Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, in a video message at the World Trade Centers Association Day, remarked that the WTC movement has been doing a commendable job in promoting trade and it has a big network to support trade and investment. “I complement World Trade Centers Association and World Trade Centre Mumbai for this laudable work in promoting trade, industry and exports.”

Speaking at this event, Gen. (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Retd.), Minister of State for External Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs said, “I sincerely feel trade and economy are the lifeblood of a nation, without which a nation’s health will suffer. World Trade Center New York epitomizes the vision of trade which suffered after 9/11 terrorist attack. Terrorism has no colour, caste and religion. On this World Trade Centers Association Day, we must take stock of this threat and take a pledge that we shall not permit similar things to happen to our nation, property and people.”

The minister also emphasized on promoting peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific zone as 90% of India’s trade passes through sea. “We are professing the blue economy for the benefit of all. We are thinking this century will be the Asian Century. If the vision of Sir. M. Visveswaraya and MVIRDC WTC Mumbai has to be promulgated, peace and stability need to prevail, which will spur economic growth, take the nation to a different sphere of development and reap the benefit of intermingling, interlocking and networking of economies,” he remarked.

Earlier in his welcome address, Kamal Morarka, Chairman, World Trade Centre Mumbai remarked, “World Trade Centers Association Day is being celebrated since 2002 to promote peace and solidarity following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center New York. The world is shrinking, communication has reached unimaginable heights and extensive micromanagement has prevented similar incidents thereafter.”

Speaking about the role of World Trade Centre Mumbai, Morarka said, “World Trade Centre Mumbai is among the top 20 World Trade Centers across the world in promoting international trade. Last year, World Trade Centre Mumbai received more than 60 foreign delegations. World Trade Centers across the world promote goodwill through international trade.”
व्यापारवाहीसाठी मुंबईतील जागतिक व्यापार केंद्राचे उत्कृष्ट काम - कृ. के. सिंग

द्वार सन्त्रा

मुंबई, गुरुवार - दक्षिणी अर्थव्यवस्था मुंबईतील जागतिक व्यापार केंद्र व्यापार वाहिनीसाठी उत्कृष्ट काम करत आहे. व्यापार आणि...
Fight protectionism and terrorism to promote solidarity, says (Dr.) V. K. Singh (Retd.)

by Surenh Mudherdev

Mumbai | Surenh Mudherdev, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, in a video message at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) World Trade Centre Business Summit, emphasised the need for global efforts in promoting trade and it has a big network to support trade and investment. “I complement World Trade Associations and World Trade Centre Mumbai for this valuable work in promoting trade, industry and exports.”

Speaking at this event, (Dr.) V. K. Singh (Retd.), Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and said, “In today’s fast and instant world, we need to define our role in the global economy as if without a nation’s health, our nation will be unhealthy. Where a building is constructed, it is not just bricks, mortar, concrete and cement, but the vision that behind its walls. Today’s most potent threat is terrorism. Terrorism has no colour, no creed and no religion. On this World Trade Centre Day, we must take stock of the threats and challenges that we are facing. We need not permit similar things to happen to our nation, property and people.”

Speaking further about the menace of terrorism, (Dr.) V. Singh said, “In the last few years of the present government, the country has been well prepared to face the threat of terrorism. This is so because of the facility and economic upliftment of the people. India has been most concerned and affected by terrorism. India has shown a great commitment to fight terrorism and for this reason, the United Nations hopes all nations will support this. This will be the beginning of a new chapter in the conflict against terrorism.”

The minister also emphasised on promoting peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region and 80% of India’s trade passes through them. “We are promoting the greater benefits for the welfare of all. We are thinking this century will be the Asian century and I believe so,” the minister said. “Our country is well prepared to face the threat of terrorism and peace and stability are needed to prevail, which will eventually promote peace, make the economy of the nation be different forms of development and make the benefit of intermingling, interlinking and networking of economies,” he remarked.

Sharing his vision on globalisation, the minister said, “Globalisation has been the key word. But today, people are talking about the end of globalisation and the benefit of trade barriers and protectionism. However, as a country, trade, commerce and economic integration have to survive. This means that protectionism can be a point of concern from nations that are powerful, but we must learn how to vive this move to turn globalisation to our benefit. We need to utilise this economic terrorism.”

Expressing concerns over the threat of climate change, (Dr.) V. Singh said that globalisation is far from over. Notably, the minister added that the global trade has doubled in the last few years with the growth of power capacity by 150%. This initiative has created huge opportunities for sustainable trade and the increase in global trade in recent years has been encouraging. “The industry should keep abreast of this changes to make a major role in the development of the economy,” he said.

Speaking about the importance of trade, (Dr.) V. Singh said, “To have sustainable development, the role of economies and community is very important. The social and economic community should play a major role in this. When the country is in a position to make a major role in the development of the economy, it can’t be possible to do without the use of advanced technology and resources.”

Sharing his thoughts on the importance of trade, (Dr.) V. Singh said, “Government of India has been holding discussions with Canada and USA to set up a joint forum for artificial intelligence.”

Leading the efforts of World Trade Centre Mumbai in organizing World Trade Centre Association Celebration, (Dr.) V. Singh said, “World Trade Centre is celebrating the spirit of connectivity and solidarity among World Trade Centres globally and the Indian chapter is the largest and strongest. The organisation’s efforts in research, trade, tourism and commerce have been acknowledged. The events planned for the year 2023 will be a major role in attracting this attention.”

World Trade Centre Association Day is commemorating 25 years since the founding of WTC Mumbai and 30 years since World Trade Centre Mumbai served local business people. The organisation aims to promote trade, research and economic development. WTC Mumbai aims to be a USD 100 billion entity by 2023.”

Speaking about the role of World Trade Centre Mumbai, (Dr.) V. Singh said, “World Trade Centre Mumbai is aiming to be the top 10 World Trade Centers across the world in promoting international trade. Last year, World Trade Centre Mumbai registered more than 23,000 delegations. The organisation has been contributing to the global economy through tourism, commerce, and investment.”

The event was also attended by representatives from industries, academia, research institutions, government departments and non-government organisations.
Fight terrorism and promotion to terrorism to promote solidarity, says (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Retd.)

Speaking at the event, Gen. (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Retd.), Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, said that the world today is witnessing the rise of terrorism in the most lethal form of a nature, without which a nation's health will suffer. When a building is constructed, it is not enough to construct its walls, but also to construct its foundation, so similarly, a nation's foundation must be strong to combat terrorism.

Talking about the role of World Trade Centers as the third pillar of the global economy, Gen. (Dr.) Singh said that World Trade Centers have been established in more than 300 cities across the world, which have contributed significantly to the economic growth of the countries where they are located.

The minister also emphasized on the need for promoting peace and stability in the Middle East, highlighting the role of World Trade Centers in facilitating trade and investment in the region.

Gen. (Dr.) Singh further said that the World Trade Centers Association has played a significant role in promoting peace and stability in the Middle East. He also highlighted the role of the World Trade Centers in promoting economic growth and development in the region.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Jaykumar Rana, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism, Government of India, said that the World Trade Centers have played a significant role in promoting economic growth and development in the region.

Mr. Rana further said that the World Trade Centers have played a significant role in promoting peace and stability in the region. He also highlighted the role of the World Trade Centers in promoting economic growth and development in the region.

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The minister also emphasized on the need for promoting peace and stability in the Middle East, highlighting the role of World Trade Centers in facilitating trade and investment in the region.
Fight protectionism and terrorism to promote solidarity, says (Dr. V. K. Singh (Redd.))

Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, (Dr. V. K. Singh (Redd.)) has said that protectionism and terrorism are the bane of the world economy. In his speech at the World Trade Centers Association, (Dr. V. K. Singh (Redd.)) has made a strong case for free trade and the promotion of solidarity among nations, stating that protectionism is a threat to the world's economic growth and that terrorism is a tragic and tragic phenomenon that must be fought with all our might.

(200 Words)

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(3000 Words)
एकता वाढविण्यासाठी संरक्षणवाद आणि दहशतवाद रोखा

डॉ. ही. के. सिंग यांचे प्रतिपादन

मुंबई (प्रतिनिधि):

व्यापार व अर्थव्यवस्था देशाच्या विकाससाठी आवश्यक महत्वाचा आहे. याबद्दल देशाचा विकास शक्तीच नाही. जेव्हा परछाडी इमारत तयार होते, तेव्हा ती इमारत तयार करताना लामचे वायरल्या विटा, सिमंट वा समव्ययांकडे न पाहता ल्यायांमध्ये उडवत काय? हे पाहण्यास अतिशय महत्त्वाचे आहे. मुंबईवरील ९/१९ च्या दहशतवादी हल्ल्यानंतर मोठा परिश्रम झाला होता. पण, अता वटवट टॅंक सेंटर नूतनांकने व्यापारसंपत्तक आशाने चिंता निरंगण केलेली आहे. त्या हल्ल्यांनी अनेक घटनांस्थळी समायोजन झाला. दहशतवादी हल्ले हा सर्वत्र मोठा प्रभाव आहे. दहशतवादात घटनांकडून तीक्ष्ण वाटला जात नसले किंवा रंग व धेरादंड नसले. अशा घटनांची पुनरावृत्ती व्यावसाय नको, याची आज आपण सतो शपथ घेतल्या असे, वटवट टॅंक सेंटर वेळेपर्यंत व्यवहार राज्यमंत्री, सेवानिवृत्त जनसतंत्र उद्योगी टीमस्थीली मुंबई वाढविण्यासाठी उत्तम काम करत आहेत. व्यापार आणि गुंतवणुकीला वाढिता देशाच्या व्यावसायकऱ्या मोठा हातपातऱ्या लागता जातो आहे. व्यापार, उद्योग आणि निर्मातांना केन्द्रीय भाग सोहळेत देशाच्या प्रबंधनीय अध्यक्षी कामभोक्तांना ते करत असून घातक नाही तर देशाची मोठे टॅंक सेंटर असेल तर व्यावसायाचं काळचं करू इच्छिते. अशा शक्तीत वाणीव्या व उद्योग मंत्री सुरेश प्रभु यांनी ह्या वटवट टॅंक सेंटरमधे कोटूक केले.

(डॉ.) व्ही. के. सिंग म्हणजेच.

भाजप सरकार सततत आल्यापासून गेल्याचा चार वर्षांत अशा दहशतवादी कुटुंबांची घड्यांची घडली नाही. ते लोकमंत्र्यांनी आसलेल्या एकत्रमुळे व आर्थिक उल्लेखातील टपटपी मंजूर. भारत सरकार जास्त दहशतवादसमजून घटना सामेंगाच गेल्या आहेत. युनासपेक्ष नेशनली दहशतवादविरोधात भारताचे व्यक्त मुसलमान सारे केला आहे. मी आशा करते की सर्व राष्ट्रात आहे. व्यक्तमा एडो-पोलिसीक विस्तार आणि दहशतवादविरोधी युद्धानंतर शांतस्थान्यास मूल्यवान करू शकते.

भारतातील ७० टक्के व्यापार हा समुदायांमध्ये होतो. त्यामुळे इंडो-पॉलिसीक विस्ताराच्या शांतस्थान्याचा आणि संस्कृत वाढविण्यासाठी भर दिला जाणार असताचे तीनी सोळ्यात, तीनी राज्यांचे पार्टनरशी जवळपास राज्य यांनी मार्गदर्शन केलेले.

डॉ. सिंग यांनी डॉ. नरांबर राव-के, मुंबईविली डीप, कांस्यास अशी आम्ही मुंबईविली कौशल जनरल याचा संकार करण्यात आला. अभाजक व्यापार केंद्रेचे उपाध्यक्ष विजय कातांजली यांची आशा मानली.
Andijan region can be a gateway to CIS countries for Indian companies, says Mansurov

By A Business Reporter

“Uzbekistan, the largest country of Central Asia has strong historical relationship with India. Trade, investment and cultural industries are the key focus areas of our relationship. India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbek President Mirziyoyev decided to draw roadmap for mutual partnership when they met at Astana on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in June 2017,” said Azamjon Mansurov, Second Secretary, Embassy of Uzbekistan to India on May 25, 2018, during an interactive meeting with a 15-member High-Level Delegation of Business and Government officials from Andijan region at World Trade Centre Mumbai. The interactive meeting was organised by World Trade Centre Mumbai and All India Association of Industries (AIAI) in association with Uzbekistan Embassy in India.

In his welcome address, Vijay Kalantri, President, AIAI and Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Mumbai remarked, “India and Uzbekistan share cultural linkages in architecture, dance, music and cuisine. The visit of this high level business delegation offers tremendous opportunity not only to improve trade but also to explore joint venture among companies in both the countries.”
Andijan Region can be a Gateway to CIS Countries for Indian Companies says Mr. Mansurov

by Shateno B/3INS

"Uzbekistan, the largest country of Central Asia has strong historical relationship with India. Trade, investment and cultural industries are the key focus areas of our relationship. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbek President Mirziyoyev decided to draw roadmap for mutual partnership when they met at Astana on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in June 2017. The large industrial region of Andijan is a potential gateway for Indian companies to CIS region. Soon, we will set up Uzbekistan India pharmaceutical zone in this region. Indian companies investing in that region will be eligible for tax benefits," said Mr. Anjamjon Mansurov, Second Secretary, Embassy of Uzbekistan to India during an interactive meeting with a 15-member High-Level Delegation of Business and Government officials from Andijan region at World Trade Centre Mumbai. Members of the delegation represent industries such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, medical equipment, textile and tourism. The interactive meeting was organised by World Trade Centre Mumbai and All India Association of Industries (AIAI) in association with Uzbekistan Embassy in India.

Speaking about the economic potential of Uzbekistan, Mr. Mansurov said, "Uzbekistan is the leading manufacturer of natural textile products, which are exported to more than 100 countries. The country produces more than 3 lakh tons, 3,000 types of food products, 20 varieties of mobiles and smartphones, 2,800 varieties of drugs and pharmaceutical products and wide range of household appliances, chemical members of the delegation stressed collaborations between Uzbekistan and India in pharmaceuticals, tourism and textile sectors. Uzbekistan has tremendous tourism potential given its historical cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and so on. Indian companies can take advantage of the Free Economic Zones in Uzbekistan by setting up manufacturing plants in these zones and exporting the products to CIS countries."

In his welcome address, Mr. Vijay Kalinati, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Mumbai remarked, "India and Uzbekistan share cultural linkages in architecture, dance, music and cuisine. The visit of this high level business delegation offers tremendous opportunity not only to improve trade but also to explore joint ventures among companies in both the countries. I hope this interactive meeting will strengthen collaboration between Uzbekistan and India in pharmaceuticals, tourism and textile sectors. Uzbekistan has tremendous tourism potential given its historical cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and so on. Indian companies can take advantage of the Free Economic Zones in Uzbekistan by setting up manufacturing plants in these zones and exporting the products to CIS countries."

Mr. Kalinati emphasised the need for launching direct flight connectivity from Mumbai to Uzbekistan to promote tourism and trade between the two countries.

In his remarks, Mr. Vrundavan Nayar, Deputy of Mayor, Andijan city Government said, "The year 2018 has been declared as the year of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Uzbekistan. The law of Uzbekistan protects the rights of foreign investors. Especially, we offer preferential treatment and tax benefits to investors from India. Through this meeting, we seek to forge long term relationship with India. I hope this event will generate fruitful and sustainable collaboration between the business community of India and Uzbekistan."

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Abdurahmon Elyorov, Deputy of Governor, Government of Jizzakh district said, "We invite Indian companies to invest in Andijan region, which is endowed with significant natural resources. We encourage Indian companies to produce value added goods and export them to neighbouring countries. We are willing to offer land and other resources to Indian companies. I hope both the countries can strengthen their relationship through collaboration in trade and investment."

Speaking about the advantage of Andijan region, Mr. Isamolov Sardorokh, Specialist, Investment department of Government of Andijan said, "Andijan accounts for 15% of the population of Uzbekistan and it is the most densely populated region in the country. This ensures a huge consumer market for companies. The economy of Andijan grew 15.5% between 2012 and 2017. Andijan contributes 7% to the industrial production of Uzbekistan. Four Indian companies have commercial presence in Andijan through joint ventures."

Mr. Sardorokh explained the tax incentives and other preferential treatment given to foreign investors in the Andijan region as announced through a President's decree. As part of the event, distinguished members of the delegation made presentation on the economy of Uzbekistan and the potential business opportunities in tourism and pharmaceutical industries in the Andijan region. The event witnessed more than 500 B2B and B2C meetings among officials from textile, pharmaceutical and tourism industries in India and Uzbekistan. The interactive meeting was attended by consular corps and representatives from trade, industry and financial institutions.
India and Argentina explores possibility of collaboration to diversify trade

New Delhi, May 25 (KNN) As developing nations, India and Argentina must focus on strengthening strategic relations and co-operation in sensible areas such as agriculture, atomic energy, space research, mining, tourism, infrastructure and traditional medicine such as AYUSH, said Daniel Chuburu, Ambassador of Republic of Argentina.

Speaking at an interactive meeting organized by World Trade Centre Mumbai on May 24, 2018 at WTC Mumbai, Chuburu said “we are working with India to diversify trade basket”.

He said that we are trying to explore and use every single opportunity to build confidence in our relationship by setting up new institutional mechanism.

As part of this initiative, the Embassy of Argentina will soon launch a bilateral chamber for agro-products and agro-services in New Delhi and its first centre will be opened in Mumbai, said Chuburu.

Highlighting the possibilities of collaboration between both the countries, he said “Government of Argentina is discussing with Government of India the possibility of launching direct flight service and it is also working on code sharing agreement. I hope the discussion will conclude soon.”

On the area of food security, H.E. Mr. Chuburu said Argentina has developed cutting edge farm technologies and biotechnologies which can help India improve agriculture productivity and reduce post-harvest losses of farm produce.

He also invited Indian companies to explore investment opportunities in sectors like energy, mining, especially in lithium, gold and copper.

H.E. Mr. Chuburu also pointed to the potential for bilateral collaboration in the satellite sector for space and radar technologies in the aviation sector.

Speaking about collaboration in creative industry, the Ambassador mentioned that cinema is another key focus area for Argentina.

Aiming to promote collaboration in the above sectors, he emphasized that both the two big countries deserve deeper relationship and there has to be balanced trade.

During his visit, the Ambassador met Indian company’s viz. TATA Chemicals, TCS, UPL, Yupaa International (a fruit importer), Reliance Sports and Reliance Industries.

He also met major Argentine companies which have their base in Mumbai including INVAP which is building a radioisotope medicine facility in association with Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology, a part of BARC.
Andijan region can be a gateway to CIS countries for Indian companies, says Mr. Mansurov

"Uzbekistan, the largest country of Central Asia has strong historical relationship with India. Trade, investment and cultural industries are the key focus areas of our relationship. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev decided to draw roadmap for mutual partnership when they met at Astana on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in June 2017. The large industrial region of Andijan is a potential gateway for Indian companies to CIS region. Soon, we will set up Uzbekistan-India pharmaceutical zone in this region, Indian companies investing in that region will be eligible for tax benefits," said Mr. Azazmjon Mansurov, Second Secretary, Embassy of Uzbekistan to India during an interactive meeting with a 15-member High-Level Delegation of Business and Government officials from Andijan region at World Trade Centre Mumbai. Members of the delegation represent industries such as pharmaceutical, chemicals, medical equipments, textile and tourism. The interactive meeting was organised by World Trade Centre Mumbai and All India Association of Industries (AIAI) in association with Uzbekistan Embassy in India.

Speaking about the economic potential of Uzbekistan, Mr. Mansurov said, "Uzbekistan is the leading manufacturer of natural textile products, which are exported to more than 100 countries. The country produces more than 3 lakh cars, 3,000 types of food products, 20 varieties of mobiles and smartphones, 2,000 varieties of drugs and pharmaceutical products and wide range of household appliances, chemical products, leather goods and agricultural machineries, to name a few. Over the years, the country has progressed from a predominant exporter of cotton to exporter of manufactured products, which constitute 80% of total shipments today. Companies in Uzbekistan participate in more than 1,000 international exhibitions annually."

In his welcome address, Mr. Vijay Kalaria, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Mumbai remarked, "India and Uzbekistan share natural linkages in architecture, dance, music and cuisine. The visit of this high level business delegation offers tremendous opportunity not only to improve trade but also to explore joint venture among companies in both the countries. I hope this interactive meeting will strengthen collaboration between Uzbekistan and India in pharmaceuticals, tourism and textile sectors. Uzbekistan has tremendous tourism potential given its historical cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and so on. Indian companies can take advantage of the Free Economic Zones in Uzbekistan by setting up manufacturing plants in these zones and exporting the products to CIS countries."

Mr. Kalaria emphasised the need for launching direct flight connectivity from Mumbai to Uzbekistan to promote tourism and trade between the two countries.

In his remarks, Mr. Ibragimov Yusufbek, Deputy of Mayor, Andijan City Government said, "The year 2018 has been declared as the year of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Uzbekistan. The law of Uzbekistan protects the rights of foreign investors. Especially, we offer preferential treatment and tax benefits to investors from India. Through this meeting, we seek to forge long term relationship with India. I hope this event will generate fruitful and sustainable collaboration between the business community of India and Uzbekistan."

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Abdulhodjiev Elyorbek, Deputy of Governor, Government of Andijan district said, "We invite Indian companies to invest in Andijan region, which is endowed with significant natural resources. We encourage Indian companies to produce value added goods and export them to neighbouring countries. We are willing to offer land and other resources to Indian companies. I hope both the countries can strengthen their relationship through collaboration in trade and investment."

Speaking about the advantage of Andijan region, Mr. Ismailov Sardorbek, Specialist, Investment department of Government of Andijan said, "Andijan accounts for 10% of the population of Uzbekistan and it is the most densely populated region in the country. This ensures a huge consumer market for companies. The economy of Andijan grew 19.1% between 2012 and 2017. Andijan contributes 7% to the industrial production of Uzbekistan. Four Indian companies have commercial presence in Andijan through joint ventures."

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Ms. Rupa Nalk, Senior Director, World Trade Centre Mumbai proposed Vote of Thanks for the event.
Andrian region can be a gateway to CIS countries for Indian companies, says Mr. Mansurov

Uruguay, the largest country of Central Asia has strong historical relationship with India. Trade, investment and cultural industries are the key focus areas of our relationship. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev decided to draw roadmap for mutual partnership when they met at Astana on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in June 2017. The large industrial region of Andrian is a potential gateway for Indian companies to CIS region. Soon, we will set up Uzbekistan-India pharmaceutical zone in this region. Indian banks and industrial regions will be the most attractive zone for Indian companies.

Asemjon Mansurov, Second Secretary, Embassy of Uzbekistan to India during an interactive meeting with a 15-member high level delegation of business and government officials from Andrian region on World Trade Centre Mumbai. Members of the delegation represent industries such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, medical equipment, textiles and tourism. The interactive meeting was organized by World Trade Centre Mumbai and All India Association of Industries (AIAI) in association with Uzbekistan embassy in New Delhi.

Speaking about the economic potential of Uzbekistan, Mr. Mansurov said, “Uzbekistan is the meeting point of Eastern and Western Industries, which are exported to more than 100 countries. The country produces more than 5 lakh cars, 3,500 types of food products, 20 varieties of fruits and vegetables, 2,000 varieties of dairy and pork products and pharmaceutical products, and various types of household appliances, clothing products, leather goods and agricultural machines, to name a few. Over the years, the country has progressed from a predominant export of cotton to exporter of manufactured products, which constitutes 4% of total 50 lakh dollars today. Companies in Uzbekistan participate in more than 1,000 international exhibitions annually.”

In his welcome address, Mr. Vijay Kalantri, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Mumbai remarked, “India and Uzbekistan share cultural linkages in architecture, dance, music and cuisine. The visit of the high level business delegation offers tremendous opportunity not only to improve trade but also to explore joint venture among companies in both the countries. I hope this interactive meeting will strengthen collaboration between Uzbekistan and India in pharmaceuticals, tourism and textile sectors. Uzbekistan has tremendous tourism potential given its historical cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and so on. Indian companies can take advantage of the free economic zones in Uzbekistan by setting up manufacturing plants in these zones and exporting the products to CIS countries.”

Mr. Kalantri emphasized the need for launching direct flight connectivity from Mumbai to Uzbekistan to promote tourism and trade between the two countries.

In his remarks, Mr. Ibragimov Yusubov, Deputy Mayor of Andrian city government said, “The year 2018 has been declared as the year of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Uzbekistan. The law of Uzbekistan protects the rights of foreign investors. Especially we offer preferential treatment and tax benefits to investors from India. Through this meeting, we seek to forge long term relationship with India. I hope this event will generate fruitful and sustainable collaboration between the business community of India and Uzbekistan.”

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Abdulwahab Kudayberdiev, Deputy Governor of Government of Andrian region, added, “We urge Indian companies to invest in Andrian region, which is endowed with significant natural resources. We encourage Indian companies to produce value added goods and export to neighbouring countries. We are willing to offer land and other required resources to Indian investors. I hope both the countries can strengthen their relationship through collaboration in trade and investments.”

Speaking about the advantage of Andrian region, Mr. Islamov Sardorbek, Specialist, Investment department of government of Andrian region said, Andrian accounts for 10% of the population of Uzbekistan and is the most densely populated region in the country. This ensures a huge consumer market for companies. The economy of Andrian grew 15% between 2012 and 2017. Andrian contributes 7% to the industrial production of Uzbekistan. Indian companies have commercial presence in Andrian through joint ventures.”

Mr. Sardorbek explained the tax incentives and other preferential treatment given to foreign investors in the Andrian region as announced through President’s decree.

As part of the event, distinguished members of the delegation made presentation on the existing policies and the potential economic opportunities in tourism and pharmaceutical industries in the Andrian region.

The event witnessed more than 500 B2B and B2C meetings among officials from textile, pharmaceutical and tourism industries in India and Uzbekistan.

The interactive meeting was attended by consular corps and representatives from trade, industry and financial institutions.

Ms. Rupa Naik, Senior Director, World Trade Centre Mumbai proposed vote of thanks for the event.