune
 Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Pune
 College of Engineering, Pune (COEP), Pune
 Equal Opportunity Foundation, Pune
 Fergusson College, Pune
 Forum of Federation, Canada
 Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE), Pune
 India Development Foundation (IDF), Gurgaon
 India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi
 Indian Institute for Human Settlement (IIHS), Bengaluru
 Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA), Gujarat
 Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata
 Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali
 Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune
 Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhilai, Raipur
 Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Mumbai
 Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT - Gandhinagar), Gujarat
 Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Goa
 Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, Uttarakhand
 Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Uttarakhand
 Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata
 Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai
 Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune
 International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Bangalore
 K E M Research Institute, Pune
 MAEER's MIT School of Government (MIT-SOG), Pune
 Mahratta Chambers of Commerce and Industries (MCCIA), Pune
 Modern College (Progressive Education Society), Pune
 National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune
 National Centre for Cell Sciences (NCCS), Pune
 National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune
 National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi
 National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF), Ahmedabad
 National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM), Pune
 National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi

National Insurance Academy (NIA), Pune
Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi
Pravara Institute of Medical Science, Pune
Prayas Energy Group (PEG), Pune
Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Pune
Science and Technology Park (STP), Pune
Shree Chanakya Education Society (Indira Group of Institutions), Pune
Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey (SNDT) Women's University, Pune
SP College, Pune
Society of Civil Servants, Pune
Symbiosis International University (SIU), Pune
Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), Mumbai
The Agri Horticultural Society of Western India (Empress Garden), Pune
Venture Center – Entrepreneurship Development Center, Pune
Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), Pune
Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YASHADA), Pune
National Academy of Defence Financial Management (NADFM), Pune

Corporate Members – 13

BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited, New Delhi
Cairn Energy India Pvt. Limited, Haryana
Deccan Mechanical and Chemical Industries Pvt Ltd (DEMECH), Pune
Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC), Mumbai
Huawei Telecommunications (India) Co. Pvt. Ltd, Haryana
JSW Steel Limited, Mumbai
Larsen & Toubro Limited, Mumbai
National Stock Exchange of India, Mumbai
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Mumbai
Petronet LNG Ltd.
Reliance Industries Limited, Mumbai
Tata Chemicals Limited, Mumbai
Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai



Section B

Programmes

A total of 58 programmes including webinars, conversations, book releases, roundtables and national and international conferences were held through the period of the Covid-19 pandemic. All the events were online and saw excellent participation from India and abroad.

The following pages contain a review of the events held from April 2021 to March 2022.

Events in April 2021

Three events were held in April 2021 and these included two Round Table Webinars on 'Strategic Patience and Flexible Policies: How India Can Rise to the China Challenge,' chaired by Amb. Sudhir Devare, Member, Pune International Centre (PIC), and 'Redesigning India's Fiscal Architecture: 15th Finance Commission Proposals', chaired by Dr. Urjit Patel, former Governor, Reserve Bank of India and Member, PIC. A PIC Adda lecture by Prof. Satish Deodhar, Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), on India's Farm Laws was also held in this month.

Round Table Webinar: 'Strategic Patience and Flexible Policies: How India Can Rise to the China Challenge'

6th April 2021

PIC hosted a Round Table on the policy paper, 'Strategic Patience and Flexible Policies', with the authors, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar (President, PIC), Amb. Gautam Bambawale (Trustee, PIC), Dr. Ganesh Natarajan (Trustee, PIC), Dr. Ajit Ranade (Member, PIC) and Prof. Ajay Shah (Professor, NIPFP) along with Prof. C. Raja Mohan, Director (Institute of South Asian Studies), National University of Singapore, Amb. Ronen Sen, former Indian Ambassador to USA, Russia and Germany as discussants, on 6th April. The event was chaired by Amb. Sudhir Devare, Member, PIC.

The clashes between the Indian and Chinese soldiers in Galwan valley last year and the stand-off that lasted for a better part of the year led to the realisation that 'business as usual' with China was no longer a possibility. The authors emphasised that this paper explored the need for India to evolve a new strategic and policy framework to engage with China on the political, economic and security fronts, given this new context. They added that India must look to build and hone its strengths in order to achieve parity with China in the long term, as current asymmetries dictate an outlook of strategic patience. The discussants highlighted some of the critiques of the paper and discussed the same with the authors.

The Q&A session towards the end received an overwhelming response from the audience.

Round Table Webinar: ‘Redesigning India’s Fiscal Architecture: 15th Finance Commission Proposals’

8th April 2021

PIC was pleased to host Prof. Anoop Singh (Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University, USA), Dr. Rathin Roy (Managing Director, Research and Policy, Overseas Development Institute), Mr. Sudhir Shrivastava (Chairman, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board), Prof. Abhay Pethe (Senior Resident Fellow, University of Mumbai) and Mr. Kandarp Patel (Director, National Academy of Audit and Accounts, Shimla) for a discussion on ‘Redesigning India’s Fiscal Architecture: 15th Finance Commission Proposals,’ on 8th April. The round table was chaired by Dr. Urjit Patel, former Governor, Reserve Bank of India and Member, PIC.

All discussants noted that the pandemic had forced a rethink of fiscal management and austerity, the world over. The topics of fiscal prudence, communication within an increasingly federal system between the Centre and states in India, fiscal rules, public financial management, fiscal institutions and the strong foundation of information and digital technologies required for the 21st century fiscal architecture were discussed. Emphasis on improved accountability, transparency, debt management and other approaches to managing India’s current fiscal situation were also discussed. It was pointed out that fiscal and monetary management in India was often hobbled by the lack of decision-makers’ ability to process complexity in policy-making. The need to address issues in India’s federalism and disparity in fiscal management between the Centre and states were also highlighted. The discussion was followed by a round of questions and answers.

PIC Adda: ‘A 2020 Vision of India’s Farm Laws’

17th April 2021

Prof. Satish Deodhar, Professor, Economics, Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad), was the Guest Speaker at the latest edition of PIC Adda. He spoke on ‘A 2020 Vision of India’s Farm Laws,’ on 17th April. The session was moderated by Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Member, PIC. Dr. Kale introduced the topic of Prof. Deodhar’s talk and shared his profile, work and publications with the audience.

Prof. Deodhar began by providing a brief historical background of the primacy of agriculture in India. He narrated the evolution of legislation on agricultural produce and markets from the time of the East India Company to the post-colonial, post-Independence era. His focus was on the institution of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Corporations (APMCs). He noted during the course of his talk that tools like the minimum support price (MSP) and agricultural markets, which had been designed and intended to benefit farmers, rarely brought them any gains.

He then elaborated on some of the changes made to existing systems by the 2020 farm law reforms, including the removal of restrictions on stock-holding of farm produce, new rules on contract farming and a new act on sale of produce outside of the APMC. After a brief analysis of the reforms, wherein he noted that they were not akin to liberalisation reforms, he briefly provided a balanced analysis of the farmer protests as well. He emphasised that while the government's pursuit of economic reforms was certainly correct, the 'art of policymaking' was lost in the process. Prof. Deodhar noted that attendant issues like water, soil, availability of grains and more needed to be addressed too. This talk concluded with a lively Q&A session.

Events in May 2021

In May 2021, four interesting programmes were held at the Pune International Centre (PIC), which included an 'Ambassador Speaks' session with H. E. Mr. Andrea A. Correa do Lago, Ambassador of Brazil to India; a discussion with Prof. L.S. Shashidhara, Distinguished Professor and Dean (Research), Ashoka University, on 'Science to Fight Covid-19 and Cancer: Perspectives from Pune'; A conversation with Dr. Ajay Chhibber on 'Transforming India's Economy: Lessons from Global Experience'; and a Book Launch Webinar - 'Tiananmen Square: The Making of a Protest', by Mr. Vijay Gokhale, were the highlights of this month.

'Ambassador Speaks' session with H. E. Mr. Andrea A. Correa do Lago, Ambassador of Brazil to India

12th May 2021

The fourth edition of the Ambassador Speaks series was addressed by His Excellency Mr. Andrea A. Correa do Lago, Ambassador of Brazil to India, who delivered a lecture on 'Brazil and its Neighbours: Security through Diplomacy'. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC, warmly welcomed the Ambassador, highlighting the historical ties and bilateral significance of the India-Brazil relationship. Amb. Gautam Bambawale, Trustee, PIC, chaired the session.

H.E. Mr. Do Lago began by noting that the complexity of the Latin American region is often underrated by the world at large. Brazil was instrumental in helping direct the region towards cooperation. He presented an insightful glimpse into Brazil's colonial past and said that Brazil was a 'child of diplomacy' as all its borders with neighbouring countries were settled through agreements like the Treaty of Tordesillas and the Treaty of Madrid in the 18th century and later agreements in the post-colonial years. He cited South America as a shining example of geopolitical stability. This was due to the focus on dialogue, arbitration and diplomacy in the region and the continent.

His Excellency also touched upon the recent treaties with African, the Pacific Rim Countries and Atlantic nations and the creation of nuclear-free zones and zones of reduced third-country military presence to keep South America a zone of peace and cooperation. The session concluded with an interesting questions and answers exchange with the audience.

Science for Society (3rd Edition) with Prof. L.S. Shashidhara, Distinguished Professor and Dean (Research), Ashoka University, and Founder Member, Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA)

21st May 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Prof. L.S. Shashidhara at the 3rd Science for Society Lecture. He spoke on 'Science to Fight Covid-19 and Cancer: Perspectives from Pune' and made a detailed presentation. The event was chaired by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar and moderated by Dr. Aravind Chinchure, Founder & CEO, QLeap Academy.

Prof. Shashidhara began by noting that all societal problems were complex and their study needed to be approached with care and openness to tap into the varied findings. He focused on cancer in the form of metastasizing cells and the fast-spreading Covid-19 infectious disease. Both, he noted, had certain similarities but different challenges. He highlighted the elements of mega science projects such as the push for understanding the Sars-Cov-2 virus and its spread and emphasised the need for proper application of the scientific method on these projects for accuracy and timeliness of findings and outcomes.

Moving from a basic science, he noted that applied science and an interdisciplinary approach were crucial to being able to translate research from projects to usable outcomes. He appreciated the vital contributions of the Pune Knowledge Cluster, IISER Pune and other institutions for providing research and inputs for evidence-based medicine for cancer and clinical trials-based vaccines for Covid-19. He said that having clear, clean, collated and categorised data helped the administration and associated organisations to prepare a collaborative and coordinated response to the pandemic and put emergency infrastructure in place. The session saw overwhelming attendance with participation by researchers from India and also a few from Bangladesh.

PIC Conversation with Dr. Ajay Chhibber, Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Institute for International Economic Policy, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, and Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

27th May 2021

Dr. Ajay Chhibber was the guest at the latest edition of PIC Conversations and he spoke on 'Transforming India's Economy: Lessons from Global Experience.' The session was chaired by Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and Trustee, PIC.

Dr. Chhibber began by noting that India was in the midst of the Covid-19 crisis, which had devastated lives and exposed the weak health infrastructure and the deep vulnerabilities of the Indian economy. At the outset, he emphasised that India needed a rescue package for its population, directed not only at the most vulnerable sections of society but also at the MSMEs and smaller groups. He said that while India until recently was showing economic growth, this was lopsided. A useful starting point would be to benchmark India's economic progress against the countries in its immediate neighbourhood, Dr. Chhibber said, pointing out that life expectancy was now better in Bangladesh, compared to India.

Such benchmarking would help provide a realistic appraisal of where India stood, not only in comparison to other nations, but in comparison to its own lofty goals. Unemployment, developmental inequities, the overdependence on services sector, lack of a fully matured industrial manufacturing sector and inefficient banking systems were some of the problems that India needed to address by learning from the experiences of other nations, he said.

He described the government as largely interventionist, which, he said, hindered true reforms in policy, regulation and outcomes. Dr. Chhibber emphasised that top-down approaches rarely worked, and that ground-up approaches must be based on meaningful data. The talk was followed by a round of questions and answers with the audience.

Book Launch Webinar: 'Tiananmen Square: The Making of a Protest' by Mr. Vijay Gokhale

31st May 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Mr. Vijay Gokhale, former Foreign Secretary and Member, PIC for a discussion on his book 'Tiananmen Square: The Making of a Protest'. This session was chaired by Mr. Jayadeva Ranade, former Member, National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) and President, Centre for China Analysis and Strategy.

Both, Mr Gokhale and Mr Ranade were serving at the Indian Embassy in Beijing in 1989 when this dramatic event took place. In conversation with Mr. Ranade, Mr. Gokhale began by noting that the book provides the necessary Indian perspective on the drama that played out in China in 1989, the reverberations of which are felt even today. He said that we cannot depend on Western and Chinese perspectives to understand China which is very important to us, as Indians, now and in the foreseeable future. He also threw light on the questionable reporting by the Western media, especially on the number of casualties, and said there was no evidence of a massacre of 'thousands' of people at Tiananmen Square. The discussion provided rich details of the dramatic event as it unfolded, insights into Chinese political system and leadership and the US-China dynamic at the time, with both being allies; the Indian embassy's reportage to New Delhi during the period, and China's political sophistication in dealing with dissidents then and now.

The talk was followed by a round of questions and answers.

Events in June 2021

The inaugural lecture on 'Origin & Fundamental Doctrines of Buddhism' by Prof. Mahesh Deokar on 4th June; a webinar to mark the World Environment Day; and an interactive talk by Dr. Sheela Bhide on 'Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: Exploring New Horizons' were some key events held this month. Also, an enriching discussion with Dr. Sanjaya Baru on his latest book, 'India's Power Elite: Class, Caste, and a Cultural Revolution', was the concluding event of June.

Inaugural Lecture on Origin and Fundamental Doctrines of Buddhism under the 'India and the World's Great Religions' series by Prof. Mahesh Deokar, Savitribai Phule Pune University

4th June 2021

The inaugural lecture under the 'India and the World's Great Religions' series was delivered by Prof. Mahesh Deokar, Professor and Head (Departments of Pali and Buddhist Studies and Dr. Ambedkar Thoughts), Savitribai Phule Pune University, on the subject, 'Origins and Fundamental Doctrines of Buddhism'. Prof. Pradeep Apte, Professor Emeritus, Savitribai Phule Pune University, chaired the session and introduced the topic.

Prof. Deokar presented a brief introduction on the 'triratna' of Buddhism, which is the seeking of refuge in the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha. He provided the socio-political context of the time of Buddha's

birth and the transformation of India from a 'janapada' or 'ganarajya' to a land of empire(s), throughout the Buddha's lifetime. He explained the transformation of Gautama the prince into Siddhartha and subsequently Buddha (the Enlightened One). He explained that his material focused on the Pali canon of Theravada Buddhism, considered one of the oldest continuous traditions of Buddhism in the world. Prof. Deokar explained that Buddha highlighted both the cognitive (embedded in knowledge) aspects and the emotive aspects of suffering in the Buddhist path. Based on this, he explained the centrality of morality to the Buddhist way and elaborated on the various elements of the Eightfold Path. The lecture was well attended and was followed by a round of questions and answers.

World Environment Day celebration with the Climate Collective, Pune (PIC) Panel Discussion on 'Green Development' with Dr. Ejaz Ghani, Senior Fellow, PIC and Dr. Gurudas Nulkar, Trustee, Ecological Society

6th June 2021

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Climate Collective Pune (PIC) had the honour of hosting Dr. Ejaz Ghani, Senior Fellow, PIC and former Lead Economist, World Bank, and Dr. Gurudas Nulkar, Trustee, Ecological Society, for a panel discussion on 'Green Development' on 6th June. The event was Chaired by Prof. Amitav Mallik, Trustee, PIC.

Prof. Mallik provided the background for the topic and welcomed the eminent panelists. He noted that even if all commitments made by nations were met in terms of environmental reforms and carbon neutrality, it would not be enough to contain global warming to under 2 degrees Celsius. The aim of this discussion was to highlight that the economy and environment were not at odds but in fact two sides of the same coin, he said.

Dr. Ghani began by providing a definition for 'green growth' as economic growth that takes into account environmental factors and restraints and is socially inclusive all at once. India's performance in terms of green growth has had pockets of positive developments in terms of improvements in energy efficiency in urban areas and worsening environmental developments in lagging (mostly rural) areas. He spoke of the need for India to balance its needs for infrastructure and spatial development against the urgent need to meet environmental goals – given that it has the worst air quality in the world and highest energy consumption. Dr. Nulkar elaborated on the structure and impediments to 'green development' today. He noted that the current model of 'green development' did not mandate a need for judicious use of natural resources, impose any costs for pollution, or indeed encourage the adoption of 'reduce, reuse, recycle.'

The classical model of development had already failed, he noted, on account of the inequality it had engendered, especially the unequal distribution of natural resources as well as facilitating mostly 'jobless growth.' He mentioned examples of projects in mining, dams and even fertilizer industries in agriculture-allied activities. While economic growth is important as is the money that it brings in, there is a need to restructure for 'green development' to truly take hold and reform the nature of economic growth. He noted that education, reskilling, subsidies and incentives that facilitated the creation of a green industrial ecosystem would be crucial to bringing about 'green development.' A very interesting round of questions and answers followed the discussion.

PIC Adda on 'Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: Exploring New Horizons' with Dr. Sheela Bhide

19th June 2021

Dr. Bhide began by highlighting that today there was a strong movement to bring women into the sphere of international trade, and said that her talk would focus on how this could be done in an effective way. She noted that despite being a signatory to the United Nations' SDGs, India had done poorly on gender equality and only managed to close 62.5% of the gender gap. This should be cause for concern. In her talk, Dr. Bhide focused on women-owned small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as well as self-help groups (SHGs). The latter, she said, merited focus as they were enterprises run by women below the poverty line or from lower socio-economic classes. She noted that women faced several hurdles even as owners of a business or asset, as they faced harassment from officials, lack of support from financial institutions and did not receive social support or from the administration. She provided the example of the women-exclusive industrial/economic zone, which was set up based on the model provided by the Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India (ALEAP), which has served as a success story in terms of development of a 'green industrial park.'

The session was moderated by Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Member, PIC who welcomed and introduced the speaker for the latest edition of PIC Adda, PIC was pleased to host Dr. Sheela Bhide, Chairperson, Women Entrepreneurs International Trade and Technology Centre for a talk on "Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: Exploring New Horizons"

After describing some more of ALEAP's achievements, Dr. Bhide went on to talk about SHGs. She explained how certain changes and reforms to the formal banking system in certain regions, specifically in the South, led to easier access to banking services, micro-loans and credit for the BPL women running SHGs. She noted that NPAs were quite low (only about 5%) among these groups. She said that ALEAP's We Hub encouraged women-owned enterprises to conduct R&D and to branch out into other sectors like

biotechnology, food-processing, electronics and engineering. It also served as an incubator and sandbox. In conclusion, she said that South Asia had a very low level of intra-regional trade, which must change if the region was to see sustained and green growth. This could only be done when women were given a place at the table and allowed to bring new ideas and thoughts to mitigate the issues that South Asia faced in terms of trade integration. This event saw high attendance and audience interest.

Book Discussion on ‘India’s Power Elite: Class, Caste, and a Cultural Revolution’ with Dr. Sanjaya Baru

25th June 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Distinguished Fellow, United Services Institution of India (USI) and former Media Advisor, Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) for a discussion on his book ‘India’s Power Elite: Class, Caste, and a Cultural Revolution’ on 25th June. This session was chaired by Dr. Suhas Palshikar, Professor and Political Commentator.

Dr. Baru began by noting that power and the systems that enabled it had always fascinated him. He reminisced that he read C. Wright Mills and Bertrand Russell, as well as Antonio Gramsci and their take on power and how it worked. Their writings led to his interest in learning about how power worked in India. Ram Manohar Lohia’s writings also deeply impressed and influenced him. He noted that politicians like Mulayam Singh and Lalu Prasad Yadav, were products of Lohia’s socialism, despite which Lohia was all but absent in the public discourse on power in India. The three characteristics that Lohia defined Indian elite by were inherited wealth, upper class status and education in English language – this was, of course, the situation in the Nehru era, Dr Baru said.

He noted that the book was contextualised by pegging it to the rise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which then became the initial chapters of the book. In his view, the dynamics of dominance, class, and caste and the transitions of power in Delhi have undergone significant change in the past decade, which was highlighted and symbolised by the Modi administration. While the composition of the political elite had certainly undergone significant change, India was yet to see the direct participation of the business or industrial elite in government, akin to the industrial lobbies and complexes in USA. However, he noted that by and large there was a nexus between politicians and business persons. Inherited wealth was no longer a necessity, while caste remained a major question and bastion only in Uttar Pradesh (with any major consequence). English was now important, though not of any significance in politics – where the language of power had now become Hindi. Hindi fundamentalism had seen increased assertion, though which way this portended remained to be seen. The discussion was enriched by a round of questions for the speakers from the audience.

Events in July 2021

A host of events were held in July, which included a conversation with the authors of the book, 'Accelerating Digital Success: Reimagining Organisations for a Post COVID-19 World', on 5th July, and a lecture on the subject 'An introduction to Jainism – Philosophy, History, and Relevance' with Dr. Abhay Firodia. A Webinar in collaboration with CUTS International on 'Improving India's Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth' was held on the 14th, along with a PIC Conversation on 'The Role of Digital Currency'; PIC Adda on 'Resilient Innovations for Social Equity (RISE): Frugal Engineering and Leadership' with Dr. Ajay Malshe; in addition to an interaction with the Ambassador of Morocco to India, H. E. Mr. Mohamed Maliki, on the subject 'Regional Emerging Challenges of Morocco and its Role, along with its partners, in the Development and Stability of Africa'

Conversation on the book, 'Accelerating Digital Success: Reimagining Organisations for a Post-COVID-19 World'

with authors Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Dr. Uma Ganesh and Ms. Lavanya Jayaram

5th July 2021

PIC had the privilege of hosting Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Chairman, 5F World and Trustee, PIC; Dr. Uma Ganesh, Chairperson and Founder, Global Talent Track and Member, National Council (CII), and Ms. Lavanya Jayaram, Executive Director, AVPN, Singapore, for a conversation with Dr. Ajit Ranade, President and Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group and Member, PIC on their book, 'Accelerating Digital Success: Reimagining Organisations for a Post COVID-19 World.'

This event was chaired by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, President, PIC. Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Associate Director, PIC welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced the authors.

Dr. Ranade provided a brief background of the broad topics of digital technology and the digital economy. Dr. Natarajan explained that the book explored the combination of the COVID push and the digital pull, and the current exploitative as well as explorative phase that businesses and organisations have been pushed into as a result. Ms. Jayaram highlighted that her background in communications was crucial to understanding that design thinking depended on beginning with empathy and diagnosing the problem to be addressed correctly. She noted that despite a lack of pure technical knowledge, her experience with communication being at the centre of the customer experience in technology and business processes formed the core of her contribution to the book. Dr. Uma emphasised that for most businesses digital transformation was focused on the front-end and not enough on the employee journey or the employee experience. Right from recruitment and training to working, skilling, and even exiting the organisation,

employees' experiences and opinions seemed to be left out. The organisation's responsibility to develop tools, contents, and experiences for their employees, – she noted, was the focus of her contribution to the book. The conversation was followed by a lively Q&A session with the authors and the panelists.

Lecture II of 'India and the World's Great Religions' series on 'An introduction to Jainism – Philosophy, History, and Relevance' with Dr. Abhay Firodia

9th July 2021

Dr. Abhay Firodia, Chairman, Force Motors Limited and Member, PIC, delivered the second lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. He spoke on 'An introduction to Jainism – Philosophy, History and Relevance'. The event was chaired by Dr. Arvind Jamkhedkar, Archaeologist and Historian, and moderated by Prof. Pradeep Apte. Mr. Abhay Vaidya welcomed everyone and Prof. Apte introduced the chair and speaker.

Dr. Firodia began his presentation by noting that there was need for a comprehensive view of India's heritage, which had been influenced by several cultures over the past millennia. Touching upon the academic definitions of religion, he mentioned that myths, rituals and values formed three core aspects of any religion. He emphasised that the philosophy of Jainism was based on the law of the world (wherein living beings have to eat or be eaten) and how humans could practice a life or process of causing the least harm. This taps into the concepts of atma, karma and dharma. Within Jainism, he explained that three universal principles – ahimsa, anekantvada and aparigraha – are followed. He went on to explain the path defined by these principles, the Shramana tradition, and how a synthesis of Shramana and Vedic traditions brought about the current Hindu ethic. He provided some background and history on the Tirthankaras of the Jain tradition from Rishabhadeva to Mahavira, explained some of the differences between the Digambara and Shwetambara sects of Jainism and the exchange of knowledge between the Shramanic and Vedic traditions. The session concluded with Dr. Jamkhedkar's remarks on the lecture by Dr. Firodia, and Mr. Vaidya delivered the vote of thanks.

Webinar in Collaboration with CUTS International on ‘Improving India’s Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth’

14th July 2021

PIC was pleased to conduct a webinar in collaboration with CUTS International on the topic, ‘Improving India’s Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth’. This webinar saw the launch of a draft white paper by CUTS International on the same topic, which was released by Dr. Vijay Kelkar (Vice-President, PIC). The panelists included Dr. Ajit Ranade (Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group), Mr. Harsha Vardhan Singh (Chairman, Ikdhvaj Advisers LLP), Dr. Ajay Shah (Research Professor of Business, Jindal Global University) and Ms. Puja Mehra (Journalist). The discussion was moderated by Mr. Pradeep Mehta (Secretary General, CUTS International), who welcomed the audience and introduced the panelists.

The panelists highlighted several points that made the paper stand out. First, the efficient identification of priority issues such as centre-state cooperation, silo-based decision-making and policy implementation among others. Second, that it was a white paper that recommended implementable actions. Third, the identification of the vagueness of laws and their coerciveness given the government acting as authority over and not agent of the people. The discussion emphasised other points with regard to the influence of politics, trade, poor export growth and other factors on competitiveness in India as well as policy solutions to address these issues. The discussion was followed by a round of questions from the audience.

PIC Conversation on ‘The Role of Digital Currency’ with Dr. Prakash Hebalkar and Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay

17th July 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Dr. Prakash Hebalkar, Corporate Strategy and Public Policy Consultant, and Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay, Research Director, India Development Foundation and Dean, Indian School of Public Policy, for a discussion on the topic ‘The Role of Digital Currency’. This session was chaired by Dr. Ajay Shah, Research Professor of Business, Jindal Global University. The event was moderated by Dr. Shilpa Phadke, Member, PIC, who introduced the speakers and chair.

Dr. Shah provided a brief background of the concept of digital currency – beginning from the origins of Bitcoin to the academic and technical debates over the viability and development of ‘stateless’ currency (that would not be regulated by institutions such as central banks), which could be used to transact digitally across the globe. Dr. Hebalkar elaborated on how the trend in use and availability of cryptocurrencies grew as they remained computationally complex commodities and thus available only to a technological,

privileged few. He also explained other pseudo-currencies such as Ethereum and stable 'coins' while noting that their 'trustworthiness' was untested, especially given the anonymity they afforded everyone. He explained their growing popularity as investment instruments and the difficulties of regulating pseudo-currencies for government and market institutions. He concluded with a mention of the effect of digital currency on trade, monetary and economic power, which could tip the balance of power either way in the foreseeable future.

Dr. Gangopadhyay discussed the trustworthiness of digital currency. He explained that the reason central banks were now exploring digital currency technology was in order to reduce the cost of transactions, which were currently very high for most non-cash transactions conducted across the world today. He highlighted some issues that could be faced, including what would determine the value of digital currency, the role of central banks in this, as well as the split in the use of digital currency between the wholesale and retail ends. with Dr. Prakash Hebalkar and Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay addressed questions from the audience during the course of their talk.

PIC Adda on 'Resilient Innovations for Social Equity (RISE): Frugal Engineering and Leadership' with Dr. Ajay Malshe

24th July 2021

PIC Adda in July hosted Dr. Ajay Malshe, Technology Executive and Educator, who spoke on 'Resilient Innovations for Social Equity (RISE): Frugal Engineering and Leadership.' The session was moderated by Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Director (Policy and Planning), Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) and Member, PIC. Dr. Kale welcomed the audience and introduced the speaker.

Dr. Malshe began by introducing his experience with setting up RISE Laboratories and the many innovations that came from his company. He provided the example of the African-American community having high death rates in USA during the first two waves of the pandemic. He briefly explained the data that RISE Laboratories used and the conclusions drawn from the same in order to innovate solutions for the community. He touched upon the technological and digital divide and how they had been drivers of exasperation and resentment in society, even in the USA. Dr. Malshe elaborated on how these circumstances drove him to adapt his study of social innovations to identify and analyse resilience in social innovation, or resilience as a component or outcome of social issues – and as an input factor for innovative solutions for these issues. He noted that this led to the development of the frugal engineering model for social innovations. He went on to describe how this informed his course design and student engagement with case studies on frugal engineering for social innovation. An interesting round of questions and answers followed Dr Malshe's talk.

5th Lecture in the ‘Ambassador Speaks’ series on ‘Regional Emerging Challenges of Morocco and its Role, along with its partners, in the development and stability of Africa’ by His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Maliki

27th July 2021

For the fifth lecture in PIC's 'Ambassador Speaks' series, we had the honour of hosting H. E. Mr. Mohamed Maliki, Ambassador of His Majesty the King of Morocco to India. He spoke on 'Regional Emerging Challenges of Morocco and its Role, along with its partners, in the development and stability of Africa.' The event was chaired by Amb. Sudhir Devare, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, India. Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Associate Director, PIC welcomed everyone and introduced the speaker.

Amb. Maliki began by providing a brief background of Morocco's current relations with its partners in Africa. He touched upon the effect of the pandemic on globalisation, as well as bilateral and multilateral relations, especially with regard to the challenges with vaccine availability and distribution across the globe. He noted that like most countries, Morocco had to conduct a mid-term review of the national budget and development projects that were adversely affected by the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. He spoke of the evolution of relations between Morocco and its partners in the Maghreb and Sahel regions of Africa in finding solutions to the many issues the regions faced – from public health resource sharing to combating human trafficking. He noted that migratory flows of Africans to Europe was an issue that Morocco and its partner nations in Africa were working at managing, by having open and peaceful discussions to arrive at solutions to immigration issues.

Amb. Maliki also described some of the infrastructure projects like gas pipelines and electric grids that were being carried out by Morocco along with other African countries. He noted that the use of political Islam by Iran to destabilise the region was an issue of great concern not only for Morocco and North African nations, but also for the European Union. Another issue he elaborated on was that of the Sahara and Sahel regions, where Islamic fundamentalism had spread faster than the rest of Africa. Amb. Maliki noted that on-going democratisation processes and inter-African integration were being strengthened through military cooperation, religious and humanitarian diplomacy. He concluded that India's role in the strengthening of such cooperation and integration in Africa, in partnership with African nations like Morocco and its partners was invaluable. The lecture was followed by a short round of question and answers with the audience.

Events in August 2021

In August 2021, PIC hosted a wide range of programmes, which included a conversation with the eminent journalist and author Mr. Girish Kuber on his book, 'Renaissance State: The Unwritten Story of the Making of Maharashtra'; an interactive dialogue with the author of the book - 'Decisive Decade India 2030: Gazelle or Hippo', Mr. Kiran Karnik; and the third lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series with Dr. Sebastian Michael. Later on, the TCS PIC Sustainathon was held on 15th August with the key-note address delivered by Dr. Raghunath A. Mashelkar, President, PIC. A PIC Conversation on 'Covid Pandemic and Inequality in India' with Prof. Anup Malani, along with a dialogue on the book 'The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India' with the former diplomat & author Mr. Vijay Gokhale, were the highlights of this month. A PIC Adda lecture with Dr. Archana Sudame on 'How Young Minds are Designing their own Future' and a discussion on the research paper: 'Three New Estimates of India's all-cause Excess Mortality during the Covid Pandemic' by former CEA Prof. Arvind Subramanian were also held in August.

Conversation on the book, 'Renaissance State: The Unwritten Story of the Making of Maharashtra' with author Mr. Girish Kuber

6th August 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Mr. Girish Kuber, Editor, Loksatta and author, "Renaissance State: The Unwritten Story of the Making of Maharashtra." He was in conversation with Dr. Niranjana Rajadhyaksha, member, PIC and Research Director and Senior Fellow, IDFC Institute. Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Associate Director, PIC, welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced the speakers.

Dr. Niranjana Rajadhyaksha gave a brief overview on the significance of the book, mentioning that Ramchandra Guha's anthology on "Makers of Modern India" had as many as seven from Maharashtra out of twenty personalities. Yet, not much had been written from the Maharashtrian point of view. Mr. Girish Kuber noted that a significant role was played by Chhatrapati Shivaji in addressing the identity issues that kingdoms of the Deccan faced. He noted that Shivaji's call for 'Hindavi Swarajya' (meaning indigenous rule) had been misappropriated in the current social and political situation. He also shed light on how religion was separated from the administrative and judicial arms under Shivaji. He spoke of how the Bhakti Movement had made people learn to live with the situation, which in turn deterred locals from rebelling against invading forces and foreign rulers.

Mr. Kuber surmised that adopting a different script than Devanagari would have helped in bolstering a unique identity and highlighted the need for reviving the intellectual tradition by taking inspiration from history. He added that the Marathi populace generally lacked awareness of the history of Maharashtra and that the book provided a broad foundation for understanding the history of the state. He noted that using English as the medium of story-telling would allow the book to reach a wider readership. The conversation was followed by a round of questions from the audience.

Conversation on the book, ‘Decisive Decade India 2030: Gazelle or Hippo’ with author Mr. Kiran Karnik

10th August 2021

PIC had the privilege of hosting Mr. Kiran Karnik, former President, NASSCOM for a conversation on his book "Decisive Decade India 2030: Gazelle or Hippo," with Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Chairman, 5F World.

Dr. Natarajan set the conversation rolling by sharing a story of his encounter with a hippopotamus in Kenya. He outlined nine major themes that Mr. Karnik touched upon in his book – democracy and politics, security, health, education, economy, demography, society, jobs and livelihoods and technology. He pointed that the book was timely and that it factored-in the current scenario of the Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Karnik introduced the book by giving an analogy of the behaviours of the gazelle and the hippopotamus – noting that India would have the opportunities to exhibit either animal's traits in this decade. He mentioned that the book was written with a lot of optimism and that the dystopian point of view was also given fair weightage.

Mr. Karnik asserted that technology would play a major role in almost all areas discussed in the book. It would aid generation of jobs in the services sector as 'economies of scope' would emerge sooner than 'economies of scale.' He emphasized that the government must try to extend quality primary education and decentralize education policy-making. On national security, Mr. Karnik was of the opinion that India must leverage its soft power and focus on relations with middle powers like Germany and Japan than over-utilizing its resources in maintaining its relations with super powers. An overall posture like that of a gazelle, fast, non-threatening, friendly, would hold India firm and strong, instead of an aggressive stance like a hippo which could be projected using heavy militarization and ultra-nationalism capable of 'knocking-out' smaller countries in the neighborhood. The conversation was followed by a round of questions from the audience.

Lecture III of 'India and the World's Great Religions' series: 'Christianity and Indian Culture' with Dr. Sebastian Michael

13th August 2021

Dr. Sebastian Michael, Director, Institute of Indian Culture: Post Graduate Research Centre in Society, Culture and Religion, delivered the third lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. He spoke on "Christianity and Indian Culture." The event was chaired by Prof. Pradeep Apte, PIC's Senior Fellow and Professor Emeritus, Savitribai Phule Pune University.

Dr. Michael began his presentation by noting that culture and religion were built upon world views which attempted to answer three questions: What is the world? What is a human? And what is the world beyond? He summarised the origin of Christianity and how it had propagated. Touching upon the world view of Christianity, he mentioned that "dignity for all humans" was central to the religion and therefore, central to the work done by missionaries. Just as animals organised themselves with their instincts, humans organised through culture. Almost all major religions in Indian culture had common pillars of 'karma, dharma, punarjanma and moksha' and this was reflected in Indian psychology and behavioral patterns. Dr. Sebastian made a distinction between the Christian view of time as linear and the general Indian view of time as cyclical. He noted that the belief in 'rebirth' among Christians was for God and not for humans and that people had to do good deeds in their finite lives so that a communion was reached between man and the maker. The Indian view of 'life being cyclical' prompted one to do their duty or their dharma diligently, to reap benefits like birth in a higher varna in next life. He emphasised that the Varna System organised people in an order which affected their economic role and social interaction, thus becoming an intrinsic part of Indian culture. Indian culture had a lot to offer to Christianity like togetherness and family bonding, Dr Michael said and ended the lecture by noting that there was complementarity between Christianity and Indian culture and that both could thrive by exchanging ideas and practices. The Question-Answer session made this lecture engaging.

TCS PIC Sustainathon

15th August 2021

PIC had the privilege of being a strategic partner at the eLaunch of "TCS Sustainathon: Pune Student Edition." The topic for discussion was "Combating Waste Management Problems in Pune City." Guest speakers included Mr. Dinanath Kholkar, Vice President-Analytic and Insights, TCS and Mr. Parag Karandikar, Editor, Maharashtra Times. A discussion with panelists Dr. Ketaki Ghatge, Pune Municipal Corporation

(PMC), Mr. Harshad Barde and Mr. Malhar Karvande, COO, Survival for Women and Children (SWaCH) was held. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Raghunath A. Mashelkar, President, PIC. The guests and the speakers were introduced by Mr. Shirish Kulkarni, Founder and CEO, STROTA ConsulTech Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Kholkar gave an overview of TCS Sustainathon and the background to how it was introduced in Pune. He referred to PIC's initiative, 'Pathway to Taking Pune to Carbon Neutrality' and how the event was a step in the direction laid out in this PIC paper. Mr. Karandikar highlighted various efforts taken by the city at organisational and individual levels such as mechanisation of waste collection, segregation at source, and noted that a collective effort was needed to attain a robust waste management mechanism. The panel discussed the successes attained and the scope for further improvement in waste collection, segregation, disposal and recycling.

Dr. Mashelkar stressed that a 'Clean Revolution' was needed in the country just like the Green, White and Pink Revolutions. He highlighted the importance of involvement of students in practicing sustainable living as the future belonged to them and they would be the ones thriving in the long run. He shared two incidents from his life, one with disciplined Japanese children and another about the model of collective responsibility towards littering followed in China. He noted that radical changes were needed in current times for India to tackle issues pertaining to waste management and referred to the book, "Leap Frogging to Pole Vaulting" that he co-authored with Mr. Ravi Pandit. This book recommends radical, game changing and disruptive strategies instead of incremental changes. Dr. Mashelkar expressed his faith in Pune, noting that the city had been a leader in thought and would lead in giving a successful model of waste management.

PIC Conversation: 'Covid Pandemic and Inequality in India' with Prof. Anup Malani

16th August 2021

Prof. Anup Malani, Lee and Brena Freeman Professor, University of Chicago Law School, gave an absorbing talk on "Covid Pandemic and Inequality in India." This session was chaired by Dr. Ila Patnaik, Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) and the event was moderated by Dr. Shilpa Phadke, Member, PIC, who introduced the speakers and the Chair.

Dr. Ila Patnaik provided a brief background on the state of employment in India, noting that a majority of the working age population was employed in the informal sector and the pandemic had dealt a sudden blow to peoples' incomes, especially to middle and lower income households.

Prof. Malani started his presentation with this point and highlighted that the drop in income was more severe for the top quartile (higher income households and individuals) than the lower quartile (daily wagers and poor households). The number of people who had fallen below the poverty line had increased, but the gap in income generation had reduced, thereby reducing inequality. Two data sets were presented which showed the impact of the pandemic on income and consumption individually. It showed that there was no drastic decline in consumption for both top and lower quartiles. While some propped up their incomes by tapping into savings, a large number resorted to borrowings. Among all commodities used to measure consumption, food consumption witnessed least decline.

Prof. Malani noted that the Covid-19 pandemic was more effective than demonetisation in closing in the inequality gap. A comparison of the pandemic's impact on inequality in India and the USA showed that the top quartile in the USA faced little drop in their incomes as they were more successful in moving to remote working, as compared to India's top quartiles. However, the pandemic had a regressive effect on inequality in the USA and a progressive effect in India – as India witnessed a reduction in the income gap between higher and the lower income groups. Towards the end of Prof. Malani's presentation, Dr. Ila pointed out that a further study in 'sector wise variability in income' could give a much clearer picture of the impact of pandemic on inequality in India.

Conversation on the book, 'The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India' with author Mr. Vijay Gokhale

18th August 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India and Member, PIC, to discuss his book "The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India." The event was chaired by Ambassador Gautam Bambawale, Former Indian Ambassador to China, Bhutan and High Commissioner to Pakistan and Trustee, PIC.

Amb. Bambawale opened the conversation by noting that the title of the book described how the Chinese dealt with India at the negotiating table. Mr. Gokhale noted that an Indian perspective on negotiating with the Chinese was necessary and that the book would provide first-hand knowledge of how Indian diplomats had dealt with the Chinese in past years. He said he had elaborated on six negotiations that had seen completion. He highlighted that Western negotiating strategies and tactics could not be employed. He mentioned the USA as an example, noting that they negotiated from a position of economic and military superiority. He also noted the need for a structured course on negotiation from an Indian standpoint for officials in defence and civil services.

Mr. Gokhale highlighted that Chinese negotiator always stuck to their script and had little scope for flexibility. He asserted that extensive preparation and use of institutional memory was key to getting close to the desired terms of agreement. He explained that silence on the Chinese side on any proposal or recommendation should never be assumed as 'making progress.' In fact, he warned that the Chinese used silence as a distraction to build psychological pressure. He also said that silence often meant that the negotiator was not empowered to make a decision and therefore alertness and caution was to be observed. Towards the end of the conversation, he noted that India must understand how China wanted the world to look at India and respond accordingly.

PIC Adda on 'How Young Minds are Designing their own Future' with Dr. Archana Sudame

21st August 2021

For the latest edition of PIC Adda, we were pleased to host Dr. Archana Sudame, Co-Founder, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Outside the Box, College Admissions Advisor at Admission Crew, LLC, who spoke on the topic "How Young Minds are Designing their own Future" along with a panel of students who had taken her guidance in securing seats at top academic institutions in the world. On the panel were Ms. Apoorva Dornadula, Co-founder and Head of Engineering at Viral Space, Mr. Kushal Chattopadhyay, Member of Harvard University, Mr. Dhruva Bhat, Ph.D. student at Oxford University and Stephan Turban, Director and Co-founder of Lumiere Education. This event was moderated by Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Director (Policy and Planning), Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) and Member, PIC. Dr. Kale welcomed the audience and introduced the speaker and the panellists.

This was a unique session where Dr. Sudame requested the panellists to share their experiences and further discussed different aspects of designing one's future (career). Right at the outset, she explained how important the role of mentors was in navigating through a competitive academic environment.

Mr. Dhruva and Mr. Stephan began by discussing the criteria for selecting mentors for the mentees and how the pairing worked. They noted that a mentor-mentee pair was made in order to work on shared goals and not necessarily based on their complementary personality traits. Mr. Kushal shared his experience regarding his transition from an interest in chemistry to learning multiple foreign languages (Spanish, German and Japanese), including his stint in Germany as an exchange student. Dr. Sudame pointed out that many opportunities were to be created by oneself and the institutions in which the student was enrolled might not be able to cater to up-skilling and enhancing talents. Ms. Apoorva spoke about the importance of collaboration and how it helped her refine her public relations skills. This made setting up her start-up an easy task. She said collaborations were crucial for exchange of ideas and knowledge of

different fields. Dr. Sudame added that collaborations positively affected cognitive growth and created "autonomous learners" – a set of students who initiated, researched and executed their learning skillfully. She noted that there were six markers of effective college education that led a student from being talented to being skillful and eventually, successful. She emphasised that mentors should stress on 'why' as opposed to 'how' to stimulate critical thinking in mentees. The Q&A session that followed enriched the discussion.

Discussion on the Research Paper 'Three New Estimates of India's all-cause Excess Mortality during the Covid Pandemic' by Prof. Arvind Subramanian

25th August 2021

PIC had the honour of hosting Professor Arvind Subramanian, former Chief Economic Advisor to Government of India, to discuss the landmark research paper co-authored by him: 'Three New Estimates of India's all-cause Excess Mortality during the Covid Pandemic'. The event was chaired by Professor Ajit Kembhavi, Principal Investigator, Pune Knowledge Cluster, and Professor Emeritus, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune.

Prof. Kembhavi began the discussion by pointing out that though the pandemic had many adverse effects, it was successful in bringing people together to face the rigours that came along with death due to Covid. Prof. Subramanian mentioned that the paper focused on excess deaths caused during the pandemic and not necessarily due to Covid infections. He presented three data sets that were used to estimate the excess mortality. The data used for the study was from the Civil Registration System, used by the states, Indian Sero-Prevalence Plus International Infection Fatality Rate, which gave age specific data on deaths, and third data set was from the Consumer Pyramid Household Survey by Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy. He mentioned that each data set had its own limitations and biases, but adjustments were done to make the estimates as accurate as possible. He highlighted that excess mortality in India was increasing even before the 2nd wave of the pandemic. He noted that the first wave was more lethal than the second one and it was the complacency of people and slackness in vaccine manufacturing which caused more deaths during the second wave. He opined that a review of data on fatality could help India be prepared for a possible third wave. The discussion was followed by a round of questions from the audience.

Events in September 2021

The PIC Foundation Day lecture, chaired by Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC, on September 24; the fourth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series with Mr. Wajahat Habibullah; and a conversation with technocrat/author Dr. Sam Pitroda on his book 'Redesign the World: A Global Call to Action' were among the highlights of the six events held in September 2021. The other events were a PIC Adda with Mr. T.R. Doongaji on the topic, 'Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata'; an interactive discussion with the authors of the book 'Politics and Geopolitics: Decoding India's Neighbourhood Challenge'; and a Cultural Evening on the occasion of PIC's 10 Anniversary.

Lecture IV of 'India and the World's Great Religions' series: 'India's Islam A Diverse History' with Mr. Wajahat Habibullah

4th September 2021

Mr. Wajahat Habibullah, Former Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities, delivered the fourth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. The event was chaired by Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President, PIC. Prof. Pradeep Apte, PIC's Senior Fellow and Professor Emeritus, Savitribai Phule Pune University, introduced the speaker and the chairperson.

Mr. Habibullah drew parallels between Islam and other mainstream religions of India from a historical perspective. He explained what Islam meant in the Indian context and the importance of our nation in the development of this ancient religion. He presented the interpretation of Islam from the point of view of Sufism and made comparisons between the ancient Advaita concepts of 'Seen-Unseen' with the Islamic terms 'Zikr and Fikr'. Further elaborating on the spiritual journey of Islam, he termed it as a "Process of evolution over thousands of years to culminate in what is called as Complete Submission." He also discussed religious issues of contemporary importance in the Indian context, the tragedy of partition and the common destiny binding the citizens of both India and Pakistan and the deep impact of Sufism in contemporary times. The lecture concluded with a round of Q&As from the audience.

Conversation on the book, 'Redesign the World: A Global Call to Action' with author Dr. Sam Pitroda

8th September 2021

PIC had the privilege of hosting Dr. Sam Pitroda, Inventor, Entrepreneur, Development Thinker and Policy

Maker for a conversation on his book 'Redesign the World: A Global Call to Action,' with the Chair, Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, architect of India's first supercomputer and Chancellor, Nalanda University, and Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC. Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Associate Director, PIC introduced the author and the speakers. Dr. Pitroda, as we know, is famous for initiating the IT and telecom revolutions in India.

In conversation with Dr. Bhatkar, he discussed why rethinking the design of current global/international institutions was needed. He deliberated on how current systems were failing in the face of crises like Covid-19 pandemic and global climate change. Similarly, with the larger problem of inequality not yet being addressed by any global leaders, he emphasized on Global Cooperation in today's Hyper-connected world. He hinted at augmenting hyper-connectivity to extend democracy, disseminate knowledge & information, decentralize decision-making and inclusion in society. He highlighted that transparency in flow of information and blurring of borders was essential to optimally transform the world and redesign it. By giving importance to 'People' and 'Planet' over only 'Profits', he proposed the 3C Model which focuses upon – 'Collaboration, Cooperation and Cocreation'. Following the conversation, Dr. Pitroda answered questions from the audience.

Conversation on the book, 'Politics and Geopolitics: Decoding India's Neighbourhood Challenge' with authors Prof. Harsh V. Pant, Amb. Gautam Bambawale and Amb. Pinak R. Chakravarty.

15th September 2021

PIC was pleased to host Prof. Harsh V. Pant, Director, Studies and Head of Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation; Amb. Gautam Bambawale, Trustee, Pune International Centre; and Amb. Pinak R. Chakravarty, former Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh and former Ambassador to Thailand, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, in conversation with the Chair, Dr. Jayant Umranikar, former Director General of Police, Government of Maharashtra.

The authors discussed the geopolitical landscape surrounding India and brought to light the importance of the book in contemporary times, even as India pursued 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East' policies. The editor and the authors summarised chapters on nine countries in South Asia and the role of India in the emerging regional order and how the South Asian context has evolved in the past decade. They also touched upon the underlying effects of China's influence in the neighbourhood and recommended workable ways to face them.

PIC Adda with Mr. T.R. Doongaji

18th September 2021

For the latest edition on PIC Adda, PIC had the pleasure of inviting Mr. T. R. Doongaji, Advisor (Honorary), Tata Central Archives, to speak on the topic, 'Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata: An Industrialist of Another ilk.' Prof. Amitav Mallik, Chairman, Programmes Committee, PIC, was the Chair for this session.

Mr. Doongaji's presentation showed how the Tata Group still stood tall after more than 150 years since its inception. He noted how the exemplary leadership qualities of Mr Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata created a formidable foundation for the Tata Group. He discussed the philosophy preached by Mr. Tata and the generations that followed. Mr. Tata's emphasis on the principles of Righteousness, Happiness and Philanthropy has helped the group create goodwill for itself. He gave an insight of the thinking that went behind creating each of the six separate companies under the same management, by explaining the Tata Ownership model which focuses upon – 1. Create business with a larger purpose 2. Have concern for Society 3. Address environment proactively and 4. Emphasize on ethics.

Cultural Evening on the occasion of PIC's 10th Anniversary

23rd September 2021

PIC celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a cultural evening. The programme was curated by Prof. Amitav Mallik, Chairman, Programmes Advisory Committee, PIC. Kabir's *dohas* and *kirtans* were presented by Mr. Mandar Karanjkar and Ms. Dakshayani Athalye; Bharatanatyam dance was presented by Dr. Karthika Prasad and Santoor recital by Mr. Ninad Daithankar. The PIC Vice-President, Trustees and Members attended the cultural evening.

PIC'S 11th Foundation Day Video Presentation

24th September 2021

September 24 marked the 11th Foundation Day of PIC. The welcome address was given by Mr. Prashant Girbane, Director (Honorary), PIC, which was followed by an address to the community by Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC, who also Chaired the Programme.

In his address, Dr. Mashelkar noted that the PIC had provided leadership, by concentrating all the efforts of its members. The PIC had brought ideas together, which had been acted upon by the connections that

the organisation had garnered over the past decade. Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Trustee, PIC, gave an overview of PIC's first book, 'Rising to the China Challenge: Winning Through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth.' A presentation of the journey of PIC's Social Innovation Lab was made by Mr. Mandar Joshi. This was followed by the launch of PIC's new website by Dr. Mashelkar.

A video compilation of thoughts, reflecting on the completion of a successful decade of PIC was played. Fifteen Trustees, Sr. Fellows, Members and PIC staff (Mr. Prashant Girbane, Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar, Air Marshal Bhushan Gokhale, Mrs. Latika Padgaonkar, Dr. Ajit Ranade, Ms. Shilpa Phadke, Dr. Premnath Venugopalan, Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Mr. Amit Paranjpe, Ms. Swati Raje, Prof. Amitav Mallik, Ms. Kiran Pardeshi, Prof. Pradeep Apte, Amb. Gautam Bambawale and Mr. Ravi Pandit) shared their memories and experience of the organisation. Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President, PIC, shared the story of his journey with PIC. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Kelkar pointed out that PIC had its DNA rooted in the thoughts of the three renowned sons of the city - 'radical humanism' of Mahatma Phule, 'fierce patriotism' of Lokmanya Tilak and 'liberalism' of Gopal Krishna Gokhale. Ms. Lisa Pingale, Member, PIC, was the Master of Ceremony.

Events in October 2021

October was an eventful month for PIC as one of our flagship events, the Pune Dialogue on National Security (PDNS 2021), concluded successfully on 28th and 29th October. The fifth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series with Mr. Elijah Jacob; a talk with the author Mr. Jaithirth Rao on his book, 'Economist Gandhi: The Roots and The Relevance of The Political Economy of The Mahatma'; and a Panel Discussion on ,PIC's book: 'Rising to China Challenge: Winning Through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth' were held later this month. A PIC Adda on the topic, 'Carbon Neutrality: Our Gateway to Future', by Prof. Amitav Mallik also saw great response.

India and the World's Great Religions, Lecture V: 'Judaism - An Overview and Jews in India' with Mr. Elijah Jacob

8th October 2021

Mr. Elijah Jacob, former Executive Director, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for India, delivered the fifth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. The event was chaired by Dr. Latika Padgaonkar, Member, PIC and curator of the series along with Prof. Pradeep Apte.

Mr. Jacob, in his presentation, highlighted the major events in the history of Judaism. He narrated the history of Judaism, the 10 commandments followed by the community and the importance of Shabbat for Jews globally. He further explained how Jews came to India for trade and commercial purposes and where

they settled, further enriching the local communities while maintaining their distinct identity. Painting a picture of the laws of the religion and festivals celebrated, Mr. Jacob discussed how contemporary Jewish culture took shape in India and the role played by the philanthropic community in giving back to the society by building institutions for the economically deprived.

Conversation on the book, ‘Economist Gandhi: The Roots and The Relevance of The Political Economy of The Mahatma’ with author Mr. Jaithirth Rao

13th October 2021

PIC had the privilege of hosting Mr. Jaithirth Rao, Member, PIC and founder and former CEO, Mphasis, for a conversation on his book 'Economist Gandhi: The Roots and The Relevance of The Political Economy of The Mahatma,' with the Chair, Mr. Kiran Karnik, Member, PIC and Former President, NASSCOM.

Mr. Rao discussed how the questions from a century ago, like Gandhi's withdrawal of Non- Cooperation Movement after Chauri Chaura incidence and his support to the Khilafat Movement, were germane to the contemporary political discourse. He pointed that while the world viewed M. K. Gandhi as a political strategist, his intellectual contributions in other fields had gone into oblivion. Mr. Rao noted that in the book, Gandhi had been positioned as a result of diverse intellectual inputs from the ancient Hindu scriptures like Bhagwat Gita, the Ishavasya Upanishad and the Gospels of Mark and Matthew which moulded the Gandhian viewpoint and that the book attempted to highlight the lesser-known side of Mahatma Gandhi, the economist. Further elaborating on the personality of Mahatma Gandhi, his economic philosophy, Mr. Rao explained the deep western influence on him in his formative years, the ideas of Hinduism and Christianity which was blended in the prevailing Gandhian thought. The book discussion was followed by a short round of question and answers with the audience.

Panel Discussion on PIC's book, ‘Rising to the China Challenge: Winning Through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth’

21st October 2021

Mumbai University, in association with PIC, hosted a discussion on PIC's book, 'Rising to China Challenge: Winning Through Strategic Patience and Economic Growth,' with Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, President, PIC, as Guest of Honour and other authors, Amb. Gautam Bambawale, Trustee, PIC, Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Chairman 5F

World, Dr. Ajit Ranade, Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group and Prof. Ajay Shah, Co-founder, xKDR Forum in conversation with the Chair, Mr. Jayadeva Ranade, President, Centre for China Analysis and Strategy. The Panel was welcomed by Prof. Suhas Pednekar, Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai and introduced by Prof. Ravindra Kulkarni, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai. The Session was moderated by Prof. Rajesh Kharat, Dean, Humanities, University of Mumbai.

The authors briefed the audience on various aspects of India's China Challenge. A gamut of topics which included technology, demography, neighbourhood, international cooperation and economic growth was covered. The discussion was followed by a lively question and answer session.

PIC Adda: A lecture on the topic, 'Carbon Neutrality: Our Gateway to Future' by Prof. Amitav Mallik

23rd October 2021

PIC had the pleasure of inviting Prof. Amitav Mallik, Head, Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC), and Trustee, PIC, to speak at the latest edition of 'PIC Adda' on the topic, 'Carbon Neutrality: Our Gateway to Future.' Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Professor in Physics, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune, and Member, PIC, moderated the session.

Prof. Mallik in his presentation explained why carbon was of great concern. He showed statistics of the emissions and effects on the environment and the emerging great Re-arrangement globally to curb carbon emissions. He further explained the various treaties signed by the global community starting with the Montreal Protocol (1987), the Kyoto Protocol of 1997 and the landmark Paris Accords signed at the CoP Summit in 2015 and their shortcomings in contemporary times. Prof. Mallik highlighted certain policy shifts which are urgently required in the energy sector, while commending the India-led International Solar Alliance (announced during the Paris Summit in 2015) and its merits in harnessing the power of the Sun to create a 'One-Sun-One-World-One-Grid.' According to him, policy makers must take inspiration from other global leaders to formulate policies, for their nations and, he quoted the 'Green New Deal' (by US representative Alexandria Ocasio Cortez), 'Doughnut Economics' (by English economist Kate Raworth) and 'Mission Economy' (proposed by Mariana Mazzucato)

Explaining the importance of mitigation of the adverse effects that carbon emission was bound to have, Prof Mallik gave highlights of the ongoing project undertaken by the Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC) vertical of the PIC in collaboration with local government bodies, officials, industry leaders and informed citizens towards achieving 'Carbon Neutrality in Pune Metropolitan Region by 2030.'

6th Pune Dialogue on National Security 2021 (PDNS)

28th and 29th October 2021

The annual flagship conference of PIC, the Pune Dialogue on National Security (PDNS 2021), was held this month. This was the sixth dialogue organised jointly with Policy Perspective Foundation (PPF) New Delhi, The Tribune Trust, Chandigarh, and Centre for Advanced Strategic Studies (CASS), Pune.

The theme for this year's conference was 'National Security Preparedness in the Age of Disasters and Pandemics.' PDNS 2021 discussed the impact of the disasters and pandemics on India's national security and suggested strategies to deal with it.

Key sessions of the conference were, 'Disaster Risk Reduction as Part of National Security,' 'External Dimensions and Future Threats,' 'Dealing with Future Challenges – Role of Science and Technology,' and a session on 'Imperatives.'

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Vinayak Patankar was the Convener of PDNS 2021. Shri Ajit Doval, National Security Adviser, Government of India, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation gave the keynote address. Gen. N. C. Vij, former COAS and former Vice-Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), chaired the session on Disaster Risk Reduction. Shri Pradyot Halder, President, PPF, Shri K. M. Singh, Vice-President, PPF, Dr. S. R. Rao, Vice-President, Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth University, Col. (Retd.) Inderjit Singh, Chief Cyber Security Officer, Vara Technology Pvt. Ltd., Dr. Sanjay Singh, CEO, Gennova Biopharmaceuticals, Dr. Rakesh Mishra, Director, Tata Institute for Genetics and Society were panellists for three sessions of the conference. Members of NDMA, Shri Kamal Kishore, Lt. Gen. Hasnain, Shri Rajendra Singh and Dr. Krishna Vatsa, along with Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General of Meteorology, India Meteorology Department, participated in the final session on 'Imperatives.' Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog delivered the Valedictory Address in the closing session.

The national and local press gave very good coverage to this conference on both days. The event received good traction on PIC's social media handles, namely, Twitter and Facebook.

Events in November 2021

The PIC Foundation Day lecture, chaired by Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC, on September 24, the fourth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series with Mr. Wajahat Habibullah; and a conversation with technocrat/author Dr. Sam Pitroda on his book 'Redesign the World: A Global Call to Action' were among the highlights of the six events held in September 2021. The other events were a PIC Adda with Mr. T.R. Doongaji on the topic, 'Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata'; An interactive discussion with the authors of the book, 'Politics and Geopolitics: Decoding India's Neighbourhood Challenge'; and a Cultural Evening on the occasion of PIC's 10 Anniversary.

India and the World's Great Religions, Lecture VI: 'Hinduism' with Amb. Pavan Varma.

12th November 2021

Amb. Pavan Varma, author, ex-diplomat and former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) delivered the sixth lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. The event was chaired by Prof. Pradeep Apte, Professor Emeritus, Savitribai Phule Pune University.

In his fascinating lecture, Amb. Varma presented an overview of Hinduism. He spoke on the origins and timeline of the religion which has an inclusive world-view, but can be considered ideologically very opaque by outsiders as it's not formally structured. Further mentioning the references to the ancient river Saraswati in the Rig Veda, he placed the birth of this ancient religion to a time beyond 2500 BCE. Amb. Varma also discussed key concepts from texts like Upanishads, Puranas, Mahabharata, Ramayana and other seminal works such as the 6 heterodox schools of Hinduism. The 'Nishkam Karma' doctrine explained in the Bhagwat Gita, according to him, is the maxim every individual is expected to follow. He also explained the spread of the Bhakti Movement pan India from the 13th Century and how it helped democratise the Hindu religion across geographical boundaries. In conclusion, he spoke of major challenges faced in contemporary times by the Hindu religion and how we as a society can help overcome them in a peaceful manner. Amb. Varma elegantly explained the pluralistic world view adopted by the Sanatana Dharma and the inherent dilemmas it deals with. According to him, "There are no absolute principles in Hinduism and the main challenge is to choose a more prudent balancing of principles." His presentation was followed by an engaging Q&A session.

9th National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) 2021

17th and 18th November 2021

The annual flagship conference of PIC, the National Conference on Social Innovation 2021(NCSI 2021), was held this month.

Over 500 participants including CSR executives, impact investors, corporate representatives, accelerators and social innovation enthusiasts attended the conference. Mr. R. Mukundan, CEO and Managing Director of Tata Chemicals, was the chief guest and keynote speaker. Mrs. Chetna Gala Sinha, Founder Chair, Mann Deshi Bank and Mann Deshi Foundation, was the valedictory keynote speaker.

This event was preceded by the 11th Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award presentation ceremony. This year's award went to OralScan – an optical imaging multimodal device for early detection of pre-cancerous lesions in the mouth. Dr. Subhash Narayanan, Founder and CEO of Sascan Meditech, received the award and gave an inspiring presentation.

18 Social Innovators, who were finalists at the NCSI 2021, presented their social innovations to the jury comprising CSR heads, impact investors, corporate heads and accelerators.

Manipur-based Qonect, Pune-based Urdhvam Environmental Technologies and Mumbai-based Green Freedom bagged this year's Social Innovation Awards. The awards were presented online at the valedictory function.

Each winner received a cash award and will become a part of the two-year Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP). They will also have free access to the Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprises (SSC-SE) to get affordable and quality service access to more than eight service areas such as digital marketing, accounting and audit, product design, legal compliance, intellectual property rights, website development, etc.

PIC Adda

20th November 2021

PIC had the pleasure of inviting Ms. Apurva Purohit, Co-founder, Aazol Ventures, for the latest PIC Adda lecture. She spoke on the topic, 'Being a businesswoman in India – Challenges and Opportunities.' Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Professor in Physics, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune and Member, PIC, moderated the session.

The date 19th November is synonymous with Women Entrepreneurs Day. Ms. Purohit gave an overview of women's participation in the workforce and supported her talk with data. Discussing the issues faced by the women at workplace, she shared her story of rising in the corporate world and taking on challenges shoulder to shoulder with her male colleagues. She highlighted how there can be a quantum increase in global GDP levels if women participate along with men in all sectors of the economy and in India's case, there can be a 27% jump which will benefit the nation in countless ways. She mentioned the benefits of Women Entrepreneurs in achieving gender parity in the Commerce sector and how it can lead to holistic economic growth of a nation. However, some major issues faced by women in today's job market were also discussed and how they could overcome such structural problems in the long run. According to her Millennials, women role models, senior professional/ intellectual and the ongoing Digital Revolution in our nation can all act as drivers of societal change. The discussion ended with a lively round of Question-Answers from an enthusiastic audience.

Events in December 2021

Five major events were held in December, which included the National Conference on Intra-Regional Development Disparities, a PIC Conversation with Dr. Gireeja Ranade on the topic 'Engineering Curriculum Redesign,' the seventh lecture under the 'India and the World's Great Religions' series on 'Maharashtra's Bhagwat Dharma,' a PIC Adda with Ms. Manjiri Khandekar on her book 'Punyakatha: Pune's Story of a Million Years, and a formal book Launch of 'My Life's Blessings' by Mr. Arun Firodia.

National Conference on Intra-Regional Development Disparities

9th and 10th December 2021

A two-day National conference on 'Intra-Regional Development Disparities: Experiences and Policy Options' was organised in collaboration with Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE), India Development Foundation (IDF) and Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy (MSEPP).

The theme of the conference was 'Intra-Regional Development Disparity.' Indian states are grappling with the question of intra-state regional imbalances (e.g., Saurashtra, Kutch within Gujarat, Vidarbha and Marathwada in Maharashtra and Seemandhra in the newly constituted Andhra Pradesh). The conference was organised to explore out-of-the-box economic policy ideas and suggestions, novel approaches and inquiry for policy design that deals with intra-regional disparities.

The keynote address was delivered on December 9th by Dr. N.C. Saxena, former Secretary, Planning Commission of India. Dr. Urjit Patel, Chairman of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, chaired the inaugural session. The following themes were discussed at the conference: 1) Trends and determinants of intra-regional development disparities 2) Role of democratic decentralization and empowerment of local bodies 3) 'Virtual Regions' strategy for better development outcomes for tribal communities and water-stressed regions.

The valedictory address was given by Dr. Junaid Ahmad, Country Director, World Bank. Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice President, Pune International Centre chaired the valedictory session.

PIC Conversation with Dr. Gireeja Ranade, Assistant Teaching Professor, EECS, University of California at Berkeley

14th December 2021

PIC was honoured to host Dr. Gireeja Ranade, Assistant Teaching Professor, EECS (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), University of California at Berkeley as the speaker and Dr. Anirban Dasgupta, N. Rama Rao Chair Professor, Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Gandhinagar, as the discussant on the topic 'Engineering Curriculum Redesign.' Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Professor in Physics at Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) and Member, PIC, was the Chair. Ms. Shilpa Phadke, Member, PIC, introduced the panel.

The Chair, Dr. Kale in her opening remarks, brought to light the features of new National Education Policy of India and briefly explained the implications of adapting to it. Dr. Ranade gave an overview of the enrolment of the students from various backgrounds in the engineering field and stressed on the importance of learning engineering before becoming a domain expert. She brought to light solution-based ideas that could be adopted while redesigning the engineering curriculum to train students to take on challenges of the future. She highlighted the need for rethinking the approach to teaching.

Dr. Dasgupta spoke about the designed curriculum for engineering in the Indian context. He elaborated on the process of designing courses in new institutions, using the example of IIT Gandhinagar, where he himself is engaged in laying out the curriculum based on feedback. Both the panelists shared their views on what was being done in their respective institutions to promote inter-disciplinary knowledge among its students and how they could strike the right balance between practical learning and theoretical understanding so as to emerge as successful professionals in the future. They also stressed upon the growing importance of studying subjects like Management, Finance and Accountancy and how today's institutions can incorporate these subjects in their present syllabus. Dr. Ranade & Dr. Dasgupta acknowledged the

efforts undertaken in formulating the New Education Policy of 2020 to usher in a new era of education for our nations youth. The discussion was followed by a round of Q&A's from the audience.

PIC Adda on the book, 'Punyakatha: Pune's Story of a Million Years' with author Ms. Manjiri Khandekar

20th December 2021

Ms. Manjiri Khandekar, Managing Director, Heritage India Communications Pvt Ltd. and Member, PIC, was invited as the guest speaker at PIC Adda to speak on the book 'Punyakatha: Pune's Story of a Million Years.' This beautifully produced coffee table book with fun-filled activities for children has been produced by her firm. The session was moderated by Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Director, PIC.

Ms. Khandekar gave a power point presentation on the book and explained how there were many interesting sites within and outside Pune which were not known to people. The book captures the history of Pune through the millennia and gives an idea of the people and places that have shaped the history, culture and heritage of this extraordinary city. She spoke of some places which have the potential to become popular tourist spots but have been neglected by public and the government alike. The session was enriched by an engaging round of questions and answers.

India and the World's Great Religions, Lecture VII: 'Maharashtra's Bhagwat Dharma'

21st December 2021

Eminent scholar, writer, poet, playwright, critic, historian and kirtankar, Prof. Sadanand More, delivered the seventh lecture in PIC's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. The event was chaired by Prof. Pradeep Apte, Professor Emeritus, Savitribai Phule Pune University and Senior Fellow, PIC. This lecture was organised as a part of the discussion on the Bhakti Movement in India. Prof. More discussed the evolution of Maharashtra's Bhagwat Dharma, synonymous with the Warkari Sampradaya.

He discussed interpretations by various scholars such as Dr. R.G. Bhandarkar, Vishwanath Kashinath Rajwade, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Mahadev Govind Ranade among others. He spoke of the spiritual quest of the followers of the Bhagwat Dharma and explained the origins of the term "Bhagwat" and drew distinctions between acceptance of the Bhagwat Purana and the Warkari Sampradaya, both being separately accepted as representations of Bhagwat Dharma. Prof. More highlighted that collective worship,

anti-discrimination on all fronts, simplicity and close connection with God were the concepts at the core of the Bhagwat Dharma.

Prof. More also explained how the Bhagwat Dharma had laid the foundations of Swarajya for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, thereby influencing the future of Maharashtra and India in a much larger way than was accepted previously.

In his remarks, Prof. Pradeep Apte thanked Prof. More for bringing out very interesting features of this religious movement stretching over eight centuries. The session saw an interesting round of questions from the audience.

Book Launch of 'My Life's Blessings' by Mr. Arun Firodia

23rd December 2021

'My Life's Blessings,' a book by Mr. Arun Firodia, Chairman, Kinetic Group, was launched at the PIC. The online event saw an engaging discussion with PIC President Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar who presided over the event and Mr. Ravi Pandit, co-founder and Chairman, KPIT Technologies, in the chair, Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Director of the PIC, highlighted at the presence of these three stalwarts in the field of technology, making the event a special one. His introduction of Mr. Firodia was a fitting description of his illustrious life.

Everyone on the panel had warm memories of the Kinetic Luna, the first moped that Kinetic introduced in India back in 1972. Mr. Pandit had similar feelings about the authors approach to life. He described the book, as emanating warmth out of every page, and the stories felt like the readers were invited into the walls of their home to be a part of their lives. Mr. Firodia, an engineer with distinction, innovator, philanthropist and trustee, PIC, said the book is not an autobiography but rather a collection of commemorative events of his life. He was full of gratitude for all the blessings in his life, especially the inspiring legacy of his parents. He said it was this that inspired him to strive for greater heights in addition to the inherent love for technology that he possessed since childhood.

The event proceeded with a friendly chat between Mr. Pandit and Mr. Firodia, who have been friends for decades. Mr. Firodia finally ended the event with his pearls of wisdom for young and budding entrepreneurs, wisdom which he had gained from a lifetime of experience.

Events in January 2022

Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, retired Judge of the Hon. Supreme Court of India, graced PIC with his presence. He spoke on the topic: 'Zoroastrianism Through the Ages' under the eighth India and The World's Great Religions series. The other programme included the inaugural Pune Samwad on the book, 'The Hundred Year Marathon: China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower.'

India and the World's Great Religions, Lecture VIII: 'Zoroastrianism Through the Ages'

13th January 2022

Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, eminent judge of the Supreme Court of India who retired recently, delivered the eighth lecture in Pune International Centre's 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. The event was chaired by Ms. Anu Aga, member PIC and former chairperson of Thermax Global.

Justice Nariman, who has authored 'The Inner Fire' — a comprehensive analysis and explanation of the Gathas, the most sacred text of the Zoroastrian faith, explained the origins of the monotheistic faith. He spoke of the significance of the 238 hymns, or the Gathas, which have come down through the ages and explained the fundamental teachings of Zarathustra. Justice Nariman presented a broad overview and gave the historical context as the religion made a mark under rulers such as Cyrus the Great, the founder of the Achaemenid Empire and Ardashir Papakan, the founder of the Persian Sassanian Empire. He explained the influence of Zoroastrianism on Judaism and Christianity which is evident even today.

He narrated the story of how the religion reached the Indian subcontinent, the history of the Parsi community since their settlement in India and the issues they have faced.

This illuminating lecture was followed by a lively Q&A session. Ms. Aga thanked Justice Nariman for bringing to light the complexities of the Zoroastrian faith. She said his knowledge of the subject was so profound that he delivered the lecture extempore. This was one of the most popular lectures at the PIC drawing more than 600 views on YouTube at the last count.

Pune Samwad on the book, 'The Hundred Year-Marathon: China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower'

31st January, 2022

The inaugural session of PIC's programme of conversations/discussions in Marathi, Pune Samwad, was launched on 31st January. The programme was chaired by Amb. Sudhir Devare, Member, PIC and India's first Ambassador to Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia. It featured a discussion on Michael Pillsbury's book, 'The Hundred Year Marathon: China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower'. PIC's founder member and trustee Mr Anil Supanekar.

Dr Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President made the opening remarks and spoke on the thought behind the new initiative. At the outset, Mr Abhay Vaidya, Director, PIC, welcomed all and gave a brief idea about the PIC. The programme was compered by Ms. Swati Raje, member, PIC who will be curating this series along with Mrs. Hema Devare, author and Mr Supanekar.

Ambassador Devare, highlighted the rising bilateral tensions between USA and China and its spillover effects on geopolitics and said this book was a timely reminder for all observers to understand the psyche behind China's phenomenal rise in both the economic and strategic spheres.

Mr. Anil Supanekar explained the two major themes running through the book: China's role in competing for the numero uno position on the global stage and the CIA's clandestine hand as a background player. The author, Mr. Michael Pillsbury with his deep understanding of the Chinese system of governance and Intra-party affairs presents a fascinating account of China's leadership from Mao Zedong to the incumbent Mr. Xi Jinping's vision of establishing the People's Republic of China as the next superpower. The distinguished speakers also touched upon the implications for India amidst China's emergence as a superpower and its dynamic equations with the US. The discussion was followed by a round of Q&A from the audience.

Events in February 2022

The Pune International Centre hosted the annual Asia Economic Dialogue, in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. A panel discussion on the Union Budget 2022 was organised by the PIC, along with a book discussion webinar on 'The Rise of the BJP'. The Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC) vertical hosted a virtual conference titled 'Decade of Change: India in the Climate Challenged World', and the second Pune Samwad was a tribute to Smt. Lata Mangeskar, Bharat Ratna awardee.

Panel Discussion on the Union Budget 2022

5th February, 2022

On 5th February, PIC held its annual discussion and analysis of the Union Budget 2022 presented by the Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, in the Lok Sabha on 1st February. The discussion was chaired by Dr. Ajit Ranade, the newly-appointed Vice-Chancellor of Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics. The panellists included Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty, Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP); Prof. Subhashis Gangopadhyay, Research Director, India Development Foundation (IDF), New Delhi; Prof. Partha Ray, Director, National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM) and Dr. Dilip Kajale, Faculty, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics. The event was moderated by Dr. Vishal Gaikwad, Faculty, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics.

Dr. Ranade explained the mechanism of the annual financial statement and said that the budget, with a total outlay of Rs. 39.5 lakh crores was truly ambitious. It was designed with eye on the ground realities of the disastrous Covid-19 Pandemic which had a deep impact on the economy. The accent on capital expenditure with a modest increase in spending and introduction of novel concepts like sovereign green bonds, kisan drone technology, national policy on battery swapping and the central bank digital currency were the highlights of this budget, according to him.

Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty explained the long-term trends and the key issue and challenges for the government's fiscal consolidation strategy. He also spoke of tax revenues, their sustainability and the transfer of central funds to states and its impact on cooperative federalism.

Dr. Dilip Kajale focused on agriculture and its allied sectors, various provisions made to improve crop yields, income levels from non-agricultural sectors like animal husbandry and ensure last mile delivery of essential commodities to farmers. With a renewed focus on renewable energy for agriculture, schemes like PM-KUSUM, were given a boost. He said, "Precision agriculture and climate resilient agriculture demand more expenditure on R&D."

On a cautionary note, he said better execution of schemes is critical for healthy and sustainable food systems.

Prof. Partha Ray focused on the macroeconomics of the budget, its focus on capital expenditure and infrastructure and how public investments could help initiate an investment multiplier effect.

Prof. Subhashis Gangopadhyay appreciated the budget's focus on employment generation and spoke of the public digital infrastructure for central bank digital currency. The panel discussion was followed by a round of questions from the audience.

Book Discussion Webinar on 'The Rise of the BJP'

21st February, 2022

The newly-published book, 'The Rise of the BJP: The Making of The World's Largest Political Party', was discussed with well-known journalist Mr. Girish Kuber, Editor, LokSatta, along with the book's co-authors Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Union Cabinet Minister of Labour and Employment, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Dr. Ila Patnaik, Former Principal Economic Advisor to the GoI. This session was chaired by Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Member of Parliament and former Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Various aspects of the rise of the BJP from the first electoral victory of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in 1951-52 with 3 seats, to the 303 seats in the 2019 elections under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi were discussed in this webinar. The speakers discussed BJP's 'Nation First' motto, the philosophy of 'Antyodaya' as explained by Deendayal Upadhyay and the contribution made by various leaders in the 70-year journey of the BJP.

The co-author Dr. Ila Patnaik spoke of the party's complete transformation post-2004 general elections into its present form. Issues of strained centre-state relations, BJP's claims to attempting "biggest, tallest, largest..." projects, plans and programmes and the Modi government's motto: '*Sabka saath, sabka vikas aur sabka prayas*,' were among the issues discussed. The webinar was enriched by questions from the audience.

The Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) 2022

23rd-25th February 2022

The Asia Economic Dialogue, 2022, one of PIC's flagship events organised jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs, received an excellent response and was extensively covered by the media. Held over three days under the theme, "Resilient Global Growth in a Post-Pandemic World," the event saw distinguished

speakers from 16 nations participated in the 11 sessions of the conference. There were more than 1,600 registrations, 1000+ attendees and widespread outreach through the print media, TV stations, online and social media.

At the inaugural session, the discussion with the External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar, Dr. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health, Sri Lanka and Mr. Lyonpo Namgay Tshering, Finance Minister, Bhutan, was moderated by the AED 2022 convener, Amb. Gautam Bambawale.

The Fireside Chat between Mr. Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and MD, Reliance Industries Ltd. and Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC on the topic, 'Green Energy for a Sustainable Future' was very well received and extensively reported by the media.

The discussions at the conference focused on the pandemic's impact on all economic spheres of Asian and world economies and strategies to move forward in the post-pandemic period.

The valedictory address was delivered by union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and the session was chaired by Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President, PIC. Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, was among the prominent speakers at the conference. The video link to all the sessions will be available on the PIC website and on YouTube.

Conference: 'Decade of Change: India in the Climate Challenged World'

18th and 19th February 2022

The Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC) vertical hosted a virtual conference titled 'Decade of Change: India in the Climate Challenged World' on 18th and 19th February 2022. Prof. Amitav Mallik, Trustee, PIC, was the convener of this conference.

Mr. Ravi Pandit, Trustee, PIC and Co-Founder and Chairman, KPIT Technologies, gave the keynote address and Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Delhi delivered the valedictory address.

The conference with four online sessions featured 21 distinguished speakers. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC and Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President, PIC, presented the concluding remarks on the first and second day of the conference, respectively.

Building upon the PIC Climate Economic Conference held in January 2021, this year's conference explored the vision for a 'new future' in a de-carbonised world. The conference sought to provide momentum to restoring humanity's relationship with nature. It highlighted the 'changes' required for creating an environmentally friendly and environmentally responsible world.

The conference aimed at bringing together scholars, experts, economists, environmentalists, businessmen, concerned citizens and youth voices to address these pressing issues of our times. It included themes like 'India's challenges and opportunities in this decade,' 'Converting promises to action' and 'Climate action pathways to 2050.' The concluding session was a panel discussion on 'Targets India should set for 2030.'

PIC Samvad: 'Tribute to Smt. Lata Mangeshkar, Bharat Ratna'

26th February, 2022

The second episode of 'Pune Samvad,' PIC's programme in Marathi, took place on February 26 with a tribute to late Smt. Lata Mangeshkar. This event was anchored by Ms. Swati Raje, Member, PIC. Panellists included the famous classical vocalist, Ms. Arati Ankalikar-Tikekar, Pt. Sanjeev Abhyankar, renowned Hindustani classical vocalist Ms. Sulbha Ternikar, a senior film critic, Mr. Kishor Sarpotdar, proprietor, Poona Guest House, Mr. Jayant B. Joshi, artist and son of Late Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Bharat Ratna, Dr. Veena Deo, daughter of eminent writer Go. Ni. Dandekar and Dr. Shrikant Kelkar, eminent ophthalmologist. Touching memories of personal interactions with Lata didi were shared by all the panellists and by Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, who delivered the concluding remarks.

Events in March 2022

The Pune International Centre hosted a wide range of events in March. There was a discussion on the Russia-Ukraine Crisis with a group of experts, an interactive webinar on 'India's New Growth Model' with Dr. Ejaz Ghani and the 9th lecture in the series India and the World's Great Religions on the topic, Travels and Teachings of Gurunanak. Further, the PIC Adda on 'The Quantum State and Her Tantalising Veiled Visage,' a Round Table on 'Industry 4.0: India's Roadmap to Global Leadership' and a book discussion on 'Price of the Modi Years' were some major events held.

Discussion: 'Russia-Ukraine Crisis: Where is it Heading and Implications for India'

10th March 2022

A discussion on 'Russia-Ukraine Crisis: Where is it Heading and Implications for India' was organised with Amb. Sudhir Devare, India's first ambassador to Ukraine and Member, PIC. The other participants

included, Air Marshal Bhushan Gokhale, former Vice Chief of Air Staff and trustee, PIC; Lt. Gen. Vinayak G. Patankar, former GOC-in-C, 15 Corps and trustee, PIC and Mr. Yogesh Joshi, Director, Representative Office, Serum Institute of India (Moscow). The discussion was chaired by Amb. Gautam Bambawale, former Indian ambassador to China, Pakistan and Bhutan and trustee, PIC.

The discussion touched upon the history of Russia-Ukraine relations, the geostrategic importance of Ukraine and the conflict over Ukraine's desire to join the NATO. While the former diplomats highlighted the failure of diplomacy that led to the Russian attack on Ukraine, Lt. Gen. Vinayak G. Patankar and Air Marshal Bhushan Gokhale explained the nature of the battle on the ground. Mr. Yogesh Joshi presented a macro-overview of the Russian economy, the effects of sanctions and how the business community would have to adjust to the new post-conflict situation. The basis of India's support to Russia, its abstentions from the voting in the UN and its success in evacuating thousands of Indians, primarily medical students in Ukraine, was discussed at length during the discussion which included a lively round of Q&As.

PIC Webinar: 'India's New Growth Model'

15th March 2022

Dr. Ejaz Ghani, former Lead Economist, World Bank, and Senior Fellow, Pune International Centre, was on a visit to India and was hosted by the PIC in Pune. He delivered a lecture on 'India's New Growth Model' with Dr. Gurudas Nulkar, Head, Symbiosis Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability, as a discussant and Dr. Niranjan Rajadhyaksha, CEO and Senior Fellow, Artha India Research Advisors, in the chair.

Dr. Ghani, in his hour-long discussion, gave a brief overview of India's economic growth, its reliance on the Service sector and the long-term dividends that the Digital Revolution. He noted that unlike China which focused on a Manufacturing-centric growth pattern, India's economic growth was fueled by the Services sector. The 3T's: Technology, Transportability and Tradability have enabled rapid globalisation of Services from India. He spoke of the rich opportunity for economic growth that this model holds for India in the future.

Dr. Ghani concluded that three key priorities would help India achieve its economic goals: scaling up investments in human and physical infrastructure; reducing the digital divide and providing space to civil society and global governance organisations to play a vital role in nation building. The discussion was followed by a round of Questions from the audience.

India and the World's Great Religions, Lecture IX: 'The Travels and Teaching of Guru Nanak'

16th March 2022

Former diplomat, Amb. Navtej Sarna, delivered the ninth lecture in the 'India and the World's Great Religions' series. This event was chaired by Mr. Shrinivasrao Sohoni, former Secretary to the President of India, and a member of PIC.

Amb. Sarna, who has authored a number of books on Sikhism, presented a historical context, emphasising that Guru Nanak's impact has been very recent, and his message is fresh. He spoke of Guru Nanak's four 'Udasis' (journey in the sense of detachment), which sprawled in all four directions, and how the message behind these travels was simple. That there is one God, who is the creator of creations, and all of us should journey inwards, and accept creations, instead of running from them.

During the talk, Amb Sarna discussed many of Guru Nanak's discourses and intellectual enquiries and spoke of religious gatherings like the 'Sangat' and 'Pangat', where people gathered irrespective of religion, caste, or economic differences, and, the origin of the famous 'Langar'.

The session was enriched by a number of questions from the audience.

PIC Adda on 'The Quantum State and Her Tantalising Veiled Visage'

19th March, 2022

PIC Adda in March featured Prof. G Raghavan, Director of the School of Quantum Technology, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune. He spoke about the ideas of the physical world that existed prior to modern science, including theories from ancient Indian, Hellenistic, Babylonian and Chinese civilisations. Ideas of physics travelled through the world and were brought to Europe after the Dark Ages, with theories and experiments by scientists like Sir Isaac Newton. Dr. Raghavan deliberated on the dual nature of light, speaking about its wave and particle natures, with an experiment demonstrating the behaviour of the smallest unit of light, the photon. He also elaborated on the postulates of the quantum theory and spoke of the applications of the quantum theory, especially in military technologies for location services. The session was moderated by Dr. Sangeeta Kale, Professor of Physics, DIAT, and Member, PIC.

Round Table on 'Industry 4.0: India's Roadmap to Global Leadership'

23rd March 2022

A Round Table on, 'Industry 4.0: India's Roadmap to Global Leadership' was held under PIC's 'Science, Technology and National Innovation Ecosystem' vertical. A paper on the subject was presented by Dr. Aravind Chinchure, Senior Fellow, PIC, CEO, Deshpande Startups and founder, Q Leap Academy.

The session was chaired by Dr Raghunath Mashelkar, President, PIC and the discussants included Ms. Rujuta Jagtap, Executive Director, SAJ Test Plant Pvt Ltd, Dr. Ejaz Ghani, former Lead Economist, World Bank and Senior Fellow, PIC, and PIC members Mr. Madhukar Kotwal, ex-President, Heavy Engineering & Whole time Director, Larsen & Toubro, and Mr Amit Paranjape, Co-Founder, ReliScore.com

Dr. Chinchure spoke of India's blueprint for a US\$ 40 trillion economy by 2047, and gave a brief background of the roles of the previous three industrial revolutions in the world economy. He described the big picture surrounding India's roadmap by breaking it down into smaller goals. He spoke of the transformational opportunities for India from this revolution.

Ms. Rujuta Jagtap spoke from the perspective of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME's) and stressed on the need for MSMEs to adapt to the new technology and industry 4.0. She pointed out the challenges to MSME's seamless adaptation to industry 4.0 and the possible solutions for the same.

Dr. Ejaz Ghani commented upon the goals of industry 4.0 for India and the urgency for the scaling up of investments in both physical and human infrastructure to make India well prepared for this revolution. He stressed on the need for proper management and utilization of the youth bulge in India.

Mr. Kotwal spoke about the crucial questions of social and environmental inclusivity while highlighting the inequality that persists today. He explained that India ranked very low on metrics of equality on multiple fronts, which should make the country think about where the next industrial revolution should take us, economically, socially, and environmentally.

Mr Paranjape drew attention to the importance of the hardware infrastructure that was crucial to development in the new industrial model and emphasised that this is an area where the large industries and governments could help in self-sufficiency of the economy in terms of physical infrastructure.

A lively round of Q & As followed the discussion.

Book Discussion on 'Price of the Modi Years'

29th March 2022

'Price of the Modi Years,' a book authored by the well-known journalist Mr. Aakar Patel, former Chair, Amnesty International (India), was discussed in depth on March 29. The event was chaired by PIC's Vice-President, Dr. Vijay Kelkar, and moderated by Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Director, PIC.

Mr. Patel presented data and highlighted the decline in key social, economic and political indicators, the politics of polarisation and the new direction charted by the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He touched upon issues of poverty, unemployment, expansion of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), 2005 and the notable improvement in road infrastructure pan India. He spoke of the rise of the BJP, its performance in the UP elections and its bright prospects for the next general elections in 2024. The discussion was enriched by the discussion with the audience over their questions.



Pune International Centre's Social Innovation Lab

One of Pune International Centre's focus areas is Social Innovation Lab (SI Lab) which undertakes initiatives to foster Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship:

National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI)

Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP)

Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprise (SSC-SE)

Expert Talk Sessions

Policy Papers and Blogs

National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI):

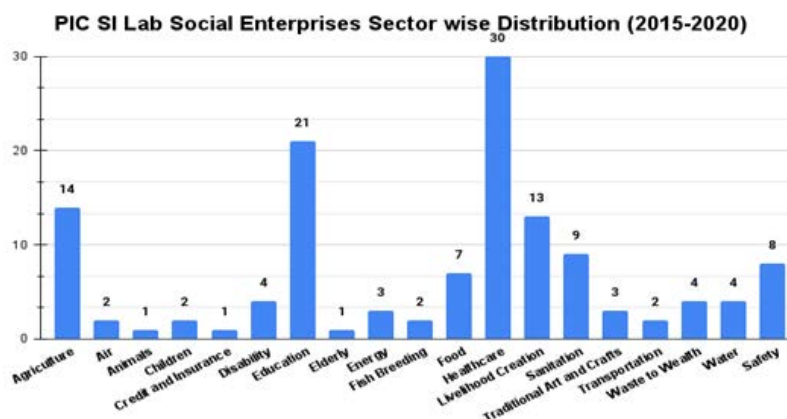
PIC in association with National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) has been organising the National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) annually since 2013. This National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) takes place on 17th November in Pune. So far we have organised nine national conferences and innovators also get to showcase their work and network with leading CSR/ Grants & Donor agencies/ Accelerators/ Impact Investors.

This programme runs pan India and offers the following:

- Cash prize of INR 50,000/- to the winners of each category (tribal, rural, urban)
- Opportunity to be a part of the 2-year mentorship programme
- Showcase and network with leading CSR officers/ accelerators/ impact investors

Since 2013, PIC SI Lab has provided a platform to 168 Social Enterprises to showcase their innovations to various impact investors, CSRs, and corporates at nine National Conferences on Social Innovation so far. The 10th National Conference on Social Innovation will be on the 17th November 2022.

Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP) was launched in 2017 and a total of 68 social innovators have benefited from



this programme till date. Ten Mentors spend more than 300+ hours for 6 to 8 months on a pro-bono basis every year to mentor the Social Innovators.

Each Mentor: 3 to 4 mentees

Mentoring Meetings scheduled: weekly/bi-weekly

Total Duration: 2 years

Phase 1: 6 months intense mentoring sessions

Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprises (SSC-SE)

This is an online market space for social innovators and service providers to connect and avail these services from anywhere. Free access is provided to services such as Digital Marketing, Website Development, Export Import Documentation, Intellectual Property Rights, Legal Compliance, Facilitating Funding and Pitch deck and 2D/ 3D Animation Videos. This is an on-going programme and since January 2021 38 Social Innovators have been supported with 69 services.

Expert Talk Session

Under this initiative, sessions with experts and successful entrepreneurs from various domains are organised for the benefit of the Social Innovation Lab community. The sole purpose of this once-a-month session is to educate, inspire and motivate the budding innovators and entrepreneurs. More than 150 social innovators have benefited from these sessions.

Sessions were held on the following topics since Jan 2021:

- Understanding your customer and your market- inputs to strategy
- Ideation Tools and Application
- Taxation for Start-Ups
- SWOT Analysis & Business Model Canvas
- How to Build Your Network to Help Grow your Business

Policy Papers and Blogs

The SI Lab publishes two research/policy papers every year. The team, along with the mentors, has also initiated a series of blogs to increase awareness on Social Innovation/entrepreneurship. We publish three blogs every year.

Publications

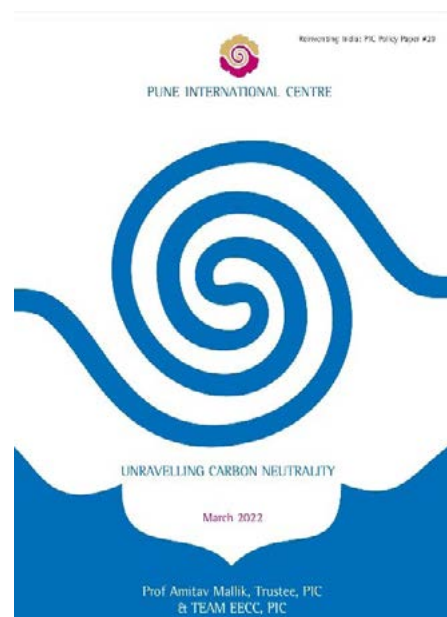


Study of Emerging Patterns of Social Enterprises

In the contemporary era, the world is not only in need of innovation but also social innovation. This paper examines forty-four social innovation start-ups based in eight different states in India. The objective of this paper is to assess the effects of social innovation. This paper aims to address questions about how social innovation start-ups benefit society and the genesis of innovation in terms of role and organization. It also explains the problems faced by the forty-four social innovation start-ups and their future goals. The research for this project involved the selection of social innovation start-ups that benefited from the program 'Social Innovation Lab' run by Pune International Centre (PIC). Detailed semi-structured interviews were carried out with key stakeholders who were paid staff, and founders. The paper concludes with a description of how social innovation start-ups are functioning and what measures should be undertaken in order to strengthen the aforementioned startups.

Unravelling Carbon Neutrality

Disasters will increase both in frequency and scale due to climate change. Poor and developing countries, especially, will be most adversely affected and least able to cope with the predicted stress on social, economic and ecological systems. This paper aims to understand the nuances of carbon neutrality. It tries to explain why carbon neutrality matters, some frequently thought questions about it, to promote the scientific knowledge surrounding it and put forth how we can convert it into action in our own lives. The paper examines the impacts of climate change, the imbalance in the carbon cycle and its consequences, climate action, accelerating carbon neutrality with systemic changes and the urgency to address climate change and other environmental issues.





Industry 4.0: A Roadmap for India's Global Leadership

In the present day, India has the unique opportunity to prepare ahead and lead in the fourth industrial revolution. Will India grab this once-in-the-century opportunity to propel the country into a prosperous nation? The answer is "yes" if I listen to the voices of India's industry leaders, entrepreneurs and aspirational youth. We need to achieve steady growth in the GDP for the next 25 years to realise our aspirations, and the development has to be inclusive and sustainable. For this, we need (bold) ideas and a well-thought roadmap and focused execution to make India globally competitive and a leader in the fourth industrial revolution. This paper proposes a three-step roadmap and a framework to achieve rapid, inclusive and sustainable economic growth by applying the principles of Industry 4.0.

Strategies to Remove India's Dependence on China; Generate Investments and Employment

In the present day, India has the unique opportunity to prepare ahead and lead in the fourth industrial revolution. Will India grab this once-in-the-century opportunity to propel the country into a prosperous nation? The answer is "yes" if I listen to the voices of India's industry leaders, entrepreneurs and aspirational youth. We need to achieve steady growth in the GDP for the next 25 years to realise our aspirations, and the development has to be inclusive and sustainable. For this, we need (bold) ideas and a well-thought roadmap and focused execution to make India globally competitive and a leader in the fourth industrial revolution. This paper proposes a three-step roadmap and a framework to achieve rapid, inclusive and sustainable economic growth by applying the principles of Industry 4.0.





A 2020 Vision of India's Farm Market Reforms

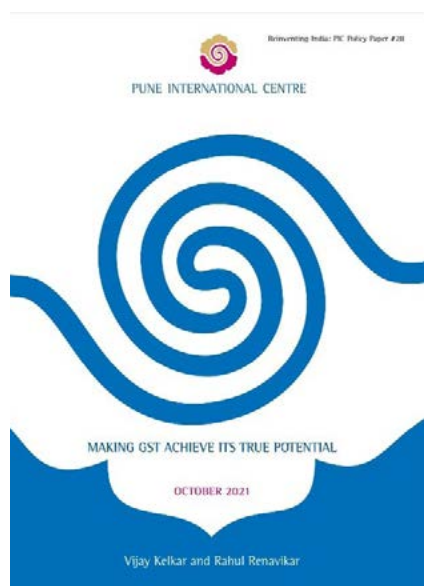
Historically, the Central Government in India has played a role with announcements of minimum support prices (MSP) for crops. However, these initiatives had their unintended consequences. APMC markets became monopolies, preventing remunerative price realization by farmers. Eventually, the Central Government could not commit itself to buying farm produce at MSP from all farmers except perhaps from a few States such as Punjab and Haryana. Therefore, it is necessary to find alternatives to generate remunerative prices for the farmers. Given this context, this paper aims to explain the institutional structure of the Indian farm markets and the sequential policy reforms initiated over the past few decades, including the latest farm market Acts introduced in 2020. This paper argues that through the latest Acts, the Government has got the 'science' of

the farm market reforms right. However, it needs to hone the 'art' of the policy implementation through staggered reforms in various commodity groups within the agricultural sector.

Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme: Evaluation and The Way Forward

The Government of India would like to see substantial production growth in the technology sectors aiming for the goal of 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. However, the In Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme announced by the government in multiple stages since April 2020 has not caught due attention by the media. This paper aims to evaluate the multiple facets of the PLI Scheme and provide useful recommendations for the path ahead. As of today, the total incentive expected to be disbursed on all the PLI sub-schemes would amount close to a whopping 2 lakh crore, i.e., 2 trillion or \$27 billion in the coming five years (PIB, 2020). Such incentive, a euphemism for subsidy, is supposed to lower the cost for the firms. As identified in the PLI scheme notifications, absence of competitiveness of Indian products is on account of high cost of finance and power; unavailability of quality power; inadequacy of infrastructure, domestic supply chain and logistics; and limited capabilities in design, skills, and Research and Development (R&D).





Making GST Achieve its True Potential

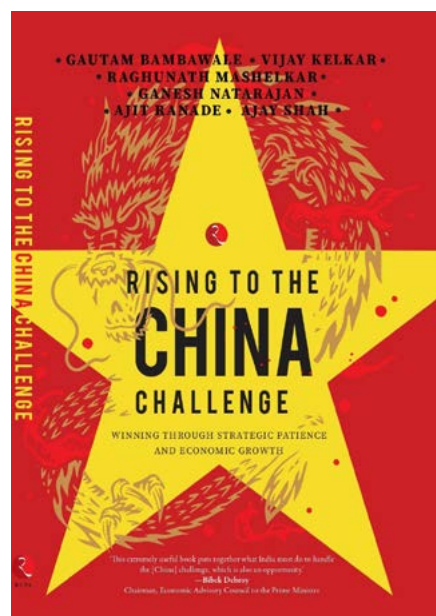
The GST implemented by India, though simple as compared to the erstwhile indirect taxes' regime, has been categorised as an unnecessarily complex system. This paper suggests a number of proposals that can make the India GST a simple one, paving the way for reducing the compliance burden on the taxpayers and enhancing the tax buoyancy of the overall revenues by simplifying the GST structure and procedures. By adopting the suggested best international practices, India can play a pivotal role in becoming a dominant player in the global value chain and accelerate economic growth as the refined GST will attract new investments, create employment opportunities and make our economy a counter magnet to China. This Policy paper proposes reforms related to the following six key areas:

1. Widening of the GST net, 2. Re-looking at the GST rate structure, 3. Easing the GST compliance 4. Bringing uniformity in interpretation of GST law and procedures ,5. Setting up of an independent National GST Secretariat and 6. Extending the levy of compensation cess up to 2025. With these reforms our GST system will achieve its true potential.

PIC's first book, 'Rising to the China Challenge'

This is the first book from the Pune International Centre policy research think tank.

The book presents the view that India's China stance has to irreversibly change. It sketches elements of a strategy that coheres and unifies, rather than compartmentalizes economic, diplomatic and geopolitical aspects of the relationship. It recognizes the need to build strong coalitions with partners who have aligned objectives. In the longer term, a domestic economy energised by strategic patience and high sustainable growth is the appropriate new framework. Coalitions, calm confrontation, continuous growth is the recommended new China strategy.



Finance

Income & expenditure for the year ending 31st March 2022

FY 2020-21 Amt (Rs)	EXPENDITURE	Sch	Amount Rs.	FY 2020-21 Amt (Rs)	INCOME	Sch	Amount Rs.
	<i>To Expenditure in respect of properties</i>				<i>By Rent</i>		-
	- Rates, taxes, cesses		-		<i>By Interest</i>		-
	- Repairs and Maintenance		-		- on securities		-
	- Salaries		-		- on loans		-
	- Insurance		-	11,69,847.35	- on bank account		4,80,997.00
	- Depreciation		-				
	(by way or provision or adjustments)				<i>By Dividend</i>		-
	- Other expenses		-		<i>By Donations in cash or kind</i>		-
56,17,359.13	<i>To Establishment Expenses</i> [As per Schedule 4]	4	55,41,475.60		<i>By Grants</i>		-
	<i>To Remuneration to trustees</i>		-	21,96,888.00	<i>By Income from other sources</i>		
	<i>To Remuneration (in the case of a math)</i>			2,500.00	- Annual Membership Fees		21,63,395.41
	<i>to the head of the math, including his household expenditure, if any</i>		-	7,793.00	- Scrap Sale		-
				28,80,212.00	- Others		26,307.80
97,500.00	<i>To Legal expenses</i>		1,23,000.00		<i>By Transfer from Social Programme Fund</i>	1	80,00,106.00
25,000.00	<i>To Audit fees</i>		25,000.00				
	<i>To contribution and fees</i>		-				
	<i>To Amount written off</i>						
	(a) Bad debts		-				
	(b) Loan scholarships		-				
	(c) Irrecoverable rents		-				
	(d) Other items		-				
	<i>To Miscellaneous Expenses</i>		-				
1,42,520.08	<i>To Depreciations</i>	2	1,49,166.30				
	<i>To Amounts transferred to Reserve or specific funds</i>		-				
	<i>To Expenditure on objects of the Trust</i>						
	(a) Religious		-				
	(b) Educational		-				
	(c) Medical relief		-				
	(d) Relief of poverty		-				
59,72,176.38	(e) Other charitable objects [As per Schedule 5]	5	74,04,438.04	55,97,315.24	<i>By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet</i> [Excess of Expenditure over Income]		25,72,273.73
1,18,54,555.59	Total		1,32,43,079.94	1,18,54,555.59	Total		1,32,43,079.94

Dated 11/06/22 at Pune

As per our report of even date

For Pune International Centre
Trustees




For G.D.Apte & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration No.100515W

Firm Registration No.100515W
Sanjeet Kulkarni
Partner
Membership No.132708




Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2022

FY 2020-21 Amount (Rs)	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Sch	Amount Rs.	Amount Rs.	FY 2020-21 Amount (Rs)	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Sch	Amount Rs.	Amount Rs.
8,71,15,653.21	Trust Funds or Corpus Balance as per last balance-sheet Add: Corpus contributions (Directly Credited)		8,71,15,653.21			Immovable properties			-
			33,00,000.00	9,04,15,653.21		Investments			-
	Other earmarked funds (Created under the provisions of the trust-deed or scheme or out of the income) - Depreciation Fund - Sinking Fund - Reserve Fund - Any other Fund - [Social Programme Fund] - [Building Fund] [As per Schedule 1]			-		Movable Assets Furniture and fixtures [As per Schedule 2]	2	1,71,726.30	
96,10,329.00				-	4,89,458.59	Others [As per Schedule 2]	2	3,50,245.99	5,21,972.29
		1	86,51,223.00	1,56,51,223.00		Loans (secured or unsecured) - Good/doubtful Loan Scholarships Other loans		-	-
		1	70,00,000.00			Advances - To Trustees To employees To contractor To lawyers To others [As per Schedule 3]		-	-
50,178.67	Loans (Secured or Unsecured) From Trustee From others			-		Cash and Bank Balances Cash in Hand with Accounts Executive			38,159.00
	Liabilities For expenses For advances For rent or other deposits For sundry credit balances			-	55,46,795.78	Balances with IDBI Bank & State Bank of India in Current & Savings Account in the name of Pune International Centre in Fixed Deposit Account in the name of Pune International Centre	3	57,03,063.18	57,03,063.18
				1,23,279.00				19,97,418.39	
				1,18,167.70	38,670.00			8,09,00,000.00	8,28,97,418.39
					7,61,25,800.19	Income & Expenditure Account: Balance as per last Balance Sheet Add: Deficit as per Income & Expenditure Account		1,45,75,436.32	
					1,45,75,436.32			25,72,273.73	1,71,47,710.05
9,67,76,160.88	Total			10,63,08,322.91	9,67,76,160.88	Total			10,63,08,322.91

Note: Income outstanding - Rs. 30,13,024.00

The above Balance Sheet to the best of our belief contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Trust.

Dated 11/06/22 at Pune

For Pune International Centre
Trustees




As per our report of even date

For G.D.Apte & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration No. 10051349



Ranjeet Kulkarni
Partner
Membership No. 132708



Schedule 1: Details of "Other Embarked Funds"

Amounts in Rs.			
Particulars	Social Programme Fund	Building Fund	Total
Opening Balance	26,10,329.00	70,00,000.00	96,10,329.00
Additions during the year (Direct addition)	1,40,41,000.00	-	1,40,41,000.00
Transfer to I & E during the year	80,00,106.00	-	80,00,106.00
Closing Balance	86,51,223.00	70,00,000.00	1,56,51,223.00

Schedule 2: Fixed Assets

Particulars	Amounts in Rs.				
	Furniture and Fixtures	Computers	Office Equipment	Computer Software	Total
Opening Balance	1,90,807.00	1,43,549.32	1,33,754.15	21,348.12	4,89,458.59
Additions For More than 180 Days	-	42,000.00	-	-	42,000.00
Additions For Less than 180 Days	-	1,34,300.00	5,380.00	-	1,39,680.00
Deletions during the year	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation for the year	19,080.70	1,01,079.73	20,466.62	8,539.25	1,49,166.30
Closing Balance	1,71,726.30	2,18,769.59	1,18,667.53	12,808.87	5,21,972.29

Schedule 3: Details of "Other Advances"

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount Rs.
1	Income Tax Deducted at Source	39,47,069.50
2	Office Deposit	5,41,910.68
3	Advances to Service Providers	-
4	Goods & Service Tax Receivable	12,14,083.00
	Total	57,03,063.18

Schedule 4: Details of "Establishment Expenses"

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount Rs.
1	Fees For Professional Services	1,27,500.00
2	Bank Charges	6,191.41
3	Telephone & Internet Charges	93,337.74
4	Office Electricity Charges	3,630.00
5	Travelling & Conveyance	45,697.00
6	Meeting Expenses	13,741.00
7	Repair & Maintenance Expenses	19,979.00
8	Drive Storage	7,800.00
9	Office Expenses	2,52,906.74
10	Insurance Expenses	1,39,188.00
11	Salary & Honararium Payble	25,02,000.00
12	Courier Expenses	48,753.00
13	Website Hosting Charges	11,613.00
14	Printing & Stationery	39,259.71
15	Rent Rates & Taxes	22,20,000.00
16	Interest for late payment	9,879.00
	Total	55,41,475.60

Schedule 5: Details of “Expenditure on other Charitable Objects”

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount Rs.
1	Program Related Professional Fees	11,20,984.00
2	Fellowship	12,00,000.00
3	Professional Fees - Internship	27,096.00
4	Programme Expenses	37,30,504.34
5	Publications	8,36,193.00
6	Social Media Expenses	4,89,660.70
	Total	74,04,438.04

Income Outstanding - Interest Receivable

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount Rs.
1	SBI	30,13,024.00
2	IDBI	-
	Total	30,13,024.00

Staff

Mr. Abhay Vaidya

Director

Ms. Kiran Pardeshi

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Mr. Mandar Joshi

Head, Social Innovation Lab

Ms. Kanaklata Jaiswal

Programme Coordinator (SIL)

Ms. Malavika Khatavkar

Programme Coordinator (SIL)

Ms. Aditi Kale

Policy Research Associate (EECC)

Mr. Siddharth Bhagwat

Research Assistant (EECC)

Ms. Shalvi Pawar

Research Assistant (EECC)

Ms. Riya Gandhi

Research Assistant (EECC)

Mr. Preshit Parihar

Policy Research Coordinator (National Security)

Mr. Amaresh Kesare

Manager

Mr. Deepak Dhanve

Accounts Executive

Mr. Tejas Pawar

Admin. Executive

Mr. Mayur Lokhande

Office Assistant

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the co-operation and support from the Honorary, Founding, Life, Corporate and Institutional members of PIC; staff members of PIC; various collaborating institutes; concerned government departments and Municipal Corporations of Pune & Pimpri Chinchwad. We also thank the following for their support and assistance:

- Staff of President, Vice President, Treasurer (Hon.) and General Secretary (Hon.)
- Our Banker – IDBI Bank, Chinchwad Branch, State Bank of India (SBI), SB Road, Pune, and HDFC Bank Bhandarkar Road Branch, Pune
- Our Design Agency – Staff at Design Directions Pvt. Ltd and Mr. Ganesh Gamare
- Our Auditor – M/S. S K Ekhe & Associates and M/S G D Apte & Co.
- Our Legal Advisor – Lexeye Services Pvt. Ltd.



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