



PHD CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



Embassy of the Czech Republic
in New Delhi



Virtual Interactive Series on Global Trade and Investment Opportunities for Indian Industry in Czech Republic

Speakers



H.E. Mr. Milan Hovorka
Ambassador
Embassy of Czech Republic, India

Ambassador Milan Hovorka was born in 1961. In 1984, after graduating at the University of Economics in Prague he worked at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia. After the fall of communism in Czechoslovakia in 1989 he was sent to Geneva where he worked as a representative at the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the UN and other international organisations. In 1996 he was appointed the chief director of the Section for bilateral trade policy and for relations with the EU and EFTA at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. Between 1998 and 2004 he became the permanent representative of the Czech Republic to the World Trade Organisation in the rank of Ambassador. While being there, he was a permanent representative and afterwards the director of the Mission and a member of various elected WTO bodies, including chair of the Council for Trade in Goods. In 2004, he was appointed the director of the Section of European countries and CIC countries at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. Since 1 September 2007, Milan Hovorka has been Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade. In summer 2015 he has been appointed the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives. From 1st September 2016 he is in charge of the Embassy of the Czech Republic in New Delhi. He is Ambassador of the Czech Republic for 6 countries, namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka with residence in New Delhi.



H.E. Mr. Hemant H. Kotalwar
Ambassador
Embassy of India, Czech Republic

Ambassador Hemant H Kotalwar is an Indian Foreign Service Officer of 1996 Batch. He was born in 1972.

He received his early education in Latur, Maharashtra. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical and Electronics Engg (Hons) from BITS Pilani, Rajasthan. Prior to joining the IFS, Hemant Kotalwar worked briefly in Central

Electronics Limited, Ghaziabad, UP.

After training at the Foreign Service Institute in New Delhi, Hemant Kotalwar chose French as his Compulsory Foreign Language and was posted to the Indian Embassy in Brussels (1998-2000) where he was attached to the Economic and Political wings of the Embassy. He was then posted to Algiers (2000-2002) as Second Secretary dealing with Political and Economic Affairs.

He briefly served as Under Secretary in MEA on the Pakistan Desk of PAI Division and was later posted as the Regional Passport Officer, Mumbai. He returned to Delhi as the Director dealing with the office of Minister of State for External Affairs.

Hemant Kotalwar was posted as Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of India to WTO, Geneva from 2011 to 2014 where he dealt with trade negotiations dealing with Development and IPR issues. In 2014 he was posted as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Apart from handling political, economic, Energy and consular issues, he also coordinated the evacuation of thousands of Indian nationals from Yemen when the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia attacked Yemen in 2015.

He returned to the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi in 2017 and was posted on deputation to the National Security Council Secretariat.



Mr. Sanjay Aggarwal
President, PHDCCI
Chair & CEO, Paramount Communications Ltd

Sanjay Aggarwal is Chairman & CEO of Paramount Cables Group. He completed his B.Com. (Hons) from the prestigious SRCC- Shri Ram College of Commerce in the year 1983 and joined Paramount Cables, founded by his father Late Shri S.S. Aggarwal.

Sanjay has also been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards over the past 34 years which include the National Small Industry Award 1984 given away by the President of India, Entrepreneur of the Year Award 1994 by All India Manufacturers Organization, Niryat Shree Award 2008-09 by FIEO, numerous Star Exporter Awards by EEPC over the years and Major Donor Award 2017 by Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Sanjay has been an integral part of the growth story of Paramount Cables from a Rs 1 crore small scale industrial unit to one of the largest cable manufacturers in India. Paramount offers a comprehensive range of cables including Optical Fiber telecom cables, High Voltage Power cables, Railway cables, Fire Survival Cables and lead-free electric wiring cables etc. and has a group turnover above Rs 600 crores with customers and approvals spanning the most prestigious corporates and institutions in India and abroad.

Paramount Communications Ltd, the flagship company of the group is amongst the largest exporters of Cables & Wires in India for the past many years and has been consistently presented with the Star Exporter Award by EEPC- Northern Region.

Sanjay personally led various key initiatives for Paramount Cables including the first public issue on Bombay Stock Exchange in 1994, the transformation of the company from small enterprise status into medium scale industry upon successful launch of its PIJF Telecom Cable plant and further expansion and diversification into Optical Fiber Cables in 2001 and High Voltage Cables in 2007.

Sanjay gained valuable international industrial exposure when led the 2007 acquisition of AEI Cables Ltd, UK, the oldest cable manufacturing company in the world, established circa 1837 with more than 300 long term employees. AEI Cables gained immense prestige as part of Paramount Cables group during which period it bagged complete cabling contracts for the two largest warships ever built by UK- the aircraft carriers Queen Elizabeth 1 and 2, in addition to the 5-year exclusive contract for supply of cables to the London Underground. Paramount subsequently exited AEI Cables in 2014.

As Vice-President of TEMA- Telecom Equipment Manufacturers Association, Sanjay Aggarwal successfully spearheaded the campaigns for the Indian telecom manufacturing industry which resulted in two key Central Government legislative changes in India which were necessary for the survival of domestic telecom manufacturing industry:

The Central Sales Tax Act was amended in the Union Budget 2003 granting C-form facility to the Telecom Sector in line with the pre-existing similar provision for Power Sector

Union Budget 2005 amended the Customs and Central Excise Act to permit duty free import of inputs by the telecom manufacturing sector under a simple new procedure.



Mr. Purrshottam Bhaggeria

Chair, International Affairs Committee for Europe & CIS, PHDCCI

Joint Managing Director, Filatex India Ltd

Exudes the curiosity & enthusiasm of a young man, yet he surprises you with his tenacity & focus. Entrepreneur, industrialist & an avid art collector, this MBA from Cornell University, USA, is the Joint Managing Director of Filatex India Ltd., a synthetic yarn manufacturing company.

Purrshottam is also involved in real estate development and capital markets and has personal interest in heritage preservation, gold and philanthropy. He has not let go of his passion for social giving, making Bhageria Foundation a highly credible NGO. A life, enthusiast who never loses perspective of the ground realities of life, he has also co-authored another coffee table book Elite Clubs of India. Widely travelled and a member of many Indian & International business & social associations, he derives immense strength from his wife Shefali and extremely supportive children Stuti & Yaduraj.

His penchant for creativity and aesthetics inspired him to initiate this unique coffee table book.



Mr. Martin Partl

Director of Foreign Activities

Czech Invest

As the Business Development Director of CzechInvest – Investment and Business Development agency of the Czech Republic, Martin Partl manages a network of 9 CzechInvest's offices worldwide (USA, Asia, Europe) and creates a marketing and project development strategy for attracting FDI to the country. Previously, Martin was the Director of D-A-CH Region Operations (German speaking countries) at CzechInvest's office in

Düsseldorf, Germany. Martin works in the field of FDI for more than 14 years and changed several positions within the CzechInvest agency. He speaks English and German.



Mr. Srinivasan Tharuvai
CFO, Varroc Group
Czech Republic

Varroc is an Euro 1.5 Billion, Tier 1 Auto Components group headquartered in Maharashtra, India. Varroc Lighting Systems, part of the Varroc group, supplies exterior lighting products to leading Passenger Vehicle OEMs across the world. It has plants at Novy Jicin and Rychvald in Czech Republic, which generated revenue in excess of Euro 500 Millions in the year 2020.

Srinivasan, as the Group Chief Financial Officer of Varroc since 2017, oversees the Finance, Information Technology, Legal and Secretarial functions of the group. He has over 30 years of experience in the Finance and allied functions across diverse industries such as FMCG, Consumer Durables, Retail, Healthcare and Automotive in India, United States and Europe. He is a Cost Accountant and a Post-Graduate in Management. He speaks Tamil, English and Hindi.