

5.2 Details

(xiii) THE MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

- Organisation** : The Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Objective** : Visit of Foreign delegations to explore more business opportunities.
- Dates** : 20 January 2000 : British Trade Mission
22 January 2000 : Ohio India Collaboration Team
19 August 2000 : Thai Delegation
23 August 2000: Mauritius Export Development and Investment Agency
18 September 2000: IT Consultancy from Virginia
- Country** : India: Chennai

Summary Report

Six foreign delegations visited The Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry in 2000.

The first eight-member British Team from the London Chamber of Commerce & Industry comprising Chartered Accountants, Solicitors, Consultants, etc. referred to the exponential growth in British investment in India ever since the Indo-British Partnership Initiative was launched. There is huge potential, which the Indian market provided needs to be carefully assessed and converted for mutual advantages by Indian and British businessmen.

The second Ohio-India collaboration team, led by the Director of the Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI), visited the Chennai. The OAI provides contemporary technology for almost all manufacturing applications. They also provide centralised facilities and state-of-the-art equipment towards enhancing quality. The Team felt that the technology applications will have a lot of bearing at the growing industrial interest in India.

In Ohio Team felt Indian industry could benefit by the programme, be major player to enhance its connections and it could develop centres of excellence on manufacturing.

A four-member delegation from Thailand visited The Madras Chamber with a view to explore business opportunities between the two countries. The major area is tourism, which can be offered as a package in combination with Thailand.

A four-member delegation from Mauritius Export Development and Investment Agency focused on the investment potential in Mauritius in the following sectors:

- Agro Industry
- Information Technology
- Pharmaceuticals
- Printing-Prepress
- Chemicals
- Electronics

Mauritius has good governance, social and economic stability, preferential market access and attractive package of fiscal incentives.

A three-member team of consultants from Virginia, USA visited Chennai to identify especially IT providers as well as software developers in India for their clients in the USA. They explained to the software solution provides the type of services sought in the USA.

Conclusion

The foreign delegations visit to the Chamber emphasises the need for promoting the business opportunities between the two countries. British delegation referred to the growth in British investment in India ever since the Indo-British Partnership Initiative was launched. The Ohio--India Team felt that the technology applications will have a lot of bearing at the growing industrial

interest in India and it could develop centres of excellence in manufacturing. Thai delegation was here to develop tourism, which can be offered as a package in combination with Thailand. Mauritius delegation focused on investment potential in Mauritius in the areas of agro industry, printing-prepress, IT, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and electronics. Virginia delegation was interested in IT providers and software developers in India for their clients in the USA.