

PRESS RELEASE

“We need a new leadership to provide for a resurgent India”: Arun Maira, Planning commission member

Industry captains congregate at the CII-IO’s 17th Quality Summit to chalk out strategies and notch up emerging global opportunities

New Delhi: 17th December: Despite crippling recession which has affected economies across the globe, India has remarkably stayed unscathed and fairly insulated albeit minor contractions. In this backdrop, Planning Commission Member, Government of India Shri Arun Maira said that India needs to empower locals and equip them with appropriate tools to take the nation to the next level of quality and excellence.

Inaugurating the 17th Quality Summit organized by CII Institute of Quality here today Shri Maira said that “India cannot be managed by experts. We need a new set of leadership to complement the resurgent India. The local bodies should not just be empowered but be equally given freedom and powers to play a proactive role to meet the highly competitive and challenging environment that India is currently cruising through.”

Robust Indian economic growth rate of around 6.5 percent vis a vis the global slowdown has enabled India to attract fresh attention and clout. India made its voice heard on global trade and climate change in the G-8 Summit held in Italy in July 2009, a sign of growing diplomatic muscle and a new push to the Asia’s third largest economy to play a bigger role in the global governance. This investment buoyancy further fortifies the economical might and eminence of India as compared to other Asian giants.

Over 400 Industry captains, domain experts, top bureaucrats, senior quality and strategic planning professionals from across the nation and abroad have congregated at Delhi to exchange and share their strategies and chart out a road map for a resurgent India at the two-day Quality Summit. Welcoming the august gathering Chairman of CII Institute of Quality Shri K N Shenoy said that “Quality is again poised to play a key role in the realization of the aspirational goals under the India@75 vision. The elements of a strategy for this would involve enhancing the quality of human resources, adopting new metrics for development, improving governance and improving the quality of resource management. This strategy needs to be pursued both at the organizational level as well as national level involving coordination across industry, government and social groups.” Sounding a word of caution he advised industry captains not to get carried away by the superficial growth. He gave a five-point mantra to the India Inc to follow so that

they have their quality and governance concepts clear. He recommended precaution on the euphoria on corporate growth, undisciplined growth, overlooking of risk, grasping for salvations and capitulation to irrelevance and debt. Mr Shenoy also added that “This is in sequel to what we had begun last year with the theme ‘India @ 75: The Quality Dimension’ where we focused on three key areas of People, Performance and Progress of three sectors namely Industry, Education and Healthcare. This year we look at two different sectors namely Infrastructure and Governance in addition to our continuous focus on Industry.”

Director General of Confederation of Indian Industry Shri Chandrajit Banerjee recounting the pioneering role played by CII Institute of Quality in heralding competitiveness of India Inc through the quality movement observed that Indian economy has shown a high level of maturity and resilience at a time when several developed economies is still grappling with the shock of recessionary pressures. After a brief hold back, India is once back on its feet and hopes to touch base with 9 percent growth by next fiscal.

The 17th edition of Quality Summit comes at time when the nation is celebrating ‘India Corporate Week’ which basically aims at imbibing the principles of quality practices and striving for perfection among India Inc.

BOX: 1

RESURGENT ECONOMY:

Industry grew by a robust 10.3 per cent in October against a paltry 0.1 per cent a year ago, powered by manufacturing, particularly consumer durables, which was driven by the stimulus packages. The strong industrial production data came days after better-than-expected economic growth of 7.9 per cent in the second quarter of this fiscal, reflecting that the economy would sustain the recovery provided agriculture does not slide too much. For the first seven months of this fiscal, industry expanded by 7.1 per cent against 4.3 per cent a year ago.

Manufacturing, which has almost 80 per cent weight in the Index of Industrial Production, grew by 11.1 per cent against (-)0.6 per cent a year ago, when the industry faced the full impact of the world financial and economic crisis after the collapse of US financial services major Lehman Brothers. Exports surged to 14 percent in November 2009 indicating a sure fire recovery in the global business scenario.

CII Business Confidence:

CII’s bi-annual Business Outlook Survey, Business Confidence Index (CII-BCI) for October-March 2009-10 surged by 7.4 points to 66.1 as compared to a 2.4 points increase during the first half of 2009-10, reflecting a boost in business confidence compared to the past six months. The CII survey is based on a large sample of about 450 companies. As many as 55 per cent of the respondents expressed confidence in expansion of exports for the period October-March 2009-

10. CII states: "The sharp rise in the index reflects better prospects for the coming six months and indicates that the economy has indeed bottomed out." However, the index brings home the point that uncertain global economic outlook and slackening consumer demand still remain major concerns for the business community." Drawing conclusion CII indicates that fiscal stimulus packages and the huge spending of the government on infrastructure and rural areas is working on line with the targeted framework.

India's Macro Economic indicators

- Real GDP grew by 6.1 per cent in April-June 2009
- Investment demand and consumption have been brisk in the first half.
- Industrial production to grow by 7.2 per cent in 2009-10.
- Corporate India is expected to record a sales growth of 7.4 per cent
- Corporate India reported a robust 28 per cent rise in PAT in first half
- Projects worth Rs 4.6 lakh crore will be completed in 2009-10
- Exports jumped 18 percent in November 2009 after recording negatives in May 2009
- More sops for other sectors hit by low exports.

***About CII-IQ:** The Centre of Excellence in Bangalore, known as the CII Institute of Quality (IQ) sponsored by ABB Limited. The principal objective of the CII IQ is to enhance the competitiveness of Indian Industry and all key sectors of the economy which impact on the country's growth. For example, the training programmes at the IQ addresses the needs of the Manufacturing sector, Service industry; Food, the IT and Software industry and the world of Education and Governance. The IQ has a set of dedicated trainers who bring with them a wide spectrum of experience in the manufacturing sector, food and service industry. This core team has equipped itself through wide exposure to different industry sectors and internal training. The IQ is working with a variety of companies in the country in their quest for excellence and has conducted programmes over the last 20 years benefiting over 3, 00,000 participants.*

- For any additional information get in touch with Dr Senthil Kumaran (09545390263) or visit www.cii.in or www.cii-iq.in for Inaugural Photographs and Press Releases.