

ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સનું મુખપત્ર

સમૃદ્ધિ

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Surat Auto Expo: A Grand Finish in Top Gear



SGCCI

The Southern Gujarat
Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
ACT WITH ONE MIND



ACTIVITIES OF SGCCI

Signature
BUSINESS CLUB



સેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સનું મુખપત્ર
સમૃદ્ધિ

SGCCI
infazine
e-newsletter - Monthly

President's Message

Surat's Unyielding Resilience Amidst Challenges and the New Horizon of Prosperity

"If the shore is out of reach, no matter; the joy of carving a new path is incomparable!"

My Dear Fellow Entrepreneurs and Members of the Chamber Family,

March 2026 has been a true litmus test for the industrial landscape of Surat and South Gujarat. History bears witness that whenever Surat has faced adversity, it has emerged more radiant than before. Today, Surat is no longer just the 'City of Diamonds and Textiles'; it has evolved into a vibrant global hub of innovation and indomitable entrepreneurship.

Standing Firm Against Global Headwinds

The geopolitical crisis in the Gulf region during mid-March severely impacted our supply chains and fuel costs. During this crisis, 'The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry' (SGCCI) stood firm, making effective representations to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Chief Minister to safeguard industrial interests. The results are before us. We have proven that strong dialogue between industry and government can mitigate even the most daunting economic disasters.

Policy Victory and Economic Relief

The DGVCL Tariff Order for 2026-27 is a monumental victory for our collective strength, with no increase in base rates and a crucial 2-hour extension of the Time-of-Use (TOU) discount. This will provide an estimated annual benefit of ₹128 crore to South Gujarat's industries, strengthening our position in the global competitive arena.

A Future Vision: Green and Tech-Savvy Surat

The grand success of Auto Expo 2026 has demonstrated the vast potential of Surat's market. However, we must not rest here. The future belongs to 'Green Energy' and 'Artificial Intelligence'

(AI). Our seminars and initiatives like 'SBC 3.0' held this month were specifically designed to equip our members with these futuristic technologies.

Surat has always pioneered the adoption of innovation. I am delighted to share that our flagship publication, 'Samruddhi', has now reached the pinnacle of modern technology. While other organizations are still experimenting with AI in fragments, our Chamber has blazed a trail by delivering **India's first-ever magazine fully powered by AI content and design strategy**. This experiment proves that Surat and the Chamber are not just ready to adopt the technology of the future but are fully capable of leading it.

Unity is Our Strength

Friends, our unity is our greatest asset. It is in Surat's DNA to never fear trouble but to find a way through it together. I call upon all of you to join hands in making Surat a formidable global economic powerhouse. Your support is essential to scale the new peaks of prosperity. Our journey is continuous, and our goal is clear: **All-round Development!**



Nikhil Madrasi
President

With Gratitude,
Nikhil Madrasi

N. N. Madrasi

President, SGCCI

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CA Mitish Modi
Hon. Treasurer

Vice President's Message

Infrastructure's new 'Power Booster' and a move towards global expertise

Dear Members and Entrepreneurs,

The need of the hour is to look beyond just solving problems and prepare ourselves to seize future opportunities. The historic electricity tariff relief achieved this March is a direct result of our collective unity. However, I urge that we utilize these savings for the **Modernization** of our industries.



Ashok Jirawala
Vice President

Our next milestone is to boost exports in the Textile, Diamond, and Chemical sectors. Hard work alone is no longer enough; we must focus on technical support and manufacturing as per international standards. The training workshops and skill development programs organized by the Chamber are specifically aimed at making our members 'Experts' in global competition.

Uninterrupted power supply is vital for industrial growth. To ensure this, we met with the Hon'ble Energy Minister in Gandhinagar and presented a '**Power Booster**' proposal to strengthen the electrical infrastructure in Surat's industrial zones. The government has taken our demand for a dedicated '**GETCO**' Circle for Surat and new **220 KV Sub-stations** in the Kim-Pipodra belt very seriously.

Embracing infrastructure upgrades and new technology will be our key to long-term sustainability. Together, let us make Surat's industries smarter, more capable, and more prosperous.

Looking forward to your continued cooperation.

Ashok Jirawala

Vice President, SGCCI

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI). While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided—including data processed through automated analytical tools—SGCCI does not guarantee the absolute completeness or accuracy of this content. Readers are advised to independently verify any critical business data before making professional decisions.

From the Editor's Desk

The Rebirth of 'Samruddhi'—Where Tradition Meets Technological Revolution!

The issue of '**Samruddhi**' you hold in your hands is not just a magazine; it is a living example of a '**Digital Revolution**.' With this APRIL 2026 issue, we have completely redesigned **Samruddhi**, giving it a futuristic look. The hallmark of this edition is that its content and layout strategy are **entirely powered by AI (Artificial Intelligence)**. While many publications have used AI sporadically or on a trial basis, we proudly state that this issue of '**Samruddhi**' is perhaps the first in the history of Indian industrial organizations to have its content, design, and layout strategy fully prepared by AI.

The Chamber has not just redesigned a magazine; it has established a complete **Digital Newsroom (Media Hub)**. This system is more than just an AI agent; it is an end-to-end **SAAS (Software as a Service)** model that automates the entire editorial pipeline—from the moment a reporter files a press note to the final magazine layout.

Typically, building a magazine requires hours of manual effort from graphic designers. However, here, Gemini AI writes the content, and the system automatically converts it into a digital PDF. Furthermore, should AI technology ever deliver limited results, the system instantly prepares a '**Plan B Export Pack**' to allow a designer to complete manual tasks within minutes.

How do you like this completely new design and AI-integrated issue? Your feedback and suggestions on this revolutionary experiment are invaluable to us.

Warm Regards,

The Editor,

SGCCI Magazine

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**We welcome
your feedback
and suggestions
on this edition of
'Samruddhi'.**

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Index

01. A Grand Convergence of Speed and Power	07
02. When safety and speed converged	08
03. Six months' worth of business in just four days!	09
04. Such a crowd in Sarsana, never even seen during Navratr!!!	10
05. Youth from Naxal-Affected Areas Visit the Chamber	11
06. The taste of the kitchen, now at the doorstep of your terrace	12
07. Bone-Appetit: Don't Let Joint Pains Lock Your Life!	13
08. Age Increases, But Enthusiasm Doesn't Fade!	14
09. Make a 'Will', Drive Away Disputes!	15
10. Don't Fear TB, Fight It!	16
11. No Risk in Business, Only Insurance!	17
12. Solar Sector Seeks a Year's Grace: SGCCI Takes Up ALMM-II Issue in Delhi	17
13. The Third Eye of the Police: Members of the Akhil Hind Mahila Parishad Witness the Power of the Control Room!	18
14. Data is Your New Wealth: Lock It Before You Lose It!	19
15. Bachpan Ke Din Bhoola Na Dena....!!	20
16. Decoding Today's Youth	21
17. Legacy & Security: Understanding the Strategic Importance of Estate Planning	22
18. Comprehensive Risk Resilience	23
19. Empowering Surat's Textile Exports	24
20. A VIP Dialogue at Sarsana: When the 'Protectors' Met the 'Providers'	25
21. Nurturing Healthy Childhood	26
22. Powering Surat's Growth	27
23. Surat's Creativity Makes Waves in Ahmedabad	28
24. Safeguarding Labor & Industry	29
25. A New Dawn of Energy Relief for Industries	29
26. Waste to Wealth: Green Entrepreneurship as a Strategic Opportunity for Modern Industry	30
27. Urgent Demand for a 'Rescue Package' from the Government	31
28. Beyond the Glitz of Green Cards: Legal Safeguards for NRI Marriages	32
29. Prosperity Through Cooperation	33
30. Global War Fallout: A Plea to the Prime Minister to Save Industries from an Economic 'Blackout'	34
31. Surat to Emerge as Global Hub for Cow-Based Industries	35
32. Navigating Global Volatility with Expert Investment Roadmaps	36
33. Designing Success: From Intricate Henna Patterns to Global Woman Excellence	37
34. Pharma & Chemical Revolution	38
35. Financial Empowerment	39
36. SBC 1.0 – Face to Face with TCC	40
37. AI: The Future of Business Efficiency	40
38. SGCCI in Headlines	41



- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

Auto Expo: A Massive Hit

A Grand Convergence of Speed and Power



Surat hosts the country's second-largest Auto Expo after Delhi

The four-day 'Surat International Auto Expo 2026', organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) at Sarsana, proved that Surat is now becoming a dynamic hub for the automobile sector, in addition to diamonds and textiles. In this mega event held from March 13 to 16, more than 70 brands and thousands of visitors participated.

Chamber President Shri Nikhil Madrasi, while describing this day as historic, said that this is the largest auto show in Western India after Delhi. The expo was inaugurated by Shri Nitinbhai Dossa, Chairman of VCCCI. On this occasion, dignitaries like Padma Shri Savjibhai Dholakia, Shri E. Rajendran from iACE, and industrialist Shri Lavjibhai Badshah remained present.



- Nitinbhai Dossa's Vision: In the coming times, a separate exhibition of vintage cars belonging to Maharajas from across the country can be organized in Surat. We will bring 150 vintage cars by driving them all the way from Mumbai.

- Savjibhai Dholakia: "This expo will inspire the youth to dream big. I have seen some cars here for the very first time in my life."





- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

Auto Expo: A Massive Hit

When safety and speed converged



Police Commissioner's Guidance and the Thrill of Adventure

During his visit to the expo, Surat Police Commissioner Shri Anupam Singh Gehlot praised the purchasing power and discipline of Surat. He stated that the craze for vehicles among Surti people is phenomenal, and this event by the Chamber puts Surat on the global map. Along with emphasizing road safety and traffic discipline, he also gathered information about the technical aspects of modern vehicles.



Major Attractions

11 Rare Vintage Cars: Extremely rare vintage cars from the 1930s and 40s took visitors on a journey through history.

Jeep Proving Ground: For adventure seekers, Surat saw the highest number of people in India experiencing driving on rugged terrains and steep slopes at the Jeep Proving Ground.

Stunt Bike Show: Thousands of people flocked to witness the thrilling stunts performed by skilled riders, which became immensely popular among the youth.

Unveiling of 13 New Vehicles: The grand launching of 10 passenger and 3 commercial vehicles took place at this expo.



- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

Auto Expo: A Massive Hit

Six months' worth of business in just four days!



- **87,000+** visitors and on-the-spot bookings worth crores.
- Expo Chairman Mehul Desai and All Exhibition Chairman Kiran Thummar stated that this expo proved to be a 'Golden Opportunity' for exhibitors. Dealers acknowledged that business equivalent to what they usually do in 6 months was generated in just 4 days. Many visitors booked their favorite cars and two-wheelers on the spot by providing advance checks.
- **Journey Towards a Manufacturing Hub:** Shri E. Rajive, Director of iACE, predicted that new automobile plants will now be established in Surat, making it a manufacturing and export hub. Immediate Past President Shri Vijay Mewawala, Vice President Shri Ashok Jirawala, Honorary Secretary Shri Bijal Jariwala, and Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi were also part of this success.

Key Highlights of the Expo

Details	Figures
Total Brand Participation	70+ Brands
Renowned Car Brands	20+ (Audi, BMW, Mercedes, etc.)
Vintage Car Exhibition	11 Extremely Rare Cars
Unveiling of New Vehicles	13 (10 Passenger + 3 Commercial)
Business Generation	Equivalent to 6 months of inquiries
Jeep Proving Ground Record	Highest number of drives in India in a single day

Such a crowd in Sarsana, never even seen during Navratri!!!



Surat International Auto Expo 2026: At a Glance

• Daily Visitor Analysis

Day	Date	Visitors	Special Highlights
1: Friday	March 13, 2026	7,880	Grand Inauguration and Launch of 13 Vehicles
2: Saturday	March 14, 2026	14,740	Weekend Enthusiasm and Stunt Bike Show
3: Sunday	March 15, 2026	50,000+	Record-breaking Crowd and Proving Ground
4: Monday	March 16, 2026	15,000+	Closing Ceremony and Corporate Bookings
Total	4 Days	87,620+	Historic Figure

87,620+
Historic Figure



- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

A Transformative journey

Youth from Naxal-Affected Areas Visit the Chamber

For more than 250 tribal youths from Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh—whose elders have witnessed the dark decades of Naxalism and who themselves have trekked kilometers through dense forests for education—this visit to Surat has proven to be a new chapter in their lives. Under the Government of India's Youth Development Program, in joint collaboration with the CRPF and Surat Police, these youths arrived on a six-day study tour. The primary objective was to connect youth from remote areas with mainstream development and provide them with a firsthand experience of modern India's progress.

A Unique and Astonishing Journey of First-Time Experiences

Many youths in this group traveled in a train's second-class coach for the first time, while for others, riding in a luxury car was a completely new and thrilling experience. Raised amidst extremely limited resources and the shadow of fear, these youths were left awestruck upon entering the state-of-the-art Exhibition Center and air-conditioned seminar halls of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) at Sarsana. They experienced firsthand what an 'Exhibition' truly is, the nature of international-standard infrastructure, and how the wheels of global trade turn. Speaking openly about the Naxal problem, they acknowledged the suffering their families endured due to past violence and instability. However, the visit to Surat brought

a paradigm shift in their thoughts. Seeing Surat's world-class cleanliness, disciplined systems, and the pulse of the Diamond and Textile industries, a new hope of building a bright future through education and hard work was born. It was a victory of the ideology of development over the ideology of violence.

Echoes of Cultural Convergence and National Unity

This study tour was not limited to industrial visits; it became a unique confluence of diverse cultures. When these youths shared stories of their traditional arts and struggles in Surat's modern setting, it showcased the true essence of 'Unity in Diversity.' Through these interaction sessions, the youths realized that despite linguistic or geographical distances, the quest for progress is common to every Indian. This visit instilled a confidence in them that they are an integral part of a Developed India.

Inspirational Encouragement from Industry Leaders

The visit was successfully completed under the guidance and active cooperation of Chamber Group Chairmen **Manish Kapadia** and **Paresh Lathiya**. Direct dialogue with industry leaders inspired the youths that the true and sustainable path to progress is not violence, but education, development, and mutual cooperation. Witnessing Surat's entrepreneurship inspired them to return to their hometowns and innovate. This tour has cultivated a new vision of 'Modern India' in the minds of these tribal youths, marking a milestone for the country's internal security and unity.





The taste of the kitchen, now at the doorstep of your terrace

Special guidance on kitchen gardening in collaboration with SGCCI Ladies Wing and Krishi Vigyan Kendra

A special program was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) to promote urban farming. This initiative empowers citizens to grow toxic-free and fresh food in limited spaces. As part of an effort to encourage a sustainable urban lifestyle, a comprehensive workshop was organized at the Exhibition Ground, Sarsana, by the **Ladies Wing** and the **Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Committee** of SGCCI.

Mayuriben Mewawala, Chairperson of the Ladies Wing, inaugurated the program, emphasizing the integration of environmental health with modern lifestyle. She stated that given the increasing pollution in cities, developing a kitchen garden at home is no longer just a hobby but an essential requirement for healthy living. Immediate Past President **Vijay Mewawala**, Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, and industry leader K.B. Pipaliya also graced the event, emphasizing the inclusion of greenery within the city's industrial framework.

Scientific Approach to Urban Farming

During the technical session, **Bhaktiben Panchal**, Scientist-Horticulture from the **Krishi Vigyan Kendra**, Navsari Agricultural University, provided guidance. She explained 'Masterclass' techniques to achieve higher yields in limited spaces, detailing how to grow fruits, vegetables, and medicinal plants on terraces at minimal cost. Practical knowledge regarding organic fertilizers, water management, and seasonal crop selection was also shared. This program is a significant step in the Chamber's series of successful agricultural initiatives, strengthening the spirit of self-reliance among members and society.

Empowering a Green Future

Supported by the Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), the program also presented a policy-oriented perspective. Assistant Municipal Commissioner **Gayatriben Jariwala** noted that such programs are vital for maximizing urban land use to increase greenery. **Janaksingh Rathod**, Deputy Director of **Krishi Vigyan Kendra**, reiterated that with proper scientific guidance, any citizen can successfully practice farming. The event concluded with a vote of



thanks by **Alpaben Madrasi**, while **Pragnaben Kadakiya** skillfully moderated the workshop.

This workshop was not just limited to providing information; it is taking the form of a social movement for the citizens of Surat. Amidst increasing urbanization and the risks of chemical farming, the slogan "**Grow Your Own Food**" has now become a necessity for every household. Hundreds of members present at the session pledged to start small-scale farming on their terraces and balconies. The organization aims to make Surat a '**Green City**' by conducting such awareness programs in every area.

Key Features:

Optimal Space Utilization: Special techniques for vertical gardening and container selection for small balconies.

Low-Cost Farming: Methods for creating nutrient-rich fertilizer and organic pesticides from household waste.

Health Benefits: Significant reduction in modern lifestyle diseases through chemical-free fresh vegetables.

"With proper guidance and adoption of organic methods, various vegetables and medicinal plants can be successfully grown on terraces at low cost." – Janaksingh Rathod, Deputy Director, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Navsari Agricultural University



Bone-Appetit: Don't Let Joint Pains Lock Your Life!

SGCCI hosts an expert session on Bone & Joint health for the modern lifestyle

In an era where “**Sitting is the new Smoking**,” backaches and stiff joints have become silent productivity killers. Addressing these daily health challenges, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a highly informative awareness session on ‘**Common Bone and Joint Ailments in Daily Life**’ at Samruddhi, Nanpura. The event aimed to equip members with the right knowledge to combat the orthopedic issues arising from sedentary corporate cultures.

Decoding the Skeletal Stress SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** kicked off the session by highlighting how today's high-pressure work environments often lead to neglecting physical well-being. “**While our businesses grow, our skeletal health shouldn't decline**,” he remarked. Leading the session, renowned Orthopedic & Joint Replacement Surgeon **Dr. Shrujal Shah** decoded the science of bones. He pointed out that prolonged sitting, lack of physical activity, and ergonomically incorrect postures are the primary culprits behind the rising cases of joint issues among young professionals.

Modern Solutions and Prevention **Dr. Shah introduced**

the audience to cutting-edge medical advancements like Computer-Assisted Joint Replacement. However, his core message was focused on natural preservation. He advocated for a proactive approach—emphasizing that a balanced diet rich in Calcium and Vitamin D, coupled with daily exercise, is the foundation for bone longevity. He warned that obesity puts undue stress on the knees and hips, leading to premature wear and tear. “**Early diagnosis and lifestyle corrections can save you from chronic pain and complex surgeries**,” **Dr. Shah advised.**

A Collaborative Health Initiative The program's technical framework was detailed by Group Chairman **Mr. Rakesh Gandhi**, while **Mr. Nainesh Pachchigar** introduced the guest speaker. To conclude the evening, Group Chairman **Mr. Bhavesh Tailor** expressed gratitude to the participants. The session successfully transformed complex medical jargon into practical life lessons, inspiring attendees to prioritize their bone health. In a fast-paced city like Surat, this initiative by SGCCI served as a vital wake-up call to maintain the ‘**structural integrity**’ of our bodies alongside our businesses.





Age Increases, But Enthusiasm Doesn't Fade!

SGCCI Organizes Health Management Session for Senior Citizens

With the rising population of senior citizens in India, the nature of health challenges in old age has also evolved. Estimates suggest that by 2050, the share of citizens aged 60 and above in India will rise to 20%. With the noble aim of ensuring the holistic health of this population, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) recently organized a special awareness session on 'Senior Citizen Health Management'. Chamber President Shri Nikhil Madrasai stated that the contribution of senior citizens to society is invaluable, and bringing awareness to their health is a top priority for the Chamber.

On this occasion, Chamber Group Chairman **Shri Rakesh Gandhi** presented the program's outline. **Dr. Parul Vadgama**, Chairperson of the Public Health Committee, introduced the keynote speaker, while Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** and **Shri Mahesh Pamanani**, Chairman of the Education and Skill Development Centre, were also present.

Providing expert guidance on preventive healthcare, keynote speaker and General Physician **Dr. Vinod Shah** spoke extensively on 'Preventive Vaccination and Healthcare Management'. He explained that immunity naturally declines with age, making regular health check-ups and vaccinations essential. Co-Chairman of the Public Health Committee, **Dr. Rajan Desai**, who moderated the session, encouraged senior citizens to adopt a balanced diet and an active lifestyle.

Essential Vaccinations for Seniors

Influenza: An annual vaccine that protects against viral fever and serious lung infections.

Pneumococcal: Provides protection against severe diseases like pneumonia, a leading cause of hospitalization in old age.

Herpes Zoster: Protects against muscle pain and skin infections (shingles).

Tetanus and Diphtheria: It is advisable to take this vaccine every 10 years.

Other Aspects of Health Maintenance for Seniors

Regular Health Screening: At least one full body check-up per year enables early diagnosis of diabetes, blood pressure, and heart disease.

Bone Strength: Calcium and Vitamin D-rich food, along with gentle sunlight, are vital to prevent brittle bones.

Mental Fitness: Socializing, reading, and light physical activity help combat mental illnesses like Alzheimer's and depression.

Planned Medication: It is crucial to maintain the exact timing and dosage of medicines as prescribed by doctors to avoid side effects.

Micro-nutrition: Not just calories, but minerals like Zinc, Selenium, and Vitamin B12 play a major role in boosting immunity.

Sleep Quality: 'Insomnia' (sleeplessness) is common; deep sleep flushes out toxins from the brain and reduces the risk of Alzheimer's.

Hydration Management: Even if not feeling thirsty, drinking at least 2 to 2.5 liters of water daily is essential for joint lubrication and digestion.



Foundational Lifestyle Changes and Precautions

Safe Home Environment: Installing grab-bars in bathrooms and ensuring adequate lighting can prevent falls and bone fractures.

Social Connection: Spending time with family and friends or engaging in voluntary activities is the best way to ward off mental loneliness.

Regular Exercise: Yoga, Pranayama, and 30 minutes of light walking significantly improve heart and lung capacity.

Medicine Safety: 'Polypharmacy' (taking many medicines at once) is common; using 'pill boxes' and regular consultation with a doctor is vital to avoid dosage errors.

"By taking vaccines at the right time and ensuring proper health care, many serious diseases can be avoided."

— Dr. Vinod Shah, General Physician



Make a 'Will', Drive Away Disputes!

Guidance Session on Wealth and Estate Planning

In today's complex legal and social framework, proper planning of life's earnings and assets is the key to mental peace for every senior citizen. With this noble objective, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) recently organized a special awareness session on 'Legal Security and Asset Management for Senior Citizens'. Following the successful health awareness programs in February, this initiative reflects the Chamber's unwavering commitment to social welfare and protecting the interests of seniors.

As part of an ongoing series of awareness programs, this session was held at Samruddhi, Nanpura. Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi** stated that the place of senior citizens in society is paramount, and protecting their interests is our collective responsibility. Keynote speaker and Legal Consultant, **Advocate Shri Najmuddin Meghani**, highlighted the importance of property succession and drafting a legal Will to avoid future legal disputes.

Asset Management and Legal Guidance

During the program, the necessity of proper distribution of assets and legal documentation was emphasized. **Shri Najmuddin Meghani** explained that the absence of a clear and legal Will often leads to family disputes, which can be avoided with timely planning. Chamber Group Chairman **Shri Rakesh Gandhi** presented the program's outline, while Public Health Committee Chairperson **Dr. Parul Vadgama**, Co-Chairman **Dr. Rajan Desai**, and member **Dr. Shalini Halvawala** played key roles in the successful conduct of the session. Honorary Treasurer CA **Mitish Modi** and **Shri Mahesh Pamanani**, Chairman of the Education and Skill Development Centre, provided institutional support.

Key Pillars of Legal Security

Clear Registered Will: Drafting a registered Will is the best way

to ensure the proper distribution of self-acquired property and resolve disputes.

Nomination Process: Appointing a 'Nominee' in bank accounts, insurance, and investments ensures ease for heirs in legal procedures.



Power of Attorney (PoA): Granting legal authority to a trusted person to manage assets in case of physical or mental incapacity.

Digitalization of Property Documents: It is essential to keep all legal papers secure and ensure that heirs are aware of them.

Major Objectives of the Session

Asset Security: Ensuring the protection of property through legal documents.

Dispute Resolution: Maintaining family harmony by clarifying inheritance rights.

Professional Advice: Obtaining expert guidance for estate planning.

Institutional Cooperation: Reflecting SGCCFs commitment to social responsibility.

Active Steps for Family Harmony

At the end of the session, senior citizens were urged to organize their legal matters during their lifetime so that they and their heirs can experience mental peace. Through such awareness programs, the Chamber continues to support all sections of society. Proactive legal planning is the most effective tool for protecting family wealth and ensuring long-term harmony. ●

"If a Will is prepared in a timely manner, controversial situations within the family can be avoided in the future."

— *Shri Najmuddin Meghani, Legal Consultant and Advocate*



Don't Fear TB, Fight It!

SGCCI Hosts Awareness Session on Tuberculosis Prevention

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), a leader in Surat's industrial and social upliftment, recently organized a special awareness session on the eradication of Tuberculosis (TB). Held at 'Samruddhi', the primary objective of this session was to dispel prevailing myths in society and highlight the critical importance of early diagnosis and a complete course of treatment. Conducted under the guidance of experts from the WHO and the Ministry of Health, Government of India, this initiative showcases the active contribution of Surat's business community to the National Health Mission.

By bridging the gap between medical experts and citizens, this initiative aims to accelerate early detection and ensure a full recovery for patients. Following the success of the Wellness Conclave, SGCCI continues to prioritize community well-being. Chamber **President Shri Nikhil Madrasi** noted that despite medical progress, many misconceptions about infectious diseases like TB still persist. Through this session, the Chamber provided accurate, expert-led information to the public. Keynote speaker **Dr. Rahul Sanghvi**, WHO Consultant for Gujarat, provided a detailed overview of the disease's transmission, symptoms, and the life-saving necessity of completing treatment.

Government Initiatives and Medical Guidance

During the session, **Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mattoo**, Joint Commissioner and Additional Deputy Director General of the Central TB Division under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, briefed attendees on

various government schemes. The program was organized by SGCCI's Public Health Committee, where Chairperson **Dr. Parul Vadgama** emphasized the need for community-wide awareness. The entire session was moderated by Committee Co-Chairman **Dr. Rajan Desai**.

Early Diagnosis – Dr. Rahul Sanghvi

Government Support – Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mattoo

Community Advocacy – Dr. Parul Vadgama

Program Coordination – Dr. Rajan Desai

A Step Towards a Disease-Free Society

Concluding the session, members of the business community were urged to become **'Health Ambassadors'** within their own organizations. By fostering transparency and a scientific approach, SGCCI remains committed to playing a pivotal role in the national goal of TB elimination.

"With timely testing and complete treatment, TB is entirely curable."
– Dr. Rahul Sanghvi, WHO Consultant, Gujarat

The Government of India is implementing various programs for the total eradication of TB, including timely screenings, free treatment, and massive awareness campaigns.





No Risk in Business, Only Insurance!

SGCCI Members Learn Smart Risk Management Tactics at Manshree Insurance Brokers

In today's uncertain business environment, security is the ultimate key to success. With this objective, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) recently organized a specialized industrial visit to 'Manshree Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd.' This visit was aimed at familiarizing Chamber members with the operational dynamics of the service sector and the intricacies of risk management.

Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi**, who attended the visit to emphasize the importance of protection against risks, stated that in today's competitive era, the significance of insurance and risk management has grown manifold. Such visits provide members with an opportunity to understand the internal workflows of various sectors, which eventually helps them safeguard their own businesses.

The ABCs of the Broking Sector

Experts at Manshree Insurance Brokers delivered a detailed presentation on the operations of insurance broking and client services. Members were briefed on how professional risk management can mitigate potential financial threats. There was also an in-depth discussion on the types of insurance coverage essential for commercial entities and how to execute proper planning. This visit proved to be highly informative for the members, providing a roadmap for a secure business future. ■



Solar Sector Seeks a Year's Grace: SGCCI Takes Up ALMM-II Issue in Delhi

Delegation meets MNRE Secretary Santosh Kumar Sarangi; requests extension for Solar Cell mandate

In a significant move to protect the interests of the burgeoning solar industry, a high-level delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) met with the Secretary of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), **Mr. Santosh Kumar Sarangi**, in New Delhi. Led by President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi**, the team including Past President **Mr. B.S. Agarwal** and Secretary **Mr. Paulik Desai**, advocated for a strategic delay in the mandatory implementation of ALMM-II approved solar cells.

The Supply-Demand Gap The crux of the representation was to postpone the implementation date from **June 1, 2026**, to **June 1, 2027**. The delegation highlighted a stark reality: India's current manufacturing capacity for 'TOPCon' solar cells stands at approximately **12 GW**, which falls significantly short of the soaring market demand. While Mono PERC cells are abundant in production, they lack market traction, creating a severe imbalance that threatens ongoing and future solar projects.

Quality and Financial Viability SGCCI pointed out that domestic TOPCon cells are still in a developmental phase compared to international standards, leading to a noticeable quality gap. Furthermore, the price disparity is staggering—domestic cells cost roughly 9 per watt more than imported ones. This adds an estimated burden of 90 lakh per megawatt, potentially turning solar assets into inefficient investments. The delegation emphasized that enforcing this rule prematurely could derail India's ambitious goal of achieving **500 GW** of renewable energy by 2030. Secretary **Santosh Kumar Sarangi** gave a patient hearing to these industry concerns and assured that the ministry would evaluate the matter thoroughly to ensure the sector's steady growth. ■



The Third Eye of the Police: Members of the Akhil Hind Mahila Parishad Witness the Power of the Control Room!

DCP A.M. Parmar explains the importance of 112; members left awestruck after witnessing the live operations of CCTV cameras

How is the city's security maintained, and how are traffic violators caught? To satisfy this curiosity, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) recently organized a special visit to the Surat Police Control Room for the members of the All India Women's Conference.

Live Footage and the E-Challan Process

The members were given a live demonstration of the city's CCTV network on the massive screens of the control room. They were astonished to see how traffic violators are identified with the help of cameras and how e-challans are subsequently issued. To raise awareness about security, footage of accidents and thefts that occurred over the past month was also shown. Organized under the leadership of **Smt. Kaminiben Dumswala**, Chairperson of the Traffic Awareness Committee, this visit was highly successful in developing an understanding of civic security.

Emergency Connectivity: Integration of the 112 helpline for police, fire, and medical services.

Digital Enforcement: Real-time traffic monitoring and automated e-challan system.

Communication Infrastructure: The role of Very High Frequency systems for rapid response.

Community Awareness: Fostering a sense of security and cooperation among citizens through surveillance footage.

Building a Secure Urban Future

At the conclusion of the event, guidance was provided on the **112** Emergency Response System, which proves to be a lifesaver for citizens. Following the success of previous security summits held at Sarsana and Samruddhi, this visit is a result of the Chamber's continuous efforts. By understanding public security workflows, we can make every citizen an active partner in the city's safety. ●

"The integration of modern communication technology and rapid response systems is essential for maintaining our urban security framework."

— Shri A.M. Parmar, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Surat Police



During the visit, **DCP Shri A.M. Parmar** familiarized the members with the high-tech operations of the Police Department. Explaining the 'Very High Frequency' (VHF) communication system, he highlighted how instantaneous messaging is vital for the police. He provided detailed information about the nationwide emergency number **112**, where police, fire, and ambulance services are available through a single call.



Data is Your New Wealth: Lock It Before You Lose It!

SGCCI Organizes Special Training Workshop on Digital Personal Data Protection Act-2023

In today's digital era, your personal information and business data are assets as precious as gold. To explain how to safeguard this data and understand the new legal regulations, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a specialized awareness workshop. Held at Nanpura, the session provided entrepreneurs with vital lessons in digital security.

New Law, New Responsibility

Shri Ravikiran Mankikar, Ex-Chairman of the Computer Society of India (Mumbai), attended as the keynote speaker and explained the intricacies of the 'Digital Personal Data Protection Act-2023'. He emphasized that companies must now maintain absolute transparency while collecting customer data. If data is leaked or misused, there are provisions for heavy penalties and strict legal action by the government.

Cyber Security: No Longer a Luxury, But a Necessity

The workshop highlighted that every organization must implement clear data storage policies and robust cyber security mechanisms. Even a minor lapse in data management can escalate into a major crisis for a business. At the event, **Dr. Jayna Bhakta**, Chairperson of the Banking Committee, delivered the welcome address, while **Dr. Chintan Pathak**, Chairman of the Cyber Security Committee, moderated the session. Dr. Snehal Vakilna introduced the speakers, and Shri Mukesh Jhaveri concluded with a vote of thanks. This workshop proved to be an 'eye-opener' for professionals in the IT and banking sectors.

Regulatory Awareness: Shri Ravikiran Mankikar

Session Moderation: Dr. Chintan Pathak



Speaker Introduction: Dr. Snehal Vakilna

Vote of Thanks: Shri Mukesh Jhaveri

A Bright Future for Digital Security

As Surat's industrial world continuously digitalizes, SGCCI is committed to providing industries with the necessary tools for sustainable growth. This workshop served as a crucial bridge between complex legal provisions and practical business application, ensuring local entrepreneurs remain leaders in data governance. Non-compliance with the provisions of this Act can lead to severe fines and legal proceedings by the authorities.

"In the digital age, data has become equivalent to new wealth; therefore, it is essential for institutions and companies to protect the personal information of customers and employees." – Shri Ravikiran Mankikar, Past Chairman, Computer Society of India (Mumbai Chapter)





Bachpan Ke Din Bhoola Na Dena....!!

Retro Revival: When the Women Members of the Chamber Relived Their School and College Days

In today's high-tech and digital era, where innocent childhood games are being forgotten, the Ladies Wing of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) conducted a unique and inspiring experiment. On Friday, March 6, 2026, in the courtyard of Smt. Damayanti Vanawala's 'Vanita Bungalow' in Bhatar, women entrepreneurs of Surat set aside their professional gravity to refresh their childhood memories. This event was not just about entertainment; it delivered a powerful message of 'mental well-being' in modern lifestyles.

Traditional Games: Not Just Fun, But Lessons for Life

During the recreational session held from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, evergreen games like Musical Chairs, Lemon and Spoon race, and Shot Put were played. The Lemon and Spoon race is not just about running; it symbolizes 'balance' and unwavering 'concentration' in life. Similarly, Musical Chairs is a testament to the patience of waiting for an opportunity and strategic timing. As these games gained momentum on the field, the same innocent spark and enthusiasm were visible on the members' faces as seen years ago during their school sports days. Beyond winning or losing, the joy of 'participation' remained paramount.

An Effective and Emotional Medium for Stress Relief

Speaking about the success of the session, Ladies Wing Chairperson Smt. Mayuriben Mewawala stated, "The dual responsibilities of home and business often lead to 'burn-out' for women. By playing these games, we felt that the child within us is still alive. This proved to be a powerful 'stress-buster' that inspires us to work with renewed energy."

Leading members, including Ladies Wing Advisor Smt. Reshmaben Mandlewala and Smt. Romaben Patel, also participated with great sportsmanship. The atmosphere echoed with laughter as members shared humorous anecdotes from their college days, canteen fun, and stories of old friendships. This social interaction built a new bridge of connection among the members.

Social Message

At the end of the session, all members wholeheartedly acknowledged that such events provide not only mental peace but also enhance mutual affection and positive energy. This 'Retro Meeting' proved that even after reaching the pinnacle of success, old memories and simple games provide the truest and purest joy. This initiative by the SGCCI Ladies Wing will set a new benchmark for team-building and wellness for other organizations in the future. ●





Decoding Today's Youth

Navigating the Maze of Social Media Overuse

In an era where digital presence often overshadows physical reality, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a critical awareness session titled 'Decoding Today's Youth - How to Handle Social Media Overview'. Held on Saturday, **March 7, 2026**, at 'Samruddhi', Nanpura, the session addressed the rising addiction to digital platforms and its long-term impact on productivity.

The 10-Year Digital Trap: Insights by Ajay Tomar

Keynote speaker **Mr. Ajay Tomar** (Joint President & Group Head, Adani Group, and Retired DGP, Gujarat, IPS-1989) presented a staggering statistical analysis of our digital habits:

The Daily Drain: On average, an adult spends 2.5 hours daily on social media.

The Youth Crisis: Teenagers and students are clocking 7 to 8 hours daily, a figure that is consistently rising.

Lifetime Projection: Over a lifespan, this equates to spending 7 to 10 years solely on social media apps.

Longevity vs. Connectivity: For a person living 100 years, they will have effectively spent 10 entire years staring at a smartphone screen.

Mr. Tomar emphasized Surat's unique position: "Surat is a city of industries. If our youth redirects these lost years into skill-building and innovation, they can build massive business empires." He advocated for 'Digital Detox' and urged the younger generation to reclaim their time for creative and professional growth.

Collective Mentorship: The Chamber's Stance

SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** highlighted that while social media is a tool for connectivity, its excess can negatively affect

behavior and lifestyle. Past President **Mr. Rupin Pachchigar** added that navigating these digital challenges requires constant expert guidance and self-discipline.

The session was introduced by Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, while **Mr. Manthan Madrasi**, Co-Chairman of the Digital Marketing Committee, outlined the event's framework. The proceedings were conducted by **Ms. Vanita Rawat**, Co-Chairperson of the Digital Marketing Committee. Prominent attendees included Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala**, Past Presidents **Mr. Mahendra Kajiwala** and **Mr. Praful Shah**, and Group Chairmen **Mr. Girdhargopal Mundra** and **Mr. Mahesh Pamnani**.





Legacy & Security: Understanding the Strategic Importance of Estate Planning

Estate planning is essential for family security and dispute-free inheritance.

While wealth creation is a primary goal for any entrepreneur, securing its seamless transition to the next generation is equally critical. To address this, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a high-impact awareness session on Sunday, **March 8, 2026**, at 'Samruddhi', Nanpura. The session focused on the nuances of Estate Planning, guiding professionals on how to protect their assets from future legal complications.

Beyond Wealth: Estate Planning for Every Individual

Keynote speaker and Paralegal Consultant, **Mr. Suresh A.**, debunked the myth that estate planning is reserved exclusively for the wealthy. "Estate planning is a structured process of managing and distributing one's investments and assets to ensure financial security for the family.

It is a necessity for every individual who wishes to leave behind a positive and dispute-free legacy," he emphasized.

He further detailed the role of critical legal instruments such as Wills, Trusts, and Nominations. By formalizing these documents,

individuals can prevent family feuds and ensure that their hard-earned wealth reaches the rightful beneficiaries through legal channels. Ignoring this process often leaves heirs stranded in long-drawn, expensive judicial battles.



Securing the Future: Voices of the Chamber

In his welcome address, SGCCI Group Chairman **Dr. Anil Sarawagi** highlighted that the Chamber's objective is to empower its members with the right financial wisdom. The guest speaker was introduced by **Mr. Anupam Jain**, Founder and CEO of Shreeji Finmart.

The event was graced by prominent figures, including Past President of SGCCI and former Vice-Chancellor of VNSGU,

Mr. Premkumar Sharda, along with several entrepreneurs and professionals. The session concluded with a powerful message: Timely estate planning is the cornerstone of effective wealth management and the ultimate gift of security for the next generation.



Comprehensive Risk Resilience

Insurance is No Longer an Expense, It's a Survival Strategy SGCCI Hosts 'Risk Management 360' to Tackle Modern Threats of Fire, Cyber Attacks, and Beyond

In a rapidly evolving industrial landscape, the nature of risk is no longer linear. On Friday, **March 13, 2026**, industry leaders gathered at Sanhati, Sarsana, for a high-impact session on **'Risk Management 360'**. The objective was clear: to empower entrepreneurs with strategic insights into fire safety, cyber security, and parametric insurance solutions.

Fire Insurance: Protecting the Core Mr. Ashish Damor (DGM, United India Insurance Co.) emphasized that a fire doesn't just damage physical infrastructure; it incinerates balance sheets. He highlighted that forensic-level documentation of machinery and stock is the only way to ensure seamless claim processing. Understanding the nuances of property coverage ensures that recovery is swift and financially sound.

The Cyber Shield: Protecting Digital Assets As industries transition to digital models, data theft and cyber frauds have emerged as critical threats. Assistant Manager Mr. Rishabh Shah identified Cyber Insurance as a non-negotiable asset. A robust cyber policy provides a financial bulkhead against data breaches, business interruptions, and complex legal liabilities, shielding organizations from catastrophic losses.

Parametric & Liability Insurance: The Future of Recovery Introducing modern financial tools, Branch Manager Mr. Milin Sadadiwala discussed Parametric Insurance. Unlike traditional

claims, parametric models utilize specific triggers to provide instant liquidity during natural disasters, enabling businesses to resume operations with minimal downtime.

Leadership at the Helm Opening the session, CA Mitish Modi (Hon. Treasurer, SGCCI) noted that lack of policy awareness often leads to claim disputes. The session, outlined by Group Chairman Mr. Nirav Mandlewala and moderated by Insurance Committee Chairman Mr. Mehernosh Todivala, served as a strategic roadmap for industrial risk mitigation in 2026.

Key Risk Analytics: Pillars of Industrial Security

Fire & Property Integrity: Beyond physical assets, comprehensive insurance for machinery and stock ensures **immediate financial recovery from unforeseen disasters**.

Digital Cyber Shield: Robust coverage for data breaches and liability acts as a critical bulkhead, maintaining **Business Continuity** in an increasingly volatile digital landscape.

Natural Calamity Resilience: Advanced solutions like **Parametric Insurance** utilize data-driven triggers to provide instant liquidity and rapid settlement post-disasters.

Legal & Third-Party Liability: Comprehensive liability insurance provides a **solid financial cushion against** complex litigation and compensation claims.





Empowering Surat's Textile Exports

A Strategic Leap for MSMEs with the New Facilitation Centre Ministry of Textiles and SGCCI Collaborate to Host TEFC Roadshow & Stakeholder Consultation in Surat

To bolster India's global standing in the textile domain, a high-level Stakeholder Consultation and Roadshow for the **Textile Export Facilitation Centre (TEFC)** was organized on **Monday, March 16, 2026**. Held at the Sarasa Exhibition Centre, the event was a collaborative initiative by the Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, and **The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI)**.

The TEFC Vision: Single-Window Support for Exporters Textile Commissioner **Ms. Vrinda Desai (IRS)**, the Guest of Honor, emphasized that Surat is pivotal to India's textile ecosystem. "TEFC will act as a vital institutional platform to guide exporters through the complexities of global trade," she noted.

Secretary of the Textiles Committee **Mr. Kartikeya Dhandu** and Joint Director **Mr. R. Chandran** detailed how TEFC would assist MSMEs in documentation, regulatory compliance, and market intelligence. Director **Mr. J.D. Burman** lauded Surat's innovation in Man-Made Fiber (MMF) and garment manufacturing, calling it a

globally recognized textile cluster.

Leadership Voices from the Industry SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** highlighted the need for robust institutional support to boost Surat's contribution to the national economy. Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** welcomed the initiative, stating that such centers bridge the gap between manufacturers and government frameworks. **Mr. Shalin Toshniwal**, Chairman of MATEXIL, shed light on the burgeoning opportunities in Technical Textiles and MMF exports.

The session saw prominent participation from SGCCI's immediate past president **Mr. Vijay Mevawala**, Hon. Secretary **Mr. Bijal Jariwala**, Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, and MSME Committee Chairman **CA Manish Bajrang**. Past presidents **Mr. Ashish Gujarati** and **Mr. Himanshu Bodawala**, alongside Assistant Director **Mr. B.K. Shukla**, were also key attendees. The interactive consultation allowed exporters to voice their expectations directly to Ministry officials, ensuring a data-driven roadmap for future policy suggestions. ●





A VIP Dialogue at Sarsana: When the 'Protectors' Met the 'Providers'

Gujarat Police Chief Dr. K.L.N. Rao (IPS) Engages with SGCCI in a High-Octane Interactive Session

On the evening of Saturday, **March 14, 2026**, the convention center 'Sanhati' in Sarsana hosted an extraordinary event. It was more than just an interactive session; it was a powerful confluence where the state's apex 'Protectors' met Surat's economic 'Providers'—the industrial titans. Organised by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), the session featured a direct and heartfelt dialogue between Gujarat's Director General of Police (DGP) **Dr. K.L.N. Rao (IPS)** and the city's business fraternity.

The Resilience of Surat: Fenix-like Rise from Crisis Recalling the devastating floods and earthquakes of the past, DGP Rao remarked emotionally, "There was a time when experts feared Surat's economy would take years to recover. Yet, the leadership of this society and its common citizens worked miracles to restore the city's beauty within days." He lauded the city's unique tradition of rising stronger together from any crisis and stated unequivocally, **"Our citizens are an integral part of our extended team."**

Secure Surat, Prosperous Surat Surat's Commissioner of Police, **Mr. Anupam Singh Gehlot (IPS)**, reassured the business leaders that the dedicated 'Economic Cell Wing' is fully functional to address their grievances. He urged professionals to maintain direct contact with the police for swift resolutions through

collective efforts.

A Dialogue for Growth SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** opened the session by highlighting that such interactive platforms bridge the communication gap, fostering a safer environment for trade and commerce. The vote of thanks was delivered by Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala**, who praised the police force's tireless dedication.

The high-profile session was attended by Immediate Past President **Mr. Vijay Mevawala**, Hon. Secretary **Mr. Bijal Jariwala**, and Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**. Industry leaders shared critical suggestions regarding cybercrime prevention, traffic management, and enhancing surveillance in industrial zones. ●

Key Highlights of the VIP Dialogue

Features	Highlights
Main Dialogue	DGP Dr. K.L.N. Rao (IPS) and Industrialists of Surat
Primary Theme	Surat's unity and resilient spirit during times of adversity.
Security Assurance	A dedicated police team by the Economic Offence Wing to combat financial crimes.
Civic Participation	"Citizens are also part of the Police Team" - Statement by DGP Rao.





Nurturing Healthy Childhood

Balancing Sleep & Nutrition in the Digital Era SGCCI Hosts Awareness Session on Pediatric Wellness to Guide Parents on Child Development

In an increasingly fast-paced world, the physical and cognitive development of children faces unprecedented challenges. On Sunday, **March 15, 2026**, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a pivotal awareness session titled '**Nurturing Healthy Childhood: The Role of Sleep and Eating Habits**' at 'Samruddhi', Nanpura. The session aimed to empower parents with clinical insights into the foundational pillars of a child's growth.

Sleep: The Biological Engine for Brain Growth Pediatric Neurologist **Dr. Ritesh Shah** emphasized that quality sleep is non-negotiable for brain maturation. "Crucial neurological processes occur during sleep that directly impact a child's memory, learning ability, and focus," he noted. He expressed concern over the rising '**Screen Time**' via mobiles and tablets, which disrupts sleep cycles. He urged parents to establish strict sleep hygiene and limit gadget exposure to ensure restorative rest for children.

Nutrition: Building a Robust Immune System Pediatric Gastroenterologist **Dr. Kosha Gajera** discussed the critical role of a balanced diet. She highlighted that childhood is the window to build a lifetime of immunity. In an age of processed and junk foods, integrating fruits, vegetables, milk, and high-protein sources is vital. "**Healthy eating habits formed in early childhood pave the way for a resilient and active adult life,**" she explained.

A Commitment to Social Wellness SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi**, in his welcome address, reiterated the Chamber's commitment to fostering health and educational awareness within society. The session saw active participation from Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** and numerous concerned citizens. The proceedings were conducted by **Mr. Mahesh Pannani**, Chairman of the Education & Skill Development Centre, who concluded the event with a vote of thanks to the expert speakers.





Powering Surat's Growth

SGCCI Urges State Government for Major Infrastructure Overhaul Demand for Independent GETCO Circle and New Sub-Stations to Stabilize South Gujarat's Industrial Grid

Reliable power is the lifeblood of South Gujarat's industrial engine. However, growing infrastructure gaps, including overloaded sub-stations and frequent voltage fluctuations, are threatening the region's productivity. Addressing this urgency, a high-level delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) held a strategic meeting with Energy Minister **Mr. Kaushik Vekariya** on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, in Gandhinagar.

The Reality Check: Overloaded Grids & Production Losses Leading the delegation, SGCCI Vice President and FOGWA President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** highlighted the systemic strain on the existing power network. "The current infrastructure is inadequate to meet the surging energy demands of MSMEs and the textile sector," he stated. Key areas of concern include:

- **Kim-Pipodra-Karanj:** Critical overload at 66 KV stations. Urgent demand for a new 220 KV sub-station between Kim and Kosamba.
- **Sayan-Syadla Cluster:** Processing units are suffering due to overloaded stations at Gothan and Delad. A pending 66 KV station at Pariya remains stalled.
- **Umhel-Jolva Region:** Heavy reliance on a single, overloaded station at Parab is crippling local manufacturing.

The Case for a Dedicated GETCO Circle for Surat In a strategic policy push, **Mr. Jirawala** demanded a dedicated Gujarat Energy

Transmission Corporation (GETCO) circle for Surat. Currently managed under Bharuch and Navsari circles, an independent Surat circle would significantly boost administrative efficiency, ensure faster grievance redressal, and enhance the 'Ease of Doing Business' for local entrepreneurs.



Government Commitment to Action The meeting, attended by Principal Secretary **Mr. Ashwin Kumar**, GETCO MD **Mr. Upendra Pandey**, and top officials from GUVNL and DGVCL, ended on a positive note. Minister **Kaushik Vekariya** instructed officials to expedite the construction of new sub-stations on a priority basis. The delegation included DGVCL Committee Advisor **Mr. Suresh Patel** and Representation Cell Member **Mr. Kishor Boghani**, who provided technical data to support the industrial plea.



Surat's Creativity Makes Waves in Ahmedabad

A Unique Confluence of Color and Canvas at Satya Art Gallery Exhibition of Works by 16 Brilliant Artists from Surat An Inspiring Initiative by the Chamber's Art and Culture Committee

Art knows no geographical boundaries, and when the creativity of Surat reaches the cultural doorstep of Ahmedabad, it creates a magnificent spectacle. A grand four-day Art Exhibition commenced on Thursday, **March 19, 2026**, at the prestigious 'Satya Art Gallery' of Navajivan Trust in Navrangpura, Ahmedabad. Various artworks, paintings, and creative expressions prepared by 16 talented artists from Surat have become a center of attraction for the art lovers of Ahmedabad. Stalwarts from the art world of both Ahmedabad and Surat attended the inauguration. Renowned Art Curator **Shri Anuj Ambalal**, Wildlife Photographer **Shri Saurabh Desai**, Art Gurus **Shri Jay Gohil** and **Shri Rakesh Gohil**, along with Managing Trustee of Navajivan Trust **Shri Vivek Desai**, appreciated the artists' works. GCCI Ladies Wing Chairperson **Sushri Ashaben Vadhasiya**, **Shri Ankit Patel** from FICCI, and **Shri Nishith Joshi** of Benchmark Industries were also present.

Bridge of Art: From Surat to Sabarmati

Smt. Swati Shethwala, Chairperson of the Chamber's Art, Culture,

and Handicraft Committee, clarified the objective behind this event, stating, "Our aim is to provide a proper platform to the artists of Surat not just locally, but across Gujarat." Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi** and Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** termed this effort to give state-level recognition to Surat's art as historic. The diverse styles and themes of the works by the 16 participating artists have mesmerized the visitors of Ahmedabad. Committee members **Swatiben Shethwala**, **Smt. Krutika Shah**, **Smt. Mansi Virani**, and **Ms. Avani Desai** worked tirelessly to make the event a success.

Art Exhibition: At a Glance

Venue: Satya Art Gallery, Navajivan Trust, Ahmedabad.

Number of Artists: 16 Talented Artists from Surat.

Duration: March 19 to 22, 2026 (12:00 PM to 9:00 PM).

Main Attraction: A confluence of paintings, creative expressions, and diverse art styles.



Safeguarding Labor & Industry

Plea to Enable LPG Access via Aadhaar for Migrant Workers SGCCI Urges District Collector Dr. Saurabh Pardhi (IAS) to Prevent 'Reverse Migration' by Simplifying Gas Connections

The backbone of Surat's industrial prowess—the migrant workforce—is currently facing a significant hurdle in accessing basic household amenities. To address this, a formal representation has been made to District Collector **Dr. Saurabh Pardhi (IAS)**, urging the administration to facilitate LPG cylinder distribution based on Aadhaar cards, bypassing the mandatory requirement of local ration cards.

The Ration Card Dilemma & Its Economic Impact Approximately 60% to 80% of Surat's labor force consists of migrants from other states and districts. SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi**, in his letter to the Collector, highlighted that the absence of local ration cards prevents these workers from obtaining legal LPG connections. This logistical barrier threatens to trigger **'Reverse Migration'**, where workers might return to their hometowns due to basic living hardships, potentially crippling Surat's Diamond and Textile sectors.

Aadhaar as a Universal Solution As a pragmatic fix, the Chamber has proposed that the administration allow **LPG** distribution specifically for migrant workers using their Aadhaar Cards. Since Aadhaar is a globally accepted identity proof, this transition would eliminate bureaucratic delays and ensure that workers are not exploited by illegal gas vendors.

Ensuring Stability for Surat's Workforce The Chamber has appealed for an immediate and empathetic intervention to provide relief to the labor community. Ensuring access to clean cooking fuel is not just a welfare measure but a strategic step to maintain the industrial stability of South Gujarat. By resolving this issue, the administration can reinforce the confidence of the workforce, ensuring they remain an integral part of Surat's growth story. ●

A New Dawn of Energy Relief for Industries

No Tariff Hike for FY 2026-27; TOU Discount Extended by 2 Hours; Smart Meter Complexities Resolved: Chamber's Advocacy Yields Results

The industrial sector of South Gujarat has received major and welcome news in the energy domain. The Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (**GERC**) has announced the new tariff order for the **Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited (DGVCL)** for the year 2026-27. The most significant relief in this order is the decision to keep the base tariff rates stable across all categories, eliminating concerns over rising production costs.

TOU Discount: A Direct Benefit of ₹128 Crore for Industries

Following a persuasive representation by the Chamber of Commerce, the Commission has extended the **Time-of-Use (TOU)** discount period by 2 hours.

New Schedule: The discount, previously available from **11:00 AM to 3:00 PM**, will now be applicable from **11:00 AM to 5:00 PM**.

Financial Impact: With a discount of **₹0.60** per unit, industries in South Gujarat are estimated to save approximately **₹128 crore** annually. This decision will improve load management within industries and lead to a substantial reduction in electricity bills.

Removal of Smart Meter Constraints

In a significant administrative reform, the mandatory requirement of 'Prepaid' smart meters to avail the TOU discount has been scrapped. Now, all eligible customers with smart meters can benefit from this scheme. This move will simplify the implementation process and allow more entrepreneurs to take advantage of the discount.

The Chamber's Commitment and Gratitude

Welcoming this historic decision, Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi** stated, "These decisions will make energy-dependent industries more competitive in the global market. The reduction in production costs will provide a new impetus for industrial growth." He expressed gratitude towards the GERC for adopting a pro-industry approach and reaffirmed the Chamber's commitment to actively safeguarding the interests of industries in policy matters. ●



Waste to Wealth: Green Entrepreneurship as a Strategic Opportunity for Modern Industry

SGCCI and GCPC Host High-Impact Seminar on Industrial Waste Management & Sustainable Innovation

In the evolving industrial landscape, environmental stewardship has transitioned from a regulatory burden to a profitable business opportunity. On Wednesday, **March 25, 2026**, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), in collaboration with the Gujarat Cleaner Production Centre (GCPC), hosted a seminar titled 'Current Scenario of Industrial Waste Management & Future Opportunities through Green Entrepreneurship' at Sarsana.

The Paradigm Shift: From Waste to Efficiency Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** emphasized that adopting green technology is now central to industrial competitiveness. **"Sustainability is the new engine for growth,"** he noted. **Mr. Bharat Jain**, Managing Director of GCPC, highlighted the necessity of integrating green practices into daily industrial operations.

Expert Insights from Industry Leaders:

Mr. Sushil Khadakwal (Corporate Head - EHS & Sustainability, Alembic Pharmaceuticals) demonstrated how waste optimization and resource recycling can significantly reduce operational overheads.

Mr. Akul Senapati (Environment Head, AMNS India) showcased the benefits of Zero Liquid Discharge and 'Waste to Energy' models in enhancing organizational efficiency.

Mr. Arun Patel (Regional Officer, GPCB) urged industries to stay ahead of the curve by updating monitoring systems and adhering to green protocols for better global reliability.

Opportunities for New-Age Startups **Mr. Avinash Hirpara** (STO, CED Surat) and **Mr. J.B. Dave** (GM, DIC Surat) discussed the burgeoning field of Green Entrepreneurship. They outlined government incentives and schemes available for startups focusing on recycling and eco-friendly products.

The session was attended by Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** and saw active participation from the industry fraternity. The event, outlined by Environment Committee Chairman **Mr. Kunhal Shah** and moderated by **Ms. Jaya Rangwani**, concluded with a strong message: Green innovation is the ultimate solution for a resilient industrial future.





Gulf War Fallout: Economic Clouds Loom Over South Gujarat Industries

Urgent Demand for a 'Rescue Package' from the Government

High-Level Meeting Between the Chamber and Deputy CM Shri Harshbhai Sanghavi: Representation to Salvage Textile, Diamond, and Chemical Sectors

The escalating war in the Gulf region has sent shockwaves through the industrial hub of South Gujarat. Disruptions in international markets and global supply chains have put the core pillars of Surat's economy at grave risk. In a high-level meeting held on Sunday, **March 29, 2026**, attended by Gujarat's Deputy Chief Minister **Shri Harshbhai Sanghavi**, Chief Additional Secretary **Smt. Mamta Verma**, and District Collector **Dr. Saurabh Pardhi**, industry leaders voiced their deep concerns.

Striking at the Economic Backbone: Major Challenges

A delegation led by Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi**, Vice President **Shri Ashok Jirawala**, Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, and Secretary **Shri Paubhik Desai** presented five critical issues for immediate government intervention:

Forex and Inflation: The devaluation of the Rupee has made raw material imports prohibitively expensive. A request was made for the RBI to take steps to stabilize exchange rates.

Fuel and Gas Crisis: Volatile crude oil prices and disruptions in industrial gas supply have caused production costs to skyrocket. The industry has urged the government to arrange gas supplies from alternative countries.

Impact on the Diamond Industry: With trade coming to a standstill in global hubs like Dubai and Antwerp, Surat's diamond industry is

in distress. A plea was made to allow the re-import of stock without custom duties.

Labor Migration: Shortages of LPG gas are forcing laborers to return to their hometowns. Emphasis was placed on implementing an Aadhaar-based gas distribution system.

Government's Assurance

Deputy Chief Minister **Shri Harshbhai Sanghavi** listened to the representations with utmost seriousness and assured that the industries would not be left to fend for themselves. He promised that the state government, in coordination with the central government, would work on a war footing to find permanent and practical solutions to maintain industrial confidence.

Key Figures and Demands at a Glance

Affected Sectors: Textile, Plastics, Diamond, and Chemical industries.

Labor Trends: Risk of 'reverse migration' from industrial estates due to LPG shortages.

Export Challenges: Stocks worth crores are stranded due to halted trading in Dubai and Antwerp.

Primary Demands: Currency stability by the Reserve Bank and subsidy support from the Government.





Beyond the Glitz of Green Cards: Legal Safeguards for NRI Marriages

SGCCI & NRG Center Conduct Crucial Awareness Seminar to Protect Young Brides from International Fraud

With a surge in global migration, the trend of overseas marriages has seen a significant rise, often bringing complex legal challenges. On Friday, **March 27, 2026**, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), in association with the Non-Resident Gujarati Foundation, hosted a specialized seminar at the Swami Atmanand Saraswati Institute, Varachha. The session aimed at educating students on the vital precautions necessary before tying the knot with an NRI.

Keynote Wisdom: Blind Trust is a Legal Trap Supreme Court Advocate **Ms. Priti Joshi**, the keynote speaker, delivered a sobering reality check. **"NRI marriages are governed not just by Indian laws but by complex private international statutes,"** she explained. She warned against the pitfalls of language barriers, lack of local legal knowledge abroad, and the absence of social support systems. She urged students never to fall for promises of **'Green Cards through Marriage'** or accept proposals that require getting married in a foreign land without verification.

The Mandatory Verification Checklist **Ms. Joshi** outlined a rigorous verification process for potential brides:

Never agree to forge documents for immigration purposes.

Independently verify the groom's marital status, financial standing, and residential history.

Thoroughly check the type of visa, immigration status, and family background.

Avoid relying solely on marriage bureaus, middlemen, or digital



profiles.

Institutional Support & Strategic Outreach Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** highlighted the need for maturation in relationships before finalizing marriage contracts. **Mr. Chaitanya Sanghani (Mamlatdar, NRG Foundation)** discussed the proactive role of NRG Centers in providing grievance redressal for Gujaratis settled abroad.

Past President **Mr. Dinesh Navadia** and Principal **Dr. Jignesh Vaghasia** also shared their perspectives on the importance of such educational forums. The seminar, outlined by NRG Center Chairman **Mr. Kalpesh Lathiya** and moderated by Co-Chairman **Mr. Chetan Sheth**, concluded with a powerful Q&A session, empowering students with the legal knowledge to navigate the complexities of international alliances.



Prosperity Through Cooperation

Creation of Employment Opportunities with 2 Lakh New Cooperative Societies Across India; SGCCI Emphasizes Synergy Between Cooperative Institutions and Industries at 'Co-operative Conclave 2026'

India's economy relies not just on the corporate sector, but also on the robust backbone of the cooperative sector. On Thursday, **March 12, 2026**, a 'Co-operative Conclave 2026' was organized at the Platinum Hall in Sarsana to discuss the modernization of the cooperative sector and its integration with the industrial world. During this conclave, experts urged Surat's cooperative banks and societies to prepare a financial roadmap for the next decade.

The New Structure of Cooperation: Local to Global

Addressing the event as the chief guest, **Shri Dileep Sanghani**, Chairman of **IFFCO**, **GUJCOMASOL**, and **NCUI**, presented a roadmap for the future. He stated, "The government is moving forward with a plan to establish 2 lakh new cooperative societies across the country. In regions like Jammu and Kashmir, former soldiers can form cooperatives to initiate land production." He called for the integration of youth into cooperative institutions through transparency and the use of modern technology.

The Backbone of the Economy: Credit Societies

Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi** noted that during the Corona era, Surat's cooperative banks played a pivotal role in supporting small-scale industries. **Dr. Jivaraj Godhani**, Vice Chairman of the Gujarat State Co-operative Credit Society Federation, proposed implementing subsidized schemes for

artisans as well. **Shri Kanji Bhalala**, Director of Varachha Bank, shared statistical insights, stating that after Maharashtra (27%), Gujarat leads the nation in the cooperative sector. **Shri Haresh Chaudhary**, District Registrar, advocated for elevating cooperative societies to a corporate level by citing examples of **IFFCO**, **KRIBHCO**, and **SUMUL**.

At the beginning of the program, Honorary Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi** introduced the chief guests, while Group Chairman **Shri Manish Kapadia** provided an overview of the conclave. The entire session was moderated by Group Chairman **Shri Paresh Lathiya**. Other dignitaries present included Vice President **Shri Ashok Jirawala**, Immediate Past President **Shri Vijay Mewawala**, and Honorary Secretary **Shri Bijal Jariwala**.

Cooperative Sector: At a Glance

- New Societies:** Goal to establish 2,00,000+ societies nationwide.
- Employment:** Massive job creation through the new cooperative framework.
- Leading States:** Maharashtra (27%), Gujarat, Karnataka, and Kerala.
- Modernization:** Adopting corporate efficiency based on the models of IFFCO and SUMUL.



Global War Fallout: A Plea to the Prime Minister to Save Industries from an Economic 'Blackout'

The Chamber's Decisive Representation to the PMO and Chief Minister Against Raw Material and Fuel Shortages

The escalating conflict in the Gulf and disruptions in shipping routes have sounded the alarm in South Gujarat's industrial heartland. To prevent the wheels of industry from grinding to a halt due to raw material shortages and soaring fuel prices, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) has appealed for direct intervention from India's top leadership. The Chamber has addressed letters to **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** and **Chief Minister Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel**, urging them to provide a 'life-line' to the industries.

The Crisis of Fuel and Raw Materials: A Brake on Production

Chamber President **Shri Nikhil Madrasi** highlighted in the representation that South Gujarat's Textile, Chemical, Petrochemical, and MSME sectors are heavily dependent on imports of LNG, crude oil, and other raw materials from the Gulf. Disruptions in shipping lanes have led to a massive spike in freight and logistics costs. If this situation persists, it will have devastating effects on exports and employment.

Key Demands from the Government:

Alternative Sourcing: Establish alternative import arrangements from other countries to ensure an uninterrupted supply of Natural Gas and LNG.

Price Stability: Formulate a definitive policy to curb the intolerable fluctuations in fuel and raw material prices.

Curbing Profiteering: Issue strict instructions to ensure that fuel suppliers and agencies do not engage in excessive profiteering during this sensitive period.

Special Support for MSMEs: Provide dedicated logistics support to protect financially vulnerable small-scale entrepreneurs from this crisis.

Challenge to Sustain the 'Atmanirbhar' Mission

The Chamber emphasized that industries have always been at the forefront of the '**Atmanirbhar Bharat**' (Self-Reliant India) mission. Timely government intervention is crucial for industries to continue operations and secure the livelihoods of millions of workers. Copies of this representation have also been forwarded to Deputy CM **Shri Harshbhai Sanghavi**, Finance Minister **Shri Kanubhai Desai**, and District Collector **Dr. Saurabh Pardhi**.

Core Grievances of the Industries:

Fuel Crisis: Uncertainty in the supply of Natural Gas and LNG.

Logistics Burden: Rerouting of sea lanes due to war and a massive hike in freight charges.

Production Costs: Reduced competitiveness of finished goods due to expensive raw materials and energy.

Goal of the Representation: Immediate intervention by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the Government of Gujarat.



Surat to Emerge as Global Hub for Cow-Based Industries

SGCCI Delegation Explores Opportunities at Pune's Gau-Tech Expo Grand Animal Fair Featuring Cows, Horses, and Elephants Set for Feb 2027 in Surat

Beyond its diamonds and textiles, Surat is now setting its sights on the burgeoning 'Gau-based' economy. During **March 20-23, 2026**, a high-level delegation from The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) visited the 'Gau-Tech 2026' Global Summit and Expo in Pune. The visit aimed at studying the industrial integration of cow-based products and modernizing animal husbandry in South Gujarat.

Strategic Engagement at Pune Expo SGCCI Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** and Agriculture Committee Chairman **Mr. K.B. Pipliya** graced the Pune expo as Guests of Honor. They meticulously studied advanced machinery, laboratory innovations, and diverse cow-based industrial products. The delegation interacted with stakeholders across the dairy technology chain to understand the growing market demand for sustainable cattle-based ventures.

Surat 2027: A Visionary Animal Expo During the visit, **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** held a strategic meeting with **Dr. Vallabh Kathiria**, Chairman of the Government of India's Gau Seva Aayog. This dialogue resulted in a historic decision:

Event: Surat will host the 'Gau-Tech & Animal Husbandry & Dairy Technology Expo' in February 2027.



Main Attraction: A massive Animal Fair featuring pedigreed cows, horses, and elephants will be the highlight of the event.

Recognition: Progressive farmers and cattle breeders will be honored with prestigious awards.

Institutional Collaboration via MoU A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SGCCI and the National Gau Seva Aayog is slated for the coming days. **Mr. Jirawala** expressed confidence that this mega expo will catalyze the growth of dairy and animal husbandry sectors in South Gujarat, creating fresh entrepreneurial avenues for both farmers and industrialists. ●

Navigating Global Volatility with Expert Investment Roadmaps

SGCCI and JM Financial Host High-Profile Interactive Session on Global Macro Trends and Geopolitical Impacts in Surat

In an era defined by shifting global landscapes and economic uncertainties, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), in partnership with JM Financial Private Wealth, organized a strategic session titled 'Navigating Markets in a Shifting Global Landscape' on Wednesday, **March 18, 2026**. The event served as a critical guide for entrepreneurs and investors to align their portfolios with current geopolitical and macro-economic realities.

Visionary Insights: Resilience Over Volatility **Mr. Girish Luthra (Chairman, Luthra Group)** emphasized that long-term vision is vital as technology and supply chain shifts redefine the economy. **Mr. Ashwin Desai (MD, Aether Industries)** highlighted India's growing dominance in Chemical and Manufacturing sectors, driven by the 'Make in India' initiative, creating massive wealth-creation opportunities.

Diversification & Portfolio Stability **Mr. Milan Parikh (MD, Jainam Broking Ltd.)** advocated for value-based long-term investing over chasing short-term market noise. Echoing this sentiment, **Mr. Kamalvijay Tulsian (Chairperson, Aether Industries)** pointed out that India's growth trajectory offers unique sectoral opportunities for prudent investors.

Global Market Outlook **Mr. Manish Garg**



(Executive Director, JM Financial) delivered an in-depth presentation on global trends and specialized institutional solutions for High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs). The team from Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC also shared technical insights on market navigation.

Leadership & Coordination SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** welcomed the gathering, noting that providing timely financial intelligence is a key objective of the Chamber. The session was gracefully moderated by Convener **Ms. Jahnavi Tulsian**, who also delivered the vote of thanks. The interactive Q&A allowed investors to gain clarity on diverse financial challenges, ensuring they are well-equipped to manage wealth in a changing world.



- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

Awards

Designing Success: From Intricate Henna Patterns to Global Woman Excellence

Celebrity Artist Veena Nagda Inspires Entrepreneurs at SGCCI's High-Profile Session & Woman Excellence Awards

When creativity meets commercial acumen, it crafts a legacy of success. On Tuesday, **March 24, 2026**, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) brought together art and entrepreneurship at the session '**Designing Success: From Mehendi Art to Woman Excellence**' at Sarsana. The highlight of the evening was the presence of India's most celebrated mehendi artist, **Ms. Veena Nagda**, who shared her journey from being a local artist to a global celebrity favorite.

Turning Talent into a Brand: Veena Nagda's Masterclass Keynote speaker Veena Nagda urged women to view their creative hobbies through a professional lens. "Your talent shouldn't stay confined to your home. With dedication and confidence, even the simplest art like Mehendi can gain worldwide recognition," she asserted. She encouraged Surat's aspiring female entrepreneurs to bridge the gap between skill and scalability to build independent identities.

Honoring Leaders: SGCCI Woman Excellence Awards A major highlight of the event was the 'SGCCI Woman Excellence Awards Ceremony', organized by the Woman Entrepreneur Cell. Outstanding female leaders from diverse sectors were honored for their contributions to society and the economy. SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** lauded the awardees, emphasizing that women are now the primary drivers of growth in several industrial sectors.



Leadership & Coordination The session was introduced by SGCCI Ladies Wing Chairperson **Mrs. Mayuri Mevawala**, while Vice Chairperson **Mrs. Alpaben Madrasi** presented the guest speaker's profile. The ceremony was attended by Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala**, Hon. Secretary **Mr. Bijal Jariwala**, and Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by **Mrs. Swati Sethwala (Chairperson, Art & Culture Committee)**. The proceedings were conducted by **Ms. Khushbu Rai**, a member of the Woman Entrepreneur Cell, making it a memorable celebration of female leadership and creativity.



- Samruddhi - APRIL 2026

Curtain Raiser

Pharma & Chemical Revolution

Countdown Begins for South Gujarat's Biggest Industrial Expo SGCCI and CHEMEXCIL Jointly Unveil the Curtain Raiser for 'Chemical & Pharma Expo 2026' in Surat

To bolster the chemical and pharmaceutical prowess of South Gujarat, a high-octane Curtain Raiser ceremony for the 'Chemical & Pharma Expo 2026' was held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at Amore, Dumas Road. Organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) and the Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL), the expo is scheduled to take place from May 15 to 17, 2026, at the Sarsana Convention Centre.

A Dynamic B2B Launchpad

SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** highlighted the Chamber's commitment to providing dynamic B2B platforms. "This expo will serve as a bridge between manufacturers, researchers, and technology providers, fostering an environment for high-value investment and innovation," he remarked. The event aims to provide local entrepreneurs with the necessary exposure to expand their footprint on a national and international scale.

Technological Advancements & Global Networking

Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** noted that as the industry moves towards precision manufacturing and sustainability, the expo will offer vital insights into emerging global trends. Group Chairman **Mr. Rakesh Jain** detailed that the three-day event is designed to create new business avenues and strengthen the

industrial supply chain in the region.

Official Launch & Leadership Presence

The curtain raiser was officially unveiled by Immediate Past President **Mr. Vijay Mevawala**, Hon. Secretary **Mr. Bijal Jariwala**, Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, and All-Exhibitions Chairman **Mr. Kiran Thummar**, along with top CHEMEXCIL officials. The ceremony, moderated by Group Chairman **Mr. Kamlesh Gajera**, concluded with an interactive forum where industry leaders shared their vision for the upcoming May 2026 expo.

Expo 2026: Master Plan

Details	Highlights
Expo Dates	May 15, 16, and 17, 2026
Venue	Surat International Exhibition Centre, Sarsana
Main Associate	CHEMEXCIL (Government of India)
Target Sectors	Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, and Research Technology
Primary Objective	To provide a global B2B platform for local manufacturers



Financial Empowerment

JITO & SGCCI to Host 'Wealth Expo 2026' to Boost Investment & Innovation Curtain Raiser Ceremony Unveiled for South Gujarat's Premier Financial & Fintech Expo Scheduled for May 2026

To provide a strategic boost to the financial landscape of South Gujarat, the official Curtain Raiser for 'Wealth Expo 2026' was held on **Thursday, March 26, 2026**, at Amore, Dumas Road. This flagship event is a joint initiative by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) and the Jain International Trade Organization (JITO) Surat, scheduled to be held from **May 8 to 10, 2026**, at the Sarsana International Exhibition Centre.

A Hub for Fintech and Wealth Strategy

JITO Surat President **Mr. Milan Parikh** emphasized that the expo will serve as a dynamic intersection for leading financial institutions, leasing firms, and fintech innovators. "The 2026 edition is designed to showcase contemporary financial products and diverse investment avenues, providing a comprehensive platform for industry experts and retail investors alike," he noted.

Strengthening Economic Resilience

SGCCI President **Mr. Nikhil Madrasi** highlighted the Chamber's role in fostering an environment conducive to investment and all-round trade growth. Vice President **Mr. Ashok Jirawala** added that the expo will empower individual investors and entrepreneurs by connecting them with professional financial guidance and

cutting-edge market solutions.

Official Launch & Coordination

The curtain raiser was officially launched by SGCCI's Immediate Past President **Mr. Vijay Mevawala**, Hon. Secretary **Mr. Bijal Jariwala**, Hon. Treasurer **CA Mitish Modi**, and All-Exhibitions Chairman **Mr. Kiran Thummar**, alongside Group Chairman **Mr. Rakesh Jain** and JITO Surat officials. Group Chairman **Mr. Kamlesh Gajera**, who detailed the expo's roadmap, conducted the ceremony and moderated the open forum, which saw enthusiastic participation from the regional business fraternity.

Wealth Expo 2026

Details	Highlights
Expo Dates	May 8, 9, and 10, 2026
Venue	Surat International Exhibition Centre, Sarsana
Main Organizers	SGCCI and JITO Surat
Target Themes	Financial Institutions, Leasing, and Fintech
Objective	To create awareness among investors about modern financial products





SBC 1.0 – Face to Face with TCC

Bridging Business Networks for Future Growth
SGCCI Business Connect Hosts Strategic Networking Session to Foster Synergy Among Industry Members

To strengthen professional ties and catalyze business collaborations in South Gujarat, the Business Connect group of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized a high-impact event titled “SBC 1.0 – Face to Face with TCC.” The program served as a dynamic platform for members of SBC and TCC to engage in active dialogue and strategic networking.

Visionary Outreach & Activities Opening the session, SGCCI Business Connect Co-Chairman **Mr. Nirav Barfiwala** detailed the ongoing activities and success stories of the SBC group. Highlighting the roadmap ahead, he announced the schedule for the next two upcoming meetings, aimed at enhancing member engagement and professional development.

Interactive ‘Face to Face’ Dialogue The core of the event featured an intensive “Face to Face” session, allowing SBC and TCC members to exchange innovative ideas and explore mutual business interests. This interactive segment was steered by SGCCI Business Connect Co-Chairman **Mr. Ketan Shah**, who guided participants on effective networking strategies and value-based collaborations.

Upcoming Conclave Announcement In a major update, SGCCI Business Connect Chairman **Mr. Chandrakant Prajapati** announced an upcoming large-scale Conclave. He emphasized that this event would be a pivotal opportunity for members to access new markets and institutional support. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by SBC member **Mr. Himanshu Gupta**, marking another successful milestone in SGCCI’s mission to connect and empower the regional industrial fraternity.



AI: The Future of Business Efficiency

Strategic Insights Shared at SGCCI’s SBC 3.0, AI Expert Sunny Godhani of RejoiceHub LLP Guides Entrepreneurs on Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Modern Industry

In an era where technological agility defines success, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a cornerstone for industrial growth. On Tuesday, **March 17, 2026**, the Business Connect group of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) hosted the ‘**SBC 3.0 Business Presentation Meeting**’ at the Sanhati Building, Sarsana. The high-impact session focused on empowering local businesses with AI-driven strategies and future-ready tools.

Welcoming Global Standards The session commenced with an opening address by SGCCI Business Connect Chairman **Mr. Chandrakant Prajapati**. He elaborated on the mission of SBC to provide a global platform for local entrepreneurs and shared the roadmap for the upcoming strategic meetings aimed at business development.

Artificial Intelligence: A Catalyst for Success Keynote speaker **Mr. Sunny Godhani (AI Expert & Representative of RejoiceHub LLP)** delivered an insightful session on the transformative power of AI in business operations. From optimizing workflows to data-driven decision-making, he highlighted how AI can be a game-changer for Surat’s diverse industrial landscape. His session provided members with practical inspiration to embrace digital transformation.

Member Spotlight & Synergy The meeting featured a rapid-fire presentation round, where SBC member **Mr. Rajendra Jethwa** delivered a 30-second business pitch, showcasing the entrepreneurial diversity within the group. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by SBC member **Mr. Sandeep Dangi**, marking another successful milestone in SGCCI’s journey toward fostering a tech-enabled business community in South Gujarat.



SGCCI in Headlines



Gujarat Mitra 14 MAR.

સિદ્ધી એક્ઝર
‘કાપડનું એક્સપોર્ટ વધારવા કેબ્રની નવી પહેલ : સિંગલ વિન્ડો સિસ્ટમને લઈ MSME એકમોને વૈશ્વિક માર્કેટમાં એન્ટ્રી મળશે’
 શહેરમાં બનાવેલ ટેક્સટાઈલ એક્સપોર્ટ ફેસિલિટી સેન્ટર માટે પહેલીવાર લેડ રોલ યોજાશે
આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Divya Bhaskar 14 MAR.

વૈભવ મેં પુલિસ-ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રી સંવાદ, ‘નાગરિક મો હમારી ટીમ કા હિસ્તા’ - ડી.જી.એ. કે.એલ.એ. તવ
 આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Loktej 18 MAR.

દિલ્હી બાદ પશ્ચિમ ભારતનો સૌથી મોટો ઓટો એક્સ્પો સુરતમાં શરૂ
 આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Gujaratmitra 14 MAR.

નિકાસકારોને સિંગલ વિન્ડોથી બધી સેવા-સુવિધા પૂરી પાડવા કેન્દ્ર સરકાર સુરતમાં સેન્ટર વિકાસવશે
 આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Loksatta-Jansatta 14 MAR.

સરોલ ઓફ સ્લીપ એન્ડ ઈટીંગ હેબિટ્સ અંગે અવેરનેસ સેશન
ભવિષ્યમાં તંદુરસ્ત અને સક્રિય જીવન જીવવા બાળપણથી સ્વસ્થ આહારની આદત વિકસાવવી
 આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Divya Bhaskar 23 MAR.

Surat may soon host a grand exhibition of 150 vintage cars owned by Maharajas
 આર.સર નોલેજ
 સિંગલ વિન્ડો ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ સેવા પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવશે

Free Press Journal 14 MAR.

All news clippings courtesy of the respective newspaper.



**THE SOUTHERN GUJARAT CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**
(BUSINESS VOICE OF SOUTH GUJARAT SINCE 1940)

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ACT WITH ONE MIND



JOURNEY

- 2007**
 - ESTABLISHED ON REPUBLIC DAY
- 2008**
 - 1st FRANCHISE @ ADAJAN
- 2013**
 - MORE THAN 16 OUTLETS IN SOUTH GUJARAT
- 2015**
 - STARTED EXPORTING TO THE USA
- 2016**
 - ACHIEVED GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORD FOR TALLEST PYRAMID CAKE
- 2017**
 - BIGGEST PRODUCTION HOUSE WITH 10 TO 12 TONS PER DAY CAPACITY
- 2018**
 - 1st LIVE CAKE SHOP AT ANKLESHWAR
 - STARTED EXPORTING IN AUSTRALIA
- 2019**
 - EXPORTING TO 8 COUNTRIES HOLDING 13 WORLD RECORDS
 - 100 OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
- 2020**
 - 2nd MANUFACTURING UNIT AT AHMEDABAD
 - 3rd MANUFACTURING UNIT @ VADODARA
 - 150 OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
- 2021**
 - 4th MANUFACTURING UNIT AT RAJKOT
 - 1st INTERNATIONAL OUTLET IN NEW JERSEY (USA)
 - 200 OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
- 2022**
 - 228 OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
 - A NEW INTERNATIONAL OUTLETS IN THE US
 - 1st EVER INTERNATIONAL MANUFACTURING UNIT IN NEW JERSEY.
- 2023**
 - 280+ OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
- 2024**
 - 300+ OUTLETS IN GUJARAT
 - 8 MORE INTERNATIONAL OUTLETS IN THE USA
 - 1st INTERNATIONAL OUTLET IN BRAMPTON, CANADA.



17 SEPTEMBER
2016
TALLEST

17 SEPTEMBER
2017
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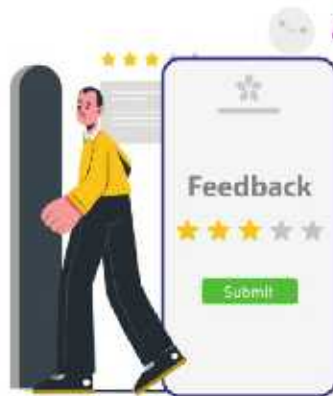
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જ્યેષ્ઠ બાઈ ખોરાકનો વચવાવ મુખવાસ મનભાવનનું સેલે બની ગયું હતું. પહેલાંના સમયમાં વડોદરાથી આને લાકડેના મુખવાસ મોટલબને રહેતા પણ હવે તેમાં ઘણી વેલવેટીલ અલગ મુખવાસ લોકોનું મનભાવન બની ગયું છે. તેમાં પણ સુરતના રોશની ટેલરે બનાવેલા મુખવાસનો ટેલર તો રાત સમરે પાર મિલતની ઘરેલી પર પણ પહોંચી ગયો છે. આને જાણીએ તેવાની બેબાન મિમિલ મુખવાસનો વાલે...



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8-9-10 MAY



**SMART
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15-16-17 MAY 2026



15 16 17 MAY 2026



15 16 17 MAY '26



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15-16-17 MAY 2026



15-16-17 MAY

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1 2 3 AUG. 2025



12th & 13th September, 2025



10-11-12 October 2025



22-23-24 NOV 2025
AN EXCLUSIVE TEXTILE MACHINERY EXPO



2 TO 4 JANUARY 2026



09-10-11-12 JAN 2026
EMBROIDERY MACHINERY EXPO



24 25 26 JANUARY 2026



24 25 26 JANUARY 2026



24-25-26 Jan. 2026



6-7-8 FEBRUARY 2026



21 & 22 FEBRUARY 2026



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