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**SGCCI**

THE SOUTHERN GUJARAT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
ACT WITH ONE MIND

## ACTIVITIES OF SGCCI





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**Vice President**

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## INDEX

01	SGCCI delegation visited Indonesia's Global Trade Expo	05
02	Meeting with Indonesia's Minister of Trade	06
03	Discussions with the Indonesian KADIN Chamber regarding long-term business and industrial cooperation between the two countries	07
04	A meeting with the Embassy of India in Jakarta, Indonesia	08
05	Discussions with the Tanzanian delegation in Indonesia	09
06	Warm welcome to Gujarat's newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister, Harshbhai Sanghavi	10
07	A representation before NITI Aayog in New Delhi	11
08	Representation to the Hon'ble Union Railway Minister of India	12
09	Industry Appeals to the Finance Ministry to Reject the recommendations of imposing Anti-Dumping Duty on Raw Material	14
10	Chamber urges AAICLAS CEO for Immediate International Cargo Launch at Surat Airport	16
11	Chamber VP Ashok Jirawala Tables Key Textile Issues Before Parliamentary Committee in New Delhi	17
12	A session on 'Healthy Women, Empowered Families Campaign' organized jointly by the SGCCI and Surat Municipal Corporation	18
13	Seminar on Thailand-India Business Connect: Synergies in Power, Automobile, and Hospitality Sectors	19
14	An awareness session on Dance and Travel Therapy	20
15	'Health Conclave 2025' organised jointly by the SGCCI and The Varachha Co-operative Bank Ltd.	21
16	Industrial visit to Cello World Ltd. near Vapi and Ultra Denim Ltd. at Palsana	23
22	A session on Vastu for business growth and personal prosperity	24
23	A seminar on the SPREE and Amnesty Schemes under the Employee Insurance Scheme	25
24	A seminar on expanding business in the United States	27
25	A session on 'The Foundation of Women's Health: Self-Love and a Balanced Diet'	29
26	Want to become a model? The Chamber will help you	30
27	Pre-Diwali celebration by SBC	31
28	On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, an awareness session titled 'Ek Deepstambh' was organized	32
29	Guidance on Traffic Awareness to the Students of Sindhu Seva Samiti School	33
30	A session on "Talk Therapy Called Magic: Weight Loss on the Spot"	34
31	Women Entrepreneur Cell celebrated the "Diwali Rishton Ki" program	35
32	Industrial visits of N.U. Citizen Fabrics Pvt. Ltd. and Green Lab Diamonds LLP	36
33	A session on 'Grow Business with Receivable Safety through Trade Credit Insurance	37

**Your valuable suggestions on this issue of Samruddhi are most welcome**

## SGCCI's Office Bearers



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President



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Vice President



**Vijay Mevawala**  
Imm. Past President



**Bijal Jariwala**  
Hon. Secretary



**CA Mitish Modi**  
Hon. Treasurer



## SGCCI delegation visited Indonesia's Global Trade Expo



Under the leadership of Nikhil Madras, President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a high-level delegation of 16 Chamber members visited Indonesia from 12 to 18 October, 2025.

The delegation included the Chamber's Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Treasurer Mitish Modi, and representatives from various industries. The delegation was invited by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in New Delhi to visit the 40th edition of 'Global Trade Expo Indonesia,' held in Jakarta from 15 to 19 October.

Organised by the Directorate General of National Export Development under Indonesia's Ministry of Trade, this exhibition saw participation from more than 130 countries and attracted over 8,000 international buyers. It has thus maintained its reputation as one of the largest and most trusted B2B trade exhibitions at the global level.

Under the leadership of Chamber President Nikhil Madras, a delegation of 16 leading business

members from diverse sectors—including textiles, diamonds, water purification systems, education, solar, salt and coal trading, and professional services—visited the exhibition and also attended its inaugural ceremony. Indonesia's Minister of Trade, Budi Santoso, graced the inaugural function.

Held on the theme 'Trade Beyond Boundaries,' the exhibition provided the Chamber's delegation with an opportunity to engage in significant interactions and discussions with distinguished dignitaries, exporters, and investors from across the world.

Mr. Madras stated that this visit was part of the Chamber's continuous efforts to open new markets for the industries and exporters of South Gujarat. He emphasized that Indonesia—being one of the fastest-growing economies and a key member of ASEAN—offers equal opportunities for Indian MSMEs as well as large industries. Discussions were held on enhancing business cooperation between South Gujarat and Indonesia and strengthening bilateral relations.



## Meeting with Indonesia's Minister of Trade



During the inaugural ceremony of the 40th edition of Global Trade Expo Indonesia, organised by the Directorate General of National Export Development under Indonesia's Ministry of Trade, a high-level delegation of 16 members from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, led by Chamber President Nikhil Madrasī, had the privilege of holding a special meeting with the Honourable Minister of Trade and Commerce of the Republic of Indonesia, Budi Santoso.

The delegation included the Chamber's Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Treasurer Mitish Modi, and representatives from various industries.

During the meeting, Chamber President Nikhil Madrasī presented a comprehensive overview of South Gujarat's economic strength and industrial diversity, highlighting globally recognized sectors such as textiles, diamonds, renewable energy, and

education. He also underscored the Chamber's pivotal role in trade promotion, business networking, and facilitating global exhibitions that connect international markets with Indian industries.

Madrasī extended a formal invitation to the Honourable Minister of Indonesia and leading Indonesian business delegates to participate in the Chamber's flagship international exhibition—'Global Village 2026'—scheduled to be held at Sarsana in January 2026.

The Indonesian Minister highly appreciated the Chamber's initiative and expressed a strong desire to strengthen trade cooperation with the industrial community of South Gujarat. He assured that the Ministry of Trade would encourage Indonesian entrepreneurs to explore partnerships with their Indian counterparts through the Chamber's forthcoming programs.



## **Discussions with the Indonesian KADIN Chamber regarding long-term business and industrial cooperation between the two countries**



### **Under the leadership of Chamber President Nikhil Madrasi, the Chamber's 16-member delegation also met the Counsellor at the Embassy of India in Indonesia**

A high-level 16-member delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, led by President Nikhil Madrasi during their visit to Indonesia for the Global Trade Expo, held a highly productive meeting with the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)

KADIN was represented by its Deputy Chairman, Fakirchand.

The SGCCI delegation also met Ms. Malavika Priyadarshini, Counsellor (Economic & Commerce) at the Embassy of India in Indonesia. The delegation included the Chamber's Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala,

Hon. Treasurer Mitish Modi, and representatives from various industries.

Both Chambers exchanged detailed presentations on their respective structures, membership base, and focus areas. Nikhil Madrasi highlighted the long-standing trade relations between India and Indonesia and discussed opportunities to enhance cooperation in textiles, diamonds, food processing, coal, salt, and infrastructure development.

Hon. secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala highlighted the immense potential for textile exports and technological partnerships between the two nations,





while Mitish Modi discussed opportunities for collaboration in renewable energy and academic linkages to support skill-based industries.

KADIN's Vice Chairman, Fakirchand, expressed interest in initiating a formal collaboration between

KADIN and SGCCI, with a focus on joint business forums, trade missions, and bilateral exhibitions. He also assured that KADIN would support SGCCI members who wish to establish or expand their business and industrial operations in Indonesia.

## A meeting with the Embassy of India in Jakarta, Indonesia



The delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry also met Ms. Malavika Priyadarshini, Counsellor (Economic & Commerce) at the Embassy of India in

Indonesia.

Nikhil Madrasi shared insights about the Chamber's Global Connect initiative and emphasized the need for improved mechanisms



to resolve trade disputes and ensure smoother business operations for Indian companies in Indonesia. Bijal Jariwala highlighted Surat's potential as a Global Textile Hub, while Mitish Modi discussed opportunities for academic collaboration and research partnerships between universities in India and Indonesia.

Ms. Malavika Priyadarshini appreciated the Chamber's proactive engagement and reaffirmed the Embassy's commitment to supporting Indian businesses operating in, or seeking to enter, the Indonesian market. She encouraged Chamber members to consult the

Embassy for trade verification and dispute resolution before entering into formal business engagements.

During the meeting, Chamber President Nikhil Madrasī presented a comprehensive overview of South Gujarat's economic strength and industrial diversity, highlighting globally recognized sectors such as textiles, diamonds, renewable energy, and education. He also emphasized the Chamber's pivotal role in trade promotion, business networking, and facilitating global exhibitions that connect international markets with Indian industries.

## Discussions with the Tanzanian delegation in Indonesia



The high-level 16-member delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, led by President Nikhil Madrasī during their visit to Indonesia for the Global Trade Expo, also held discussions—apart from the Indonesian delegation—with Mwachabu A. Nyamkomora, Assistant Administrative Secretary for Trade and Industry at the Office of the Regional Commissioner of Dodoma, Tanzania. The delegation included the Chamber's Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Treasurer Mitish Modi, and representatives from various industries.

Nyamkomora expressed strong interest in

strengthening bilateral cooperation and assured that the Government of Tanzania would be represented at Global Village 2026 in Surat.

Nikhil Madrasī, along with Bijal Jariwala and Mitish Modi, discussed potential areas of collaboration such as textile exports, renewable energy, education, and the supply of industrial equipment. During the meeting, the President of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce and Industry expressed interest in formalizing institutional ties with SGCCI to facilitate trade and investment exchanges between India and Tanzania.



## Warm welcome to Gujarat's newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister, Harshbhai Sanghavi



A delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, led by President Nikhil Madrasī and comprising Vice President Ashok Jirawala, Immediate Past President Vijay Mewawala, Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, and Hon.

Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, attended the felicitation ceremony of the newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister of Gujarat, Harshbhai Sanghavi. The Chamber's delegation extended a warm welcome to Harshbhai Sanghavi.



## A representation before NITI Aayog in New Delhi



A delegation comprising Ashok Jirawala, Vice President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Past President Ashish Gujarati met Sanjeet Singh—Programme Director at NITI Aayog, Link CVO, and a member of the Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's advisory team—on Wednesday, 15th October 2025 in New Delhi. During the meeting, the delegation made a detailed representation requesting that Anti-Dumping Duty not be imposed on the import of Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG).

Also present during the representation were R.K. Vij, Secretary General of the Polyester Textile Apparel Industry Association; Pankaj from NITMA; Lohia from Indo Rama; and Gagandeep from the Denim Manufacturers Association.

In its representation, the Chamber of Commerce stated that as per the final findings (F. No. 6/34/2024-DGTR) issued by the Director General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) on 23 September 2025, it has been recommended to impose Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG. If this duty is implemented, it will have a severely adverse impact on the Man-Made

Fibre (MMF)-based textile industry—including manufacturers of yarn, filaments, fabrics, and garments.

In its representation, the Chamber stated that the current total demand for MEG in India is approximately 31 lakh metric tonnes, whereas domestic production is only about 19 lakh metric tonnes—resulting in a shortfall of nearly 12 lakh metric tonnes. There are only three manufacturers of MEG in the country.

Recently, due to the Quality Control Order (QCO) imposed on MEG, imports are now permitted only from BIS-certified companies, which has already restricted import volumes. After the QCO came into effect, manufacturers have increased prices. MEG prices have risen by around Rs. 15 to Rs. 2 per kg, and PTA prices have increased by Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 per kg.

Now, the DGTR has recommended the following Anti-Dumping Duties:

- (i) USD 103 per Ton - Rs.9.00 per kg on Equate (Kuwait)
- (ii) USD 113 per Ton - Rs.10.0 per kg on Sabic (Saudi Arabia)



(iii) USD 137 per Ton - Rs.12.0 per kg on Singapore.

According to the Chamber, this increase will place additional financial burden on MSME textile units, which are already operating with a profit margin of barely 7-8%, and may even lead to the closure of many units. In addition, the prices of MMF, yarn, filament, fabric, and garments will rise. The benefit of GST reduction that was passed on to consumers will be nullified. Imports of finished goods will increase in place of raw materials. Employment will decline, and new investment plans worth nearly Rs. 20,000 crore—including those under the PLI Scheme—will be severely disrupted.

The Chamber stated that the United States has recently imposed a 50% tariff on Indian textiles, which has already put the industry under severe stress. In such a situation, imposing Anti-Dumping Duty on

MEG will further worsen the condition of the textile sector and reduce employment opportunities.

In these circumstances, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry has requested NITI Aayog to recommend to the Ministry of Finance that the Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG, as proposed by the DGTR, should not be accepted. This would provide relief to the domestic textile and MSME industries and help create new employment opportunities.

Sanjeet Singh, Programme Director and Link CVO at NITI Aayog, patiently heard the representation made by the Chamber of Commerce and engaged in an in-depth discussion on the adverse impact the duty would have on the textile industry. He assured the Chamber's delegation that appropriate action would be taken in this matter.

## Representation to the Hon'ble Union Railway Minister of India





## **An invitation was extended to the Hon'ble Union Railway Minister to participate in an interactive session with Chamber members on the topic 'Opportunities of Business with Indian Railways'**

A delegation led by Ashok Jirawala, Vice President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, along with Group Chairman Dr. Vijay Raddia and Co-Chairman of the Chamber's Association Liaison Committee, Atul Patel, met the Hon'ble Union Railway Minister of India, Ashwini Vaishnaw. During the meeting, the delegation made a detailed representation seeking solutions to various problems faced by passengers at the Surat and Udhna railway stations and requesting the introduction of holiday special trains between Surat and Saurashtra to manage the heavy rush of passengers during Diwali.

In its representation to the Railway Minister, the Chamber of Commerce stated that although Surat is a nationally significant hub for trade and transportation, both Surat and Udhna railway stations suffer from several deficiencies in basic passenger amenities, which require immediate improvement.

At Udhna railway station, the absence of proper parking facilities makes it difficult for passengers to park their vehicles, often resulting in traffic congestion. The presence of unauthorized rickshaws and anti-social elements around the parking zone creates a sense of insecurity among passengers.

The lack of safe connectivity between platforms causes significant inconvenience, especially for senior citizens and differently-abled passengers. Due to the absence of regulated porter services, passengers are frequently overcharged, leading to numerous complaints. Additionally, there are inadequate facilities for senior citizens, and the absence of platform shelters forces passengers to endure harsh sunlight and rain.

Similarly, at Surat railway station, the absence of platform sheds on Platforms 2, 3, and 4 forces passengers to face extreme heat and rain. Platforms 2 and 3 also lack escalator facilities, causing significant inconvenience to senior citizens, pregnant women, and differently-abled passengers. Surat railway station, too, suffers from inadequate and poorly managed parking facilities, resulting in traffic

difficulties. Additionally, the electric vehicle (EV) service for senior citizens, which was previously available, has been discontinued and urgently needs to be reinstated.

The Chamber requested the introduction of a regular and well-organized rickshaw service at Surat railway station, similar to the services available at major stations such as Delhi, Bengaluru, and Thiruvananthapuram.

The Chamber of Commerce requested the Railway Minister to undertake immediate improvements in the basic passenger amenities at Surat and Udhna railway stations. The representation urged prompt action for installing platform shelters, expanding parking areas, providing escalator facilities, reinstating senior citizen services, and controlling anti-social elements.

In addition, the Chamber requested the Hon'ble Railway Minister to introduce Holiday Special trains from Surat to various cities of Saurashtra—such as Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Mahuva, Gandhidham, and others—during the Diwali vacation. To manage the heavy rush of passengers during the festive period, the Chamber urged the introduction of additional trains and requested that these trains be given a halt at Utran railway station so that the passenger load on Surat and Udhna stations can be reduced.

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry extended an invitation to the Hon'ble Union Railway Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, to visit Surat and participate in an interactive session with Chamber members on the topic 'Opportunities of Business with Indian Railways'.

The Hon'ble Union Railway Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, attentively heard the representation made by the Chamber of Commerce and assured that he would instruct the officials to take the necessary steps immediately. The Chamber stated that it will continue to actively cooperate with the Railway Department on matters concerning the development of Surat city and the welfare of its citizens.



## **Industry Appeals to the Finance Ministry to Reject the recommendations of imposing Anti-Dumping Duty on Raw Material**



**A delegation comprising the Chamber's Vice President Ashok Jirawala and Past President Ashish Gujarati met Ms. Nivedita Shukla, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India, and the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi**

On 9th October 2025, Ashok Jirawala, Vice President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Past President Ashish Gujarati met Ms. Nivedita Shukla, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India; Ms. Padmini Shingla, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles; and Ms. Richa Gupta from the Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi.

During the meeting, they submitted a representation requesting that the recommendation to impose Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG (Mono-Ethylene Glycol) should not be

accepted. Representatives from various MMF textile associations across India—including SGCCI, CITI, PTA Users Association, and other industry bodies—were also present at the meeting.

In this meeting, it was highlighted that the DGTR, in its final findings dated 23 September 2025, recommended Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG imported from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore. The delegation urged that the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals and the Ministry of Textiles recommend to the Ministry of Finance that this proposal should NOT





be accepted.

In its representation, the Chamber stated that since July 2023, the Government of India has already imposed a QCO order on MEG, due to which prices in India are currently Rs. 15 to Rs. 2 per kg higher than global market rates. India's total MEG demand is 31 lakh metric tonnes, while domestic production is only 19 lakh metric tonnes, leading to a shortfall of 12 lakh metric tonnes that must be imported.

According to DGTR's final findings, Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG has been recommended as follows:

- USD 103 per metric tonne on imports from Kuwait,
- USD 113 per metric tonne on imports from Saudi Arabia,
- USD 137 per metric tonne on imports from Singapore.

The proposed Anti-Dumping Duty is expected to increase the cost of MEG in India by Rs. 9 to Rs. 12 per kg.

The Government has recently implemented GST 2.0, reducing GST on yarn from 12% to 5%. However, if Anti-Dumping Duty is imposed, the benefit of the GST reduction will not reach manufacturers.

This will severely impact weaving and knitting sectors of the textile industry and may also hinder new investments of nearly Rs. 20,000 crore in yarn production, including investments expected under the PLI Scheme.

In view of the above situation, the Chamber's delegation has requested that the Government of India's Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, the Ministry of Textiles should recommend to the Ministry of Finance to reject the proposed Anti-Dumping Duty on MEG.



## Chamber urges AAICLAS CEO for Immediate International Cargo Launch at Surat Airport



On Wednesday, 29th October 2025, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry held an important meeting at 'Sanhati', Sarsana, Surat, in the presence of Ajay Bhardwaj, CEO of AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited (AAICLAS), and A N. Sharma, Airport Director, Surat.

Present in the meeting were Chamber President Nikhil Madras; Hon. Treasurer CA Mitish Modi; APMC Vice Chairman Harshad Patel and Director Babubhai Sheikh; the Chamber's Group Chairman Sanjeev Gandhi; Chairman of the Chamber's Aviation & Airport Committee Limesh Shah; Committee Advisor Manoj Singapuri; and other members.

Chamber President Nikhil Madras made

a representation for the commencement of international cargo services at Surat Airport. He stated that at present, a large volume of exports—such as diamonds, jewellery, and mp—is routed via Mumbai. If international cargo operations begin at Surat Airport, exports will gain significant momentum, and exporters will benefit through considerable savings in both time and cost. Considering the steadily increasing export activities of Surat's industries and traders, international cargo service at Surat Airport has become an urgent necessity. Therefore, he requested AAICLAS CEO Ajay Bhardwaj to initiate this service at the earliest.

During the discussion, representatives of the APMC stated that at present, nearly 1,000 tonnes of



vegetables and fruits are exported every month from Surat via Mumbai. However, if international cargo services are introduced at Surat Airport, they assured that they would be able to directly export 1,000 tonnes of vegetables and fruits per month from Surat itself.

On this occasion, AAICLAS CEO Ajay Bhardwaj responded positively towards the development of

Surat Airport and stated that appropriate steps would be taken after reviewing the technical and procedural aspects.

Surat Airport Director A.N. Sharma, while discussing the expanding infrastructure and logistics capacity of Surat Airport, provided guidance on the systems and procedures required for establishing International Cargo services.

## **Chamber VP Ashok Jirawala Tables Key Textile Issues Before Parliamentary Committee in New Delhi**

Ashok Jirawala, Vice President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, along with S.P. Verma, Advisor to the Chamber's Textile Task Force and former Additional Textile Commissioner, Government of India, attended the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Industries held at the Parliamentary Annexe Building, Parliament House, New Delhi, on Wednesday, 29 October 2025. During the meeting, they made a detailed representation on various key issues concerning the interests and advancement of the textile sector.

Ashok Jirawala and S.P. Verma submitted before the Parliamentary Committee on Industries that, in view of the challenges faced by the Textile MSME sector due to the US tariffs, it is essential for the Government to take immediate remedial measures.

They specifically informed the Committee that restrictions under the Quality Control Order (QCO) on raw materials—such as MMF fibre and filament yarn—and machinery that are either not manufactured in India or are not available in adequate quantity should be removed. They also urged that the Anti-Dumping Duties currently imposed on MMF yarn or its raw materials (MEG and PTA), as well as on viscose yarn, should be withdrawn. A reduction in the customs duty on MEG and PTA was also recommended so that MMF yarn can be made available at more affordable prices.

They further informed the Committee that export incentives should be increased to promote exports to the United States, enabling MSME

industries to withstand the impact of US tariffs.

They suggested that countries with higher population and stronger purchasing power be identified, and that within the next three months the government prepare a detailed report on the demand for textiles and apparel in those countries. This report should then be shared with all textile clusters so they can develop samples and products tailored to the requirements of those specific markets.

Indian Embassies should be instructed to provide handholding support in their respective countries to boost exports. A legal via-route should be suggested for textile manufacturers, enabling them to supply to the U.S. market in full compliance with regulations. To support exports to the U.S., benefits such as enhanced RoDTEP rates, 10% duty drawback, and 5% interest reimbursement should be provided through the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC).

In addition, it was suggested that MSME units in the textile sector be granted a two-year moratorium on capital repayment and be provided with 30% collateral-free loans through ECGC.

Ashok Jirawala and S.P. Verma, while presenting a detailed analysis before the Parliamentary Committee on Industries, stated that the tariffs imposed by the United States are having a severe impact on MSME textile units. They emphasized that if the Government takes timely and appropriate measures, it will provide significant protection to the textile industry across the country—including Surat—and help stabilize exports.



## A session on 'Healthy Women, Empowered Families Campaign' organized jointly by the SGCCI and Surat Municipal Corporation



Under the joint initiative of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Surat Municipal Corporation, a session on the theme 'Healthy Women, Empowered Families Campaign' was organized on Thursday, 2nd October 2025 at 3:00 PM at Samruddhi Building, Nanpura, Surat.

In this session, the panel discussion featured Dr. Parul Vadgama, Ms. Aarti Gangwal, Ms. Shraddha Shah Raj, Ms. Suruchi Agarwal, and Dr. Dhvani Patel, who shared valuable insights related to women's health.

Dr. Kajal Manguktiya, while providing information on pre-marriage counselling, stated that for a healthy family in the future, it is essential for both partners to undergo health-related tests before marriage. It is most advisable to get pre-marital tests done at least six months prior to the wedding.

These reports include blood tests, thyroid profile, Hepatitis-B, Hepatitis-C, genetic and infection-related screenings, as well as the Rubella immunity test. Due to changes in education, awareness, and work culture, significant shifts are occurring in people's lifestyles. At present, 5 to 10 cases of Vaginismus are being reported

daily.

Dr. Sonia Chandani stated that 40% of the country's population consumes less nutrition than required. There are numerous cases of women suffering from iron deficiency and anemia. Infants should be kept away from sugary foods for the first year and should be given only fruits and nutritious diets. For women, proper nutrition is essential not only for good health but also for quality of life, the well-being of future generations, and longevity. She added that for women with PCOS, milk, curd, paneer, ghee, seeds, fruits, and dry fruits are considered the best dietary choices.

Chamber President Nikhil Madras delivered the welcome address and shared detailed information about the Chamber's activities. The Chamber's Vice President Ashok Jirawala, members of the Public Health Committee, and many women participants were present at the session.

The Chairperson of the Chamber's Ladies Wing, Smt. Mayuriben Mewawala, outlined the program details. Ms. Kinjal Jain conducted the entire event, and Harshit Hemnani delivered the vote of thanks.



## Seminar on Thailand-India Business Connect: Synergies in Power, Automobile, and Hospitality Sectors



On 30th September 2025, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised a seminar on 'Thailand-India Business Connect Power, Automobile and Hospitality Synergies.' During the seminar, Ms. Purnasugandha Vibhusanaporn, CEO and Founder of Grace Products Co. Ltd., Bangkok (Thailand), briefed Surat's entrepreneurs about the wide-ranging business and industrial opportunities available in Thailand across various sectors.

Former Chamber President and Indo-Thai Chamber President Rohit Mehta stated that the objective of this programme was to promote industrial cooperation, investment opportunities, and technological partnerships between India and Thailand. He added that the Chamber has always been committed to strengthening international trade relations. Through such Business Connect initiatives, local industries gain valuable opportunities for global networking and collaboration. Ms. Purnasugandha Vibhusanaporn, CEO and Founder of Grace Products Company Limited, Bangkok (Thailand), stated that there is immense

potential for trade and industrial collaboration between Thailand and India. She emphasized that especially in sectors such as power, automobiles, and hospitality, joint investments and technology exchange can significantly strengthen the industries of both countries.

Indo-Thai Chamber Managing Director Rakesh Trivedi stated that industrialists from Thailand are keen to partner with India's growing market especially with Gujarat's strong industrial ecosystem. Surat's industrial strengths and its readiness for innovation make it an ideal destination for foreign investment.

Mr. Paresh Bhatt, CEO of SGCCI Global Connect, stated that opening avenues of collaboration with an industrially advanced nation like Thailand will create new opportunities for Surat's MSME sector to expand exports and adopt advanced technologies.

Mr. Devkishan Manghani, Chairman of the Chamber's Global Connect Committee, conducted the seminar. The seminar was attended by industrialists, business professionals, trade representatives, and Chamber members.



## An awareness session on Dance and Travel Therapy



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised an awareness session on 'Dance and Travel Therapy' on Sunday, 5th October 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Samruddhi Building, Nanpura, Surat.

In this session, Mr. Arun Raj, Founder of Mindful Mind, and Ms. Shraddha Shah, Founder of Tapperz Dance School, explained the importance of Dance and Travel Therapy in enhancing one's quality of life.

Ms. Shraddha Shah explained, 'Dance Therapy is a process that connects the mind, body, and soul through the natural movement of the body to the rhythm of music. It is also known as Dance Movement Therapy. It is particularly beneficial for individuals dealing with depression, anxiety, or PTSD; those experiencing low self-confidence; children and the elderly for emotional balance; as well as for individuals aiming to enhance physical well-being'. She further shared how Creative Movement Therapy, Improvisational Dance Therapy, Group Dance Therapy, and Expressive Art Therapy can help individuals distance themselves from negative situations in life.

Arun Raj explained that travel helps relieve stress, calms the mind, and brings renewed inspiration and joy. Travel is a natural therapeutic method. It

improves mental and physical well-being, boosts self-confidence and self-awareness, enhances creativity, and strengthens social and emotional connections.

For individuals experiencing constant stress or depression, those who have lost enthusiasm in life, and young people who wish to learn something new or discover themselves, travelling proves to be extremely beneficial.

He further explained that when we step away from daily stress, negative thoughts, or a monotonous routine and travel to a new place, the brain forms new neural connections. This activates happiness hormones such as dopamine and serotonin, helping the mind feel refreshed and positive. Types of travel therapy include Nature Therapy Travel, Adventure Travel Therapy, Cultural Travel Therapy, Spiritual Travel Therapy, and Wellness Travel Therapy.

Chamber President Nikhil Madras delivered the welcome address. Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, Chairperson of the Public Health Committee Dr. Parul Vadgama, and members of the Public Health Committee were present. Committee Co-Chairperson Dr. Bhavini Dixit outlined the programme, while Public Health Committee Co-Chairman Dr. Rajan Desai conducted the entire session and proposed the vote of thanks.



## **'Health Conclave 2025' organised jointly by the SGCCI and The Varachha Co-operative Bank Ltd.**



Under the joint initiative of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry and The Varachha Co-operative Bank Ltd., a 'Health Conclave 2025' was organised on Sunday, 05 October 2025 at 10:00 AM at Sahakar Bhavan, Sarathana, Surat. During the conclave, expert doctors provided valuable guidance on various health-related topics.

Chamber President Nikhil Madrasi delivered the welcome address and provided an overview of the Chamber's activities, while Kanji Bhalala, Director of The Varachha Co-operative Bank Ltd., delivered a keynote address.

Dr. Usha Maniya provided detailed information on 'Periods, Prevention and Protection,' stating that

women who consume sufficient potassium-rich and nutritious food throughout the month generally experience fewer difficulties during their periods. To relieve menstrual pain, women should practice yoga daily—especially Vajrasana, Dhanurasana, and Surya Namaskar. She also emphasized the importance of getting tested for PCOS/PCOD.

Dr. Mukul Choksi, while explaining stress-relief methods, stated that before COVID, the city witnessed 2 to 3 suicide cases daily, which has now increased to an average of 4 per day. Earlier, suicides were more common among people aged 55 to 60 and above, but now youths between the ages of 20 and 30 are taking their own lives. Over the past 25 years, along with



**Mr. Nikhil Madrasi,  
President, SGCCI**



**Mr. Kanji Bhalala,  
Director,  
Varachha Co Op Bank Ltd**



**Dr. Usha Maniya**





**Dr. Mukul Choksi**

individual suicides, the number of collective (family) suicides has also increased.

Dr. Bharat Jivani, while providing information on knee degeneration, stated that degeneration occurs due to aging, excess weight, previous injuries or surgeries, hereditary factors, and repetitive or strenuous physical activities. Relief from knee degeneration can be achieved through lifestyle and dietary changes such as consuming calcium- and vitamin D-rich foods, walking lightly, practicing yoga, swimming or cycling, and limiting the use of stairs.

Dr. Nilesh Parshottam stated that due to lifestyle factors, Indians experience heart attacks almost ten years earlier than people in many other countries. He added that in cases of cardiac attacks, it is not always necessary that pain begins specifically in the heart. Taking care of the heart muscles is extremely important. If a cardiac attack occurs, timely placement of a stent is crucial. He further advised that any chest pain, unusual discomfort, or uneasiness occurring between 10 PM and 6 AM—especially if it has never occurred before—should never be ignored.

Dr. Shilpa, while providing information about



**Dr. Bharat Jivani**

the retina, stated that blurred vision is generally noticed by individuals only after nearly 90% of the damage has already occurred. Regular retinal check-ups are essential after the age of 35. Patients with Type-1 and Type-2 diabetes must undergo routine eye examinations.

Dr. Ravindra Korat, while speaking on fertility and women's health, stated that the ideal age for women to conceive is between 20 and 30 years. Conceiving at a later age increases the chances of genetic disorders in babies as well as complications during pregnancy. He added that the trend of late marriages has become common nowadays, leading to fertility-related issues for many individuals.

Dr. Ayush Golakiya, while providing information about stroke, stated that the first 4 hours and 30 minutes after a stroke are critical for receiving treatment. CT scan, MRI, and angiography help in diagnosing stroke.

He explained that the symptoms of stroke can be identified using the BEFAST method:

B - Balance (loss of balance),

E - Eyes (vision problems),



**Dr. Nilesh Parshottam**



**Dr. Shilpa**



**Dr. Ravindra Korat**



**Dr. Aayush Golakiya**



F - Face (facial drooping),  
A - Arms (weakness in arms),  
S - Speech (difficulty in speaking),  
T - Time (immediate medical attention is crucial).

The Chamber's Hon. Treasurer, CA Mitish Modi, All Exhibition Chairman Kiran Thummar, and Chamber members were present at the conclave. Dr. Parul Vadgama, Chairperson of the Chamber's

Public Health Committee, outlined the programme. Dr. Jagdish Vagharia, Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Workers' Health Committee, conducted the entire session. In the end, the speakers provided satisfactory answers to the questions raised by the attendees. Nikhil Vagharia, Co-Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Workers' Health Committee, proposed a vote of thanks.

## Industrial visit to Cello World Ltd. near Vapi and Ultra Denim Ltd. at Palsana



On Saturday, 4th October 2025, a delegation comprising Ramesh Vagharia, Past President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Arvind Babawala, Chairman of the Industrial Visit Committee; Chetan Sheth, Co-Chairman of the Industrial Visit Committee and Chairman of the Industrial Safety & Security Committee; Litesh Shah, Chairman of the Aviation & Airport Committee; and other members organised an industrial visit to Cello World Limited, located near Vapi.

Chamber President Nikhil Madrasai stated that the purpose of this industrial visit was to provide Chamber members with first-hand exposure to modern manufacturing processes, quality management, and innovative product development.

Cello World Limited is one of India's leading

consumer products companies, operating in three major categories—consumer houseware, writing instruments & stationery, and moulded furniture & allied products. The company's popular product range includes glassware, opalware, melamine, and porcelain items.

During the industrial visit, the entrepreneur members of the Chamber of Commerce had the opportunity to tour various manufacturing units of the company. The technical team provided detailed information about the production processes. For the Chamber members, this proved to be both an educational and an inspiring experience.

The Chamber's delegation also recently visited Ultra Denim Limited, located within the Gujarat Eco Textile Park at Palsana. Ultra Denim Limited





is one of Surat's leading denim fabric and garment manufacturing companies. Equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure and modern machinery, the company produces high-quality denim fabric.

Chamber members toured the production unit of Ultra Denim, where the technical team provided detailed information on the manufacturing process, fabric finishing, and designing.

## A session on Vastu for business growth and personal prosperity



A session on 'Vastu for Business Growth and Personal Prosperity' was organised by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry on Tuesday, 7th October 2025 at 6:30 pm at Sahyog, Sarsana, Surat. In this session, Vastu consultant, astrologer, numerologist and energy consultant Ajitesh Singh Sohal provided detailed insights on how the principles of Vastu Shastra can bring prosperity and progress in business as well as personal life.

During the welcome address, Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, stated that in today's era, progress in business requires not only technology and marketing, but energy and positivity are equally important. Vastu Shastra is an ancient science that balances spatial energy and thereby supports business growth and personal prosperity.

Ajitesh Singh Sohal explained that proper Vastu management enhances the flow of positive energy, which helps





**Mr. Bijal Jariwala,  
Hon. Secretary-  
SGGCI**



**CA Mitish Modi,  
Hon. Treasurer-SGGCI**



**Mr. Ajitsingh Sohal-  
Vastu Consultant,  
Astrologist**

promote business growth, financial stability, and mental peace. He illustrated with examples how even small adjustments in an office, factory, or residence can create a significant impact. He provided useful guidance on achieving balance and prosperity in business and personal life through Vastu principles from a modern perspective.

CA Mitish Modi, Hon. Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce, All Exhibition Chairman Kiran Thummar, and

Chamber members were present at the conclave. Dr. Parul Vadgama, Chairperson of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, outlined the program. Dr. Jagdish Vagharia, Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Workers Health Committee, conducted the entire event. At the end, the speakers satisfactorily answered the queries raised by the attendees. Nikhil Vagharia, Co-Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Workers Health Committee, proposed the vote of thanks.

## A seminar on the SPREE and Amnesty Schemes under the Employee Insurance Scheme



A seminar on ESIC's SPREE and Amnesty Schemes was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry on 30th September 2025 at 5:30 PM at Samhati, Sarsana, Surat.

The objective of the seminar was to create awareness among industry members about the key provisions, benefits, and compliance aspects of these important schemes under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).



Senior Labour Law Consultant, Advocate Anand Mehta, in his keynote address on the SPREE Scheme, stated that SPREE-2025 (Scheme to Promote Registration of Employers and Employees) will remain operational until 31st December 2025. Under this scheme, industries and employees who are not yet registered with ESIC can complete their registration through the ESIC portal without any demand for past dues. The scheme focuses on voluntary compliance rather than punitive measures. He further added that companies and employees joining under the SPREE Scheme will be treated as new entrants, and no past liabilities will be imposed on them.

ESIC's Joint Director (SRO-Surat), Deepak Malik, provided detailed information on the Amnesty Scheme, stating that the Employees' State Insurance Corporation has launched two major initiatives—SPREE 2025 and the Amnesty Scheme 2025—to strengthen the social security framework and to simplify compliance for industries. He explained the relief measures offered under this scheme and the opportunities it provides for defaulting

establishments to regularize their past liabilities without punitive consequences.

The ESIC Amnesty Scheme has commenced from 1 October and will remain in effect until 30 September 2026. The scheme offers an opportunity for out-of-court settlement of cases that have been assessed under the ESIC scheme and are currently under dispute. He also explained the benefits available under the insurance scheme in cases of job loss, as well as the facilities offered to the children of workers in ESIC medical colleges, and urged stakeholders to make use of these benefits.

Group Chairman Dr. Vijay Raddiya delivered the welcome address and expressed gratitude to all those present at the seminar. The seminar concluded with a question-answer session, during which participants sought clarification on practical aspects of implementation. The seminar witnessed the presence of entrepreneurs, professionals, and members, reflecting the Chamber's continued commitment to serving as a bridge between industries and government departments.

## From the Relief Fund, assistance was sent to families affected by stormy rainfall in Talavchora and Bamanvel villages of Navsari





Due to heavy rainfall across South Gujarat this year, the villages of Talavchora and Bamanvel in Chikhli taluka of Navsari district were severely affected. Many houses were damaged because of heavy rains and strong winds. During the minor cyclone that struck last month, roof sheets of several houses in both villages were blown away, causing serious difficulties for the affected families who were left without proper shelter.

Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry sent 600 cement sheets from its Relief Fund to the affected families of these villages. With the support of the district administration, the Chamber ensured

that this relief material reached the impacted families, helping them rebuild their roofs and regain safe shelter.

The office bearers of the Chamber and the trustees of the Relief Fund stated that the Chamber is committed not only to the development of trade and industry but also to upholding humanitarian responsibilities in times of need. This assistance was extended to provide immediate relief to families affected by the heavy rains. The Chamber has been actively involved in relief activities during several natural calamities in the past and will continue to fulfill its humanitarian duty wherever needed in the future.

## A seminar on expanding business in the United States



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a seminar on Wednesday, 8 October 2025, at 5:00 PM at Sannhati, Sarsana, Surat on the topic 'What Should Be Considered While Planning Business Expansion in the USA?' The objective of this seminar was to guide entrepreneurs and business leaders from Surat and South Gujarat who wish to expand their business into the United States—one of the world's most competitive and opportunity-rich markets.

Speaking at the session, Ms. Sheetal Agarwal-Desai, Founder of Indum Advisors, said that despite the imposition of tariffs, one must look for positivity and new opportunities. She added that many Indians

hold misconceptions about doing business in the United States – for example, the belief that Permanent Residency (PR) is required to start a company there, which is not true. She explained the essential factors to consider when launching a product or service in the U.S., along with the key compliance requirements.

Emphasising market research, she stated that the United States is a vast market and despite tariffs, opportunities still exist for us. The impact of tariffs will be felt more by American consumers. If tariffs are imposed, there are also incentives available, and one must be aware of them. She further provided information on subsidies, grants, and sales tax



exemptions available in the U.S. She also explained the visa categories that permit business activities and the immigration checks involved.

Hon. Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Bijal Jariwala, delivered the welcome address. The seminar was attended by the Chamber's Hon. Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, Indam Advisors' Co-Founder Amanat Kagzi, and various entrepreneurs. Indam (INDAM)

Advisors' Co-Founder Ashfaq Kalkattawala shared insights on why Indam Advisors was established and elaborated on its activities.

SGCCI Global Connect CEO Paresh Bhatt introduced the speaker and conducted the entire program. The Chamber's Group Chairman Sanjay Punjabi provided information about the event and proposed the vote of thanks.

## A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Chamber and Surat Texmach Federation for the 'Surat International Textile Machinery Expo - 2025' exhibition



The Office Bearers of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Surat Texmach Federation signed an MoU-Memorandum of Understanding-on Thursday, 09 September 2025 at Sanhati, Sarsana, for jointly organizing the 'Surat International Textile Machinery Expo (SITEX)-2025', which will be held on 22, 23 and 24 November 2025 at the Surat International Exhibition & Convention Centre, Sarsana, Surat.

Chamber President Nikhil Madrasl and Surat Texmach Federation President Mukesh Patel signed the MoU-Memorandum of Understanding. Present on the occasion were the Chamber's Vice President Ashok Jirawala, Hon. Secretary Bijal Jariwala, Hon. Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, and from the Surat Texmach Federation, Secretary Jitendra Mistry, Joint Secretaries Bhavesh Vagharia and Mahendra Kukadia.

At the MoU signing ceremony for 'SITEX-2025', all exhibition stalls were allotted to exhibitors through a draw system due to their overwhelming enthusiasm. They were also immediately provided with the exhibition layout and their respective stall numbers.

Chamber President Nikhil Madrasl stated that Surat's textile industry has traditionally held a strong global identity, and SiteX-2025 will serve as an important platform to promote Surat's textile machinery, textile ancillary machinery, and technical textile-related machinery industries at both the national and international levels. This exhibition will help industries gain direct access to new technology, innovations, and business opportunities. Leading textile machinery manufacturers, technology providers, and traders from India and abroad



will participate in this exhibition, offering direct opportunities to Surat's industrial entrepreneurs.

Embroidery is an integral part of Surat's economy. Through SITEX-2025, we will be able to give this sector a new direction. The exhibition will provide a golden opportunity to strengthen connections between international buyers, technology suppliers,

and local industries.

At the MoU-Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony, office bearers of both organizations expressed confidence that this exhibition will further strengthen Surat's position on the global textile industry map and prepare industries of all sizes—small and large—to compete internationally.

## A session on 'The Foundation of Women's Health: Self-Love and a Balanced Diet'



A session on 'The Foundation of Women's Health: Self-Love and a Balanced Diet' was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry on Sunday, 12 October 2025, at 10:30 AM at Samruddhi Building, Nanpura, Surat.

While delivering the welcome address, Vijay Mewawala, the Immediate Past President of the Chamber of Commerce, stated, 'A woman is not only the pillar of her family but also determines the direction of the health and well-being of society. If a woman is healthy, the family, society, and the entire nation remain healthy. However, many times women overlook their own health; in dedicating themselves to their families, they often forget to take care of

themselves and frequently neglect proper nutrition.'

Dr. Deepa Patel, speaking about the diet and lifestyle of teenage and college-going girls, said:

'An unbalanced diet during the teenage years can lead to several complications during pregnancy in the future. Girls require approximately 2,300 calories per day, whereas boys require around 2,400 calories daily. Due to dieting, excessive consumption of fast food, and frequent meal skipping, cases of PCOS and obesity are increasingly being observed among girls today. Instead of wheat and rice, millet should be included more prominently in their diet.'

Dr. Rupal Shah, while providing information about health issues from the teenage years through





**Mr. Vijay Mevawala,**  
**Imm. Past**  
**President-SGCCCI**



**Dr. Deepa Patel**



**Dr. Rupal Shah**



**Dr. Trupti Patel**

menopause, said: 'Due to hormonal problems, lack of health awareness, and poor hygiene, women often fall prey to serious illnesses. According to one report, 78% of working women suffer from obesity, depression, chronic back pain, diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, and kidney-related issues. Currently, 1 out of every 10 girls is affected by PCOS. To stay protected from PCOS, practising yoga and maintaining a balanced diet are the best options.'

Dr. Trupti Patel said, 'A person's relationship with oneself, along with love and care, forms the foundation of self-confidence. One should love oneself, avoid worrying about others' standards, believe in one's own abilities, always help others, and

stop trying to please everyone. How you see yourself is what truly matters.'

Acting President of the Chamber of Commerce, Ashok Jirawala, members of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, and several women attended the session. Group Chairman Rakesh Gandhi outlined the program. Dr. Parul Vadgama, Chairperson of the Public Health Committee, introduced the speakers, while Dr. Rajan Desai, Co-Chairman of the Public Health Committee, conducted the entire session. In the end, all questions raised by the attendees were satisfactorily answered by the speakers.

Ritesh Bodawala, Chairman of the Banquet Committee, delivered the vote of thanks.

## Want to become a model? The Chamber will help you

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry will launch an initiative to empower aspiring models who wish to join the glamorous modeling industry. A fashion show and catalog publication will be organized in the upcoming month of January for children, teenagers, young boys and girls, and enthusiastic youths from Surat city and South Gujarat who are associated with, or eager to enter, the modeling industry.

The primary aim of this fashion show and catalogue publication is to provide talented local models with a platform to showcase their skills and gain public visibility. The modelling industry is highly competitive, and many do not get the right opportunity. Through this initiative, the Chamber of Commerce seeks to bring such

individuals forward and offer them a chance to become self-reliant.

Chamber President Nikhil Madrasai said that almost all major industries of Surat—such as diamond, textiles, and real estate—offer numerous opportunities for models. Various organizations in these industries promote their products through newspaper advertisements, hoardings, and social media, and for each brand they select models suitable for that brand's image. It has been observed that models from outside Surat are often chosen, perhaps because companies are not aware of the talent available within our own city. Therefore, this initiative has been undertaken by the Chamber of Commerce to bring local talent to the forefront.



## **A representation to the Reserve Bank of India requesting that the rule for same-day cheque clearing be suspended for one month**

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry submitted a representation to the Chief General Manager of the Reserve Bank of India requesting that the rule regarding same-day cheque clearing be suspended for one month.

SGCCI President Nikhil Madrasai said, 'The Reserve Bank of India introduced the real-time cheque clearance system on 4 October 2025 with the intention of speeding up the cheque-clearing process in banking. However, due to technical glitches, many traders and industrialists have complained that cheques which were supposed to clear within a few

hours have not been cleared even after 6-7 days. As a result, bank staff have had to revert to clearing cheques through the old manual system.

Moreover, he stated that due to a liquidity crunch during the Diwali season, trade and business are being directly affected, and traders have also expressed concerns about the possibility of fraud.

In view of these issues, The Chamber of Commerce made a representation to the Chief General Manager of the Reserve Bank of India, requesting that the 'same-day cheque clearing' rule be suspended for one month.

### **Pre-Diwali celebration by SBC**



SGCCI's Business Connect (SBC) organized a grand 'SBC Pre-Diwali Celebration 2025' on Saturday, 11th October 2025 at D Villa Garden Resto Lounge, where a vibrant and festive Diwali atmosphere prevailed.

Child artist Princi Prajapati, known for her performances in popular TV series such as Anupama, Itta Kitta, and Mi, graced the event as the Chief Guest. Her presence added joy and enthusiasm to the celebration.

Chamber's Acting President Ashok Jirawala graced the occasion and encouraged the members. The presence of the Chamber's Group Chairmen Bhavesh Tailor, Kamlesh Gajera, Dr. Vijay Raddadiya, and Bandana Bhattacharya, along with SBC Group

Chairman Deepak Kumar Sheethwala, made the event even more special.

The above programme was held under the chairmanship of Chandrakant Prajapati, Chairman of SBC, and was enthusiastically conducted by Smt. Jagruti Prajapati.

Around 150 family members joined this Diwali celebration, where guests enjoyed an evening filled with music. The event organized by SBC was not just a celebration, but a memorable occasion that helped strengthen bonds of friendship among entrepreneurs and business professionals. Such events create an atmosphere of networking, joy, and enthusiasm among industry members, further uniting the Chamber family.



## On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, an awareness session titled 'Ek Deepstambh' was organized



On Sunday, 12 October 2025, at 11:00 AM, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized an awareness session titled 'Ek Deepstambh' at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat, to mark the 150th birth anniversary of India's Iron Man, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. During the session, Vinay Patrale, National Working President of Bharat Bharti Sanstha, and Kanjibhai Bhalala, President of Saurashtra Patel Seva Samaj, provided detailed insights into the life and inspiring vision of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

In his welcome address, the Acting President of the Chamber of Commerce, Ashok Jirawala, said that after Independence, the Iron Man Sardar Patel not only laid the foundation of a united nation but also

established the basis of the civil services, becoming a pillar of India's administrative framework. He remains an ideal for all of us, and every aspect of his great personality continues to inspire us.

The National Executive President of Bharat Bharti Sanstha, Mr. Vinay Patrale, delivered an inspiring talk through an audio-visual presentation on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's foresight and the five fundamental qualities worth adopting in life. He said that Sardar Saheb has made immense contributions to the nation. Yet, he did not receive the recognition he truly deserved in this country. After independence, he was awarded the Bharat Ratna only in 1991. He was worthy of becoming the Prime Minister, but he withdrew his



**Mr. Ashok Jirawala-  
Acting  
President-SGCCCI**



**Mr. Vinay Patrale- National  
Executive President-  
Bharat Bharti Sanstha**



**Mr. Kanji Bhalala-  
President- Saurashtra  
Patel Seva Samaj**



candidature out of respect for Gandhiji's words.

He said that while remembering Sardar Patel on his birth anniversary, we must also remove the remnants of the slavery mindset that still remain. We should imbibe in our lives the five principles of self-respect, harmony, security, environment-cleanliness, and fulfillment of civic duties.

Kanjibhai Bhalala, President of the Saurashtra Patel Seva Samaj, while speaking about the life and vision of the Iron Man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, said that the entire nation is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Patel. In every district, Vicharyatras have been organized. He highlighted several incidents of Sardar's skills, sacrifice, and dedication, and said that

Sardar can never be forgotten. It is because of his strong decision-making ability, sharp intelligence, dedication, and willpower that India is united today. The country witnessed his exceptional strategic acumen during the integration of Junagadh into India. One of his mottos was extremely inspiring—Be fearless.

The Immediate Past President of the Chamber, Mr. Vijay Mewawala, expressed his gratitude to everyone present at the event. The Group Chairmen of the Chamber, Mr. Paresh Lathia and Mr. Manish Kapadiya, introduced the speakers. Both speakers also held an interactive discussion session with the audience. The programme was compered by Mr. Chetan Sheth, a member of the Chamber's Managing Committee.

## Guidance on Traffic Awareness to the Students of Sindhu Seva Samiti School



On Monday, 13 October 2025, at 10:00 AM, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Traffic Awareness Session for the students of Sindhu Seva Samiti School, Adajan, Surat. In this session, more than 200 primary section students were given detailed information about the importance of wearing helmets, using seat belts, and possessing a valid driving licence.

The Chairperson of the Chamber's Traffic Education and Awareness Committee, Ms. Kamniben Dumaswala, explained traffic signals, the dangers of driving vehicles at underage, driving on the wrong

side, and using mobile phones while riding/driving, which often result in serious accidents. She also guided students on how to avoid such accidents. Using appropriate examples, she explained the necessity of regularly using helmets, seat belts, and maintaining valid licences.

On this occasion, the Co-Chairperson of the Chamber's Traffic Education and Awareness Committee, Mrs. Archanaben Desai, Co-Chairman Mr. Mukesh Patel, and committee members Mr. Ganesh Solanki, Mr. Jatin Shah, and Mrs. Chhayaben Mehta, along with more than 15 teachers of the school, were present.



## A session on “Talk Therapy Called Magic: Weight Loss on the Spot”



An interesting session titled “Talk Therapy Called Magic: Weight Loss on the Spot” was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Tuesday, 14 October 2025 at 4:30 PM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat. In this session, Dr. Jigar Shah from Ahmedabad – a specialist in this field who has also performed inch-loss demonstrations on India's Got Talent along with comedian Bharti – shared tips for achieving inch-loss while sitting on a chair without exercise or diet, demonstrating how inch-loss and weight-loss differ.

Dr. Jigar Shah said that twenty five years ago gyms were rarely seen, whereas today there are gyms in every lane and in almost every society – yet the problem of weight gain still does not end, because the mind is not in

our control. He demonstrated live how one can achieve inch-loss while sitting on a chair without any exercise or diet in just five minutes. He also gave satisfactory answers to various questions asked by the audience.

SGCCI Education and Skill Development Centre Chairman Mr. Mahesh Pamnani delivered the welcome address. SGCCI Group Chairman Mr. Kamlesh Gajera expressed gratitude to all those present at the session. AYUSH Committee Chairperson Dr. Marshall outlined the program. Committee Member Mr. Jayesh Patel introduced the speaker. Committee Member Mr. Chirag Gajjar conducted the session with the chanting of the Omkar mantra as per Vedic tradition. Ms. Rekhaben Patel and members of the Chamber were present at the session.



## Women Entrepreneur Cell celebrated the “Diwali Rishton Ki” program



The 'Diwali Rishton Ki' program was celebrated by the Women Entrepreneur Cell of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday, 15th October 2025 at 5:30 PM at The Amor Restaurant, Piplod, Surat.

The Immediate Past President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Vijay Mevawala, delivered the welcome address. The Chamber's Group Chairman, Mr. Shailesh Desai, gave a relevant address. On this occasion, India's former Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smt. Darshana Jardosh,

especially encouraged the women entrepreneurs to expand the scope of their businesses.

Dr. Kinjal Patel, co-founder of Sculpt Skincare, provided useful information on skincare to the women entrepreneurs. Anchor Krupali Shah conducted house and other fun activities for the cell members.

Ms. Ankita Valand, Chairperson of the Women Entrepreneur Cell, extended Diwali greetings to the members and stated: "The members of the Women Entrepreneur Cell must make efforts so that more





and more women entrepreneurs can benefit from the Cell. Every member should inspire one more woman to join the Cell," she said, setting a target of enrolling 100 members into the Cell.

On this occasion, the advisors of the Women Entrepreneur Cell – Mrs. Swatiben Shethwala,

Ms. Kritika Shah – and the Cell's Co-Chairpersons Advocate Beena Bhagat, Ms. Dhara Shah, Ms. Nimisha Parekh, Mrs. Roshni Tailor, along with the Cell members, were present. Women Entrepreneur Cell member Ms. Shilpi Saha extended a vote of thanks to everyone present.

## Industrial visits of N.U. Citizen Fabrics Pvt. Ltd. and Green Lab Diamonds LLP



The delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted an industrial visit to NU Citizens Fabrics Pvt. Ltd. in Tadkeshwar, Mandvi, on Wednesday, October 8, 2025. Following this, the delegation visited Green Lab Diamonds LLP in Ichhapore on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, to study the various processes, including production, at the facility.

During the industrial visit to NU Citizens Fabrics Pvt. Ltd., the Chamber's delegation received detailed information about the company's modern production unit. They inspected the operations of key units in the advanced manufacturing process, such as Waterjet, Washing, Stenter, Coating, and PVC Calendar. The delegation commended the company for the innovative technology, quality control systems, and environmentally-friendly

approach adopted in the textile sector.

The Chamber's delegation also conducted an industrial visit to Green Lab Diamonds, a leader in the field of lab-grown diamonds. The delegation studied the various processes involved, including





diamond growing, cutting, polishing, and quality testing. They also gathered extensive information regarding the company's adoption of sustainable production processes, its environmentally-friendly approach, and the innovation and digital technology introduced within the diamond industry.

The President of the Chamber of Commerce, Nikhil Madrasī, stated that industries in Surat

are rapidly advancing towards technology, innovation, and quality. Companies like NU Citizens Fabrics and Green Lab Diamonds have set a new benchmark in the industrial world by prioritizing innovation and sustainability in their respective sectors. Visits to such industries allow Chamber members the advantage of gaining firsthand knowledge about new industry techniques and production processes

## A session on 'Grow Business with Receivable Safety through Trade Credit Insurance'



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a session on the topic 'Grow Business with Receivable Safety through Trade Credit Insurance' on Friday, October 17, 2025, at 4:00 PM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat. Detailed information was provided by Karthikeyan Mishra, Credit Insurance Underwriter from Tata AIG, Mumbai, and Rishabh Zaveri from Care Insurance Associates & Fata Insurance, Ahmedabad."

The President of the Chamber of Commerce, Nikhil Madrasī, stated that the session was organized with the objective of informing entrepreneurs about effective insurance solutions to secure their business receivables. The Chamber continuously works to educate the industrial sector

about modern financial and risk management tools by organizing such knowledge-sharing sessions.

Speakers Karthikeyan Mishra and Rishabh Zaveri provided detailed information on how Trade Credit Insurance protects businesses against situations like buyer defaults, insolvency, or delayed payments. They explained that this insurance helps entrepreneurs confidently expand their businesses and makes both domestic and international trade more streamlined by reducing credit risk. Chamber members, industrialists, and traders participated enthusiastically in the session and discussed various aspects of Trade Credit Insurance with the speakers.





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### **MORE DETAILS CONTACT**

**Mr. Kirtan Mehta (M) +91 72111 73123**  
**Venue:** SGCCI, Samruddhi Building, Nanpura, Surat.  
**(E)** education@sgcci.in **(W)** www.sgcci.in



# EXHIBITIONS FOR THE YEAR 2025-26

**RAKHI SPECIAL  
SHRAVAN  
BUSINESS MELA**  
4-5-6 July 2025

4<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
**WEAVE  
KNITT** EXHIBITION 2025  
THE COMPLETE FABRIC SHOW  
18 19 20 JULY 2025  
B2B Platform for Weavers & Knitters

7<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
**YARN EXPO™**  
An International Trade Show  
1 2 3 AUG. 2025

**संस्कृति**  
The Mega Art Festival  
Celebrating Art, Culture & Handicraft  
12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2025

**Diwali**  
BUSINESS MELA  
10-11-12 October 2025

12<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
**SITEX**®  
SURAT INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE EXPO  
22-23-24 NOV 2025  
AN EXCLUSIVE TEXTILE MACHINERY EXPO

**SITME '26**  
SURAT INTERNATIONAL  
TEXTILE & MACHINERY EXPO  
09-10-11-12 JAN 2026  
EMBROIDERY MACHINERY EXPO

6<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
**SGCCI  
Food & Beverages**  
EXPO  
24 25 26 JANUARY 2026

**SGCCI  
GLOBAL  
VILLAGE**  
GLOBAL EXCHANGE & TRADE EXHIBITION  
24 25 26 JANUARY 2026

**WEE'26**  
25-26-27 Jan. 2026

SGCCI  
**EPE** EXPO  
ENERGY • POWER • ELECTRICAL  
Powering the Future – Today  
6-7-8 FEBRUARY 2026

**SMART  
EDUCATION  
EXPO 2026**  
6-7-8 FEB, 2026

13<sup>th</sup> EDITION  
**SITEX**®  
SURAT INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE EXPO  
21-22-23 FEB 2026  
AN EXCLUSIVE TEXTILE MACHINERY EXPO

SURAT INTERNATIONAL  
**auto exp.** 1<sup>st</sup> Edition  
13-14-15-16 MARCH 2026  
FUELLING THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY

**Art  
EXHIBITION**  
AHMEDABAD  
19 TO 22 MARCH 2026

**vibrant  
GUJARAT  
REGIONAL  
CONFERENCES**  
Regional Operations, Digital Revolution  
9 & 10 April, 2026

SGCCI  
**WEALTH  
EXPO 2026**  
8-9-10 MAY

SGCCI  
**DiMaS**  
DIGITAL MARKETING  
SUMMIT & EXPO

**Health &  
Wellness Expo**

5<sup>th</sup> Edition  
**Surat  
Startup  
Summit**

**SPARKLE** '26  
INTERNATIONAL  
Gems & Jewellery Exhibition

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