



Summary

The MSME sector stands as a vital pillar within the Indian economy, as highlighted by Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, the Hon'ble Minister of State for MSME in the Government of India. This statement was made during the Manufacturing Innovation Conclave, organized by the CII in New Delhi. Minister Verma emphasized that India's manufacturing industry is intricately interlinked with the growth and success of MSMEs. He stressed that the absence of a robust MSME sector could lead to substantial job losses and decreased exports within the manufacturing domain. The Hon'ble Minister noted that Prime Minister Modi's initiatives have been geared towards enhancing the capacity and reach of the MSME sector. These efforts, he explained, are designed to bolster the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Campaign) by fostering innovation, incubating new businesses, and promoting entrepreneurship through the development of quality standards, improved practices, enhanced market access, technological tools, and Industry 4.0 integration, all aimed at making MSMEs competitive and self-sufficient.

Mr. Sundeep Kumar Nayak, the Director General of the National Productivity Council (NPC), in his address, underlined the NPC's role in propelling digital innovation through its Centre of Excellence, thereby contributing to significant improvements within the MSME ecosystem. He reiterated that the NPC has consistently supported and paved the way for transformation through the adoption of Industry 4.0 principles. Additionally, Mr. Nayak stressed the importance of addressing and preventing cyber security threats, which he identified as malicious and requiring attention.

Mr. Vijay Rai, Chairman of the CII Delhi Panel on Technology and Chief Growth Officer for Asia Pacific, as well as an Executive Board Member of Day1 Technologies (Atlanta, USA), inaugurated the event by highlighting the critical collaboration between the government and the industry to successfully implement Industry 4.0. He underscored the global transformation underway in the manufacturing sector due to the infusion of digital technology, marking a transition from physical to cyber-physical systems through the advent of Industry 4.0.

In his address, Capt (IN) Vikram Mahajan Retd, Head of Government Relations - India & South Asia at Rolls Royce, advocated for the integration and leverage of AI and Industry 4.0 to achieve smarter manufacturing. He articulated that we are now in an era of interconnected technologies and data-driven insights that are reshaping our way of life and work, thus necessitating adaptation and incorporation of these technologies.

Mr. William Blair, Chief Executive of Lockheed Martin India, stated that MSMEs are the catalysts driving the contemporary Indian economy. He emphasized the need for organizations to be well-prepared for partnerships in fields such as unmanned platforms, Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, and more.

Addressing the conclave, Mr. Tarun Mishra, Founder of Covacsis India, underscored the significance of deploying technology effectively to minimize capital expenditure. He advocated for a forward-thinking approach to avoid overlooking crucial matters. Mr. Mishra stressed the importance of leveraging technologies like IoT, AI, and ML to enhance energy management solutions and broaden the range of service offerings to customers.

Mr. Rajeev Singh, Partner and Automotive Sector Leader at Deloitte India, conveyed that it's time to put the next five-year vision into action for a technologically advanced economy. He linked the manufacturing sector's growth to India's aspiration of becoming a \$5 trillion economy, positioning it as a catalyst for economic growth and GDP expansion.

Dr. S N Sridhara, Vice Chancellor of Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, discussed how Industry 4.0 is reshaping the business landscape by merging technology and innovation. He described it as a new manufacturing and collaboration era driven by connectivity and automation, emphasizing adaptability as a key factor.

Mr. Sreenivasa Chakravarti, Global Head of Connected Manufacturing & Industry 4.0 at TATA Consultancy Services, stressed the rapid adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies, such as digital twins, industrial robotics, automation, and AI. These technologies, he noted, enable manufacturers to embrace novel business and operating models.

Dr. Ravi Kumar G V V, Associate Vice President and Head of the Advanced Engineering Group at Infosys, highlighted the vast potential of Industry 4.0 for the Indian manufacturing landscape. He emphasized the opportunities presented by technologies like 5G, AI, Digital Twins, Digital Thread, and Metaverse to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve quality sustainably.

Mr. Ajay Gopalswamy, Chief Executive Officer of DiFACTO Robotics and Automation, spoke about the synergy between Big Data analytics and Digital Twins in unlocking the true potential of Industry 4.0. He envisioned a future where insights derived from data and virtual counterparts propel innovation and efficiency to unprecedented heights.

The Conclave aimed to provide a platform for discussions surrounding various aspects and industry perspectives within the manufacturing sector, preparing it for the future by adopting advanced manufacturing trends that will reshape the landscape. The event also saw the release of the white paper on the CII-Deloitte report on Industry 4.0, titled "From Vision to Action." Esteemed speakers from companies such as IBM, Hughes Systique, AWS, Schneider Electric, HP Enterprises, DIC, GreenleafIT, Aeris, and others participated, with over 190 attendees present at the summit.

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