

National Dialogue Series

# INDIA AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Future of SC/ ST Entrepreneurs

**“Mitigating Risks & Challenges and Strategies Way Forward”**

Launching of  
**ASSOCHAM Centre for Information and  
Mentoring for SC/ ST Entrepreneurs**

Friday, 25 February 2022

3:00 PM (IST) Onwards

Virtual



Hosting Partners



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**THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF INDIA**

## About National Dialogue Series

India's socioeconomic growth potential has influence of the country's distinctive caste-based system and pose obstacles to inclusiveness. Leveraging economic and competitive benefits of demographic dividend in India is not fully attainable if an anti-competitive exclusion to any segment of society from the market economy is not eliminated. This has reference to representation of SC and ST owners in the MSME sector during 2018-19 which was merely at 12.45 percent and 4.10 percent, respectively.

Inclusion and competitiveness are inextricably linked with economic progress and development. During the Pre-Covid- 19 phase, SC and ST entrepreneurs were striving to obtain access and participate in the growth of country by contributing with their higher active role especially in the non-traditional-service sector and by setting up start-ups with the support of institutional sources of credit and various schemes of Government of India. The Covid-19 has impacted such entrepreneurial spirit of ST and ST promoters distinctively, as several such business dreamers lost their hopes mid-way or before their enterprises could have taken-off to operations. The capital investments made on knowledge enhancements and for procurement of resources has been unproductively foregone in several cases and perceived outcome of inclusiveness has been adversely hit by the pandemic.

ASSOCHAM during several interfaces with government has already initiated the advocacy for 4% reservation for procurement from SC/ST entrepreneurs in Public Procurement Policy. Further, towards exploring fresh opportunities and overcoming challenges, there is an urgent need for concerted efforts to ensure that SC/ST entrepreneurs get their due share of concessions and revival incentives alongside project funding and MSME sector benefits available under various schemes. This will be enabling and empowering marginalised and deprived segment of society which pertains to definition of affirmative action to uplift not only their socio-economic status but also their much-needed key role and participation in the businesses will increase in country's overall growth prospects.

In view of above, **ASSOCHAM** is organising a national dialogue series on "**India Affirmative Action: Future of SC/ ST Entrepreneurs- Mitigating Risks & Challenges and Strategies Way Forward**" on Friday, 25th February 2022.

## Eminent Guests and Speakers

- \* **Dr. Virendra Kumar**, Union Minister, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India
- \* **Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma**, Minister of State, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- **Mr. Sumant Sinha**, Sr. Vice President, ASSOCHAM and Founder, Chairman and Managing Director, ReNew Power
- **Mr. Rajnish Kumar Jenaw**, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation
- **Shri Ved Mani Tiwari**, COO and Officiating CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- **Shri V Satya Venkata Rao**, Deputy Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- **Mr. Gurdeep Singh**, ASSOCHAM Taskforce Chair for Social Inclusion & Affirmative Action & Managing Director, Simran Holidays
- **Mr. Basudev Mukherjee**, Assistant Secretary General, ASSOCHAM

## Registration Link

Link: <https://bit.ly/3uz4uDM>

## Focus Areas

- ❖ A review on state of SC/ ST Entrepreneurs and contribution of private sector
- ❖ Mitigating Covid -19 and other Risks and Challenges
- ❖ Access of SC/ST Entrepreneurs to grants and benefits
- ❖ A revisit and review of success benchmarks of various schemes for SC/ST enterprises
  - Single Point Registration Scheme (SPRS)
  - Marketing Assistance Scheme (MAS)
  - Performance and Credit Rating Scheme (PCRS)
- ❖ Mitigating various issues pertaining to procurement policy
- ❖ Easing access to capital and finance for SC/ST enterprises
- ❖ Digital Payment, Financial Inclusion, and alternate sources of finance
- ❖ Preparing roadmap for future inclusion

## Who Should Attend

**SC/ ST Entrepreneurs**

**Banks and NBFCs**

**Government Officials**

**Trade Associations**

**Representatives of PSUs**

**Government Institutions**

**Buyers and Vendors of SC/ ST Enterprises**

**Academicians**

**For more information, about the Speaking Slot, Sponsorship and Partnership opportunities, please contact;**

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**Department of Corporate Affairs**

**ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF INDIA**

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