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SEPTEMBER 2021



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Since its inception in 1980, as the global voice of SMEs, WASME is actively engaged in crafting the Development agendas for SMEs, advocating for their greater recognition and enabling them to effectively contribute to the economic prosperity and social well being of their respective country.

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Our monthly Newsletter “World SME News” featuring developments in MSME sector



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FROM THE DESK OF SECRETARY GENERAL



SEPTEMBER 2021 VOLUME 161

Research paper on “Innovative integration of solar chimney ventilator, solar panel and phase change material; under real transient weather condition of Hong Kong through different months authored by Yan Cao a, Nazaruddin Sinaga , Samira Pourhedayat , Hamed Sadighi Dizaji discusses about the recent Covid-19 pandemic and its required hygiene protocols further revealed the importance of ventilation process in all buildings deal with human life. Solar Chimney Ventilator (SCV) is a type of renewable technology that is able to provide natural ventilation for the buildings.

In UN section, focus is on United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

In country focus section, our focus country is the Egypt. The SME Policy Index noted that Egypt had a relatively good performance on the legal and regulatory framework for access to finance, especially given the existence of both a credit registry and a credit bureau.

In an interview with Interview with Amazon's Abhijit Kamra talks about FTP must acknowledge MSMEs' e-commerce exports for Atmanirbhar Bharat. Trade, import, and export for MSMEs: "Every possible category that you can think of, Indian MSMEs are exporting that to different countries through 17 marketplaces across the world we operate that caters to customers in over 200 countries."

In Entrepreneur of month section, we have included the story of Kshitij Bajaj CEO and CTO at Dandera India's first truly home grown and matured electric vehicle. With an excellent track record of project execution of varying scales. Employing uncon-ventional approach to problem solving on projects, out of the box thinking to help Design, Conceptualize and Building products amalgamating with fine detailing in Ergonomics, Aesthetics, Trims and Body Design.

WASME CORNER covers WASME organized IIIPI, the frontline regulator and the largest insolvency professional agency in India, along with WASME organised a web-conference on 'Demystifying Prepack Insolvency Framework for MSMEs' on 10th September 2021. WASME's upcoming events include WASME in association with Amazon Web Services is organising SMB Vidyalaya Bridging SMBs to success with technology education" for Digital Retailers to be held on 27th August 2021 , Emperia Industries Connect ,Canada in association with WASME is organizing GWiA "Global Women in AgriTech" Summit under the theme "Growing the future together" to be held on 17, 18 and 19 November 2021 in Montreal in a virtual format and WORLD LEADER SUMMIT 2021 WLS AND WASME to be held in November 2021 on virtual mode.

In UN News Scan, we have included the news of From recovery to resilience: Hanging together or swinging separately?, and TDR 2021 draws four main lessons from the pandemic.

In start-up section, the focus news are 15 Expert-Recommended Resources for Keeping up with the Latest Tech News and Blue-collar digital hiring startup Apna becomes a unicorn in just 15 months.

Women's wing section we have added news related to Top 10 women leading healthcare startups and Want To See More Women In The Startup World? A Female Founder Shares Her Top4 Asks.

DR GYAN PRAKASH AGARWAL

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Dr. Gyan Prakash Agarwal
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reader's review



Research paper on "A review of resource management and self-reliance for sustainable development of India under COVID-19 scenario authored by Asrafal Alam, Amir Khan, Nilanjana Ghosal and Lakshminarayan Satpati discussed about Sri Narendra Modi's vision of "Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" or "Self-reliant India" as self-reliance would help in making pragmatic developments of the economy is very knowledgeable.

Siyabulela Skade
Mdantsane, Eastern Cape

In UN section, focus is on The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is a regional economic forum established in 1989 to leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific. APEC's 21 members aim to create greater prosperity for the people of the region by promoting balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and secure growth and by accelerating regional economic integration is very insightful.

Mary Kissner Calubaquit Gepulani
Kabankalan, Negros Occidental

Discussion on country focus section, our focus country is the United Kingdom. In the UK, sections 382 and 465 of the Companies Act 2006 define a SME for the purpose of accounting requirements. According to this a small company is one that has a turnover of not more than £6.5 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £3.26 million and not more than 50 employees. A medium-sized company has a turnover of not more than £25.9 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £12.9 million and not more than 250 employees is thoughtful.

Titi Idowu
Oyo, Nigeria

WASME is doing incredible job by organising webinars on "WASME EMPOWERING MSMEs THROUGH PARTNER ASSOCIATION" held on Saturday, August 7, 2021, Live Webinar on "ATMANIRVAR BHARAT - THE WAY FORWARD" held on August 23, 2021 on virtual platform and Entrepreneur India in association with WASME organized Tech & Innovation Summit 2021 X Entrepreneur Awards 2021 held from 17th to 18th August 2021 on virtual mode. WASME's upcoming events include WASME in association with Amazon Web Services is organising SMB Vidyalaya Bridging SMBs to success with technology education" for Digital Retailers to be held on 27th August 2021, Emperia Industries Connect, Canada in association with WASME is organizing GWiA "Global Women in AgriTech" Summit under the theme "Growing the future together" to be held on 17, 18 and 19 November 2021 in Montreal in a virtual format and WORLD LEADER SUMMIT 2021 WLS AND WASME to be held in November 2021 on virtual mode.

Tukesh Singh
Raipur

Innovative integration of solar chimney ventilator, solar panel and phase change material; under real transient weather condition of Hong Kong through different months

ABSTRACT

The recent Covid-19 pandemic and its required hygiene protocols further revealed the importance of ventilation process in all buildings deal with human life. Solar Chimney Ventilator (SCV) is a type of renewable technology that is able to provide natural ventilation for the buildings. However, conventional SCV is not economical due to its low performance of ventilation. Thus, in the current study, an innovative tilted Solar Chimney Ventilator with Phase Change Material integrated with Photovoltaic technology (SCV-PV-PCM) is proposed and investigated under real unsteady transient weather condition (based on Hong Kong climate) via a validated three-dimensional numerical study. The characteristics of the SCV- PV-PCM is analyzed during the day (through different month i.e March, June, September, and December) and compared with conventional SCV-PV system. Based on the findings, the produced power and ventilation capacity of the SCV-PV-PCM is higher than those for the common SCV-PV system. Nonetheless, the system is not able to provide the appropriate ventilation power for the building through the winter due to lack of high ambient temperature and strong solar radiation. Moreover, it is concluded that using the SCV-PV-PCM in the building is most economically beneficial in the month of June by saving 2.88 \$/month.

Introduction

Air ventilating is a necessary parameter of human productivity and wellbeing either in residential or office buildings. Conventional

air conditioning systems (such as split systems) do not ventilate the air during the cooling and heating process. In other words, they reticulate the room air many times to provide the required cold or warm air temperatures. Indeed, injecting new fresh air significantly increases the required heating/cooling capacity of the air conditioning systems. Irrespective of productivity and wellbeing view- point, recent global issues due to Covid-19 showed the necessity of ventilation (in addition to the many other hygienic protocols) to reduce the level of probable risks and provide a safer place for people living.

Solar Chimney Ventilator (SCV) systems are such devices that are able to ventilate the moving air of the building and replace it with fresh air. The SC system is consists of various components such as absorber, air gap, and glass cover. The solar radiation in this system is absorbed by the absorber plate which rapidly increases its temperature. Hence, the heat of the absorber is transferred to the air layer by conduction and convection mechanisms. By increasing the air gap temperature, the density of the air decreases which leads to moving air from the building to the outlet of the solar chimney.

Solar chimney has been investigated under different conditions as summarized in the following.

Through a 2D numerical simulation, Kong et al studied the impact of tilted angle on the efficiency of a SC under the steady state

condition. They concluded that the SC has the best possible performance from the ventilation viewpoint when the tilted angle is between 45 and 60. However, in their study, the simulated the system in the free stream flow, it means that they assumed the solar chimney works in a condition that all its surrounding is the ambient air, which is a not a practical assumption. In another study, the performance of a 2D horizontal SC for the ventilation of a building is simulated by Nguyen and Wells. In their study, the inlet temperature of the solar chimney is considered to be as the same as the ambient temperature, which may be far from the real condition, due to the working heating and cooling systems inside the residential buildings. They reported that the thermal efficiency of the system is about 90% and increasing the absorber length and air gap height can enhance the performance of the system. Moreover, Wang and Lei studied the performance of a solar chimney integrated with a water wall in the ventilation and thermal comfort of a building. They showed that increasing the thickness of the water wall and raising the air gap height of the solar chimney improving the performance of the system. Furthermore, the summary of some researches on the performance of the solar chimneys are presented in Table, in this Table, the mythology, the novelty of the papers, and their most remarkable points are mentioned and described.

Results and discussions

The performance of the novel integrated system at different weather conditions of Hong Kong at the seasons of the spring, summer, fall, and winter is evaluated. The studied parameters include the air mass flow rate, the air outlet temperature, the PV cell

temperature, the produced electricity by the solar panel and the output power of the system. Besides, the performance of this novel system is compared with the performance of a SCV-PV system to investigate the effect of phase change material on the ventilation/electricity production of the solar chimney.

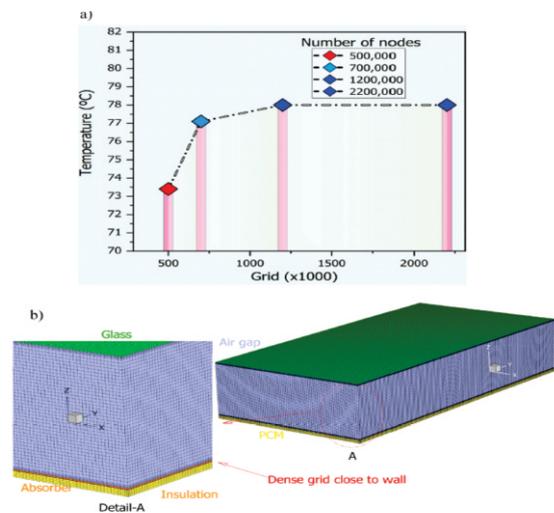


Fig. 3. (a) The amount of PV module temperature versus the mesh resolution in the system, (b), a general view of the mesh used for simulation process.

The amount of PV module temperature versus the mesh resolution in the system, (b), a general view of the mesh used for simulation process.

Additionally, all simulations are performed transient from sunrise until sunset to have a

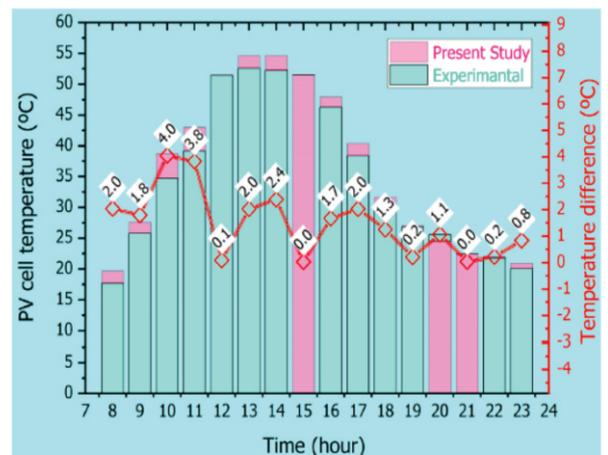


Fig. 4. Comparison between the obtained results and the data available in Brown et al. [36].

better understanding of the PCM melting and solidification impact on the efficiency of the system. Furthermore, the performance of the SCV-PV-PCM system is evaluated based on the ASHRAE standard from the air quality viewpoint.

Comparative study between the SCV-PV-PCM and SCV-PV system In the first section, the efficiency of the new combined system is compared with the efficiency of the conventional SCV-PV through the month of the June. According to Fig, the combined new system is not able to provide higher air mass flow rate compared to the SCV-PV system (except in the sunset because of solidification process of phase change material). The average generated massow is 0.12 kg/s for the new system and 0.13 kg/s for the conventional system. According to the ASHRAE standard, the amount of needed fresh air for each person that exists in a building is 5 Cube Feet per Minute (CFM). As a result, according to Fig, the SCV-PV and SCV-PV-PCM systems can ventilate the building for 45 and 41 persons on average, respectively. However, based in the information provided in Fig, the provided temperature at the outlet is much lower in the new combined system compared to the SCV-PV system. Indeed, in the new combined system, the phase change material absorbs a portion of the thermal energy which leads to the reduction of the air flow temperature. It is noted that, the solidification process of PCM makes this phenomenon vice versa close to the sunset (heat transfer from the PCM to the air flow). According to numerical results, the maximum and average temperature of the airflow in the SCV-PV system is 37.6C and 32.6 C, respectively. Also, the maximum and average temperature of the airflow in the

SCV-PV-PCM system is 33.8 C and 31.7 C, respectively.

Comparison between the obtained results and the data available in Brown et al. Mass Flow of the air in SCV-PV-PCM and the SCV-PV system during a day of June.

It provides the electrical efficiency of the solar panel in both the new system and conventional SCV-PV system. According to this figure, the average performance of the solar panel in the new system is 11.6% while it is around 10% in the conventional system. Through the day, the phase change material reduces the temperature of the solar panel (by absorbing thermal energy) which leads to the increment of the performance of the solar panel. Once the sun starts to go down, the absorbed heat in the PCM starts to be released (which reduces the produced electricity by the PV) and increases the air temperature. The overall performance of the new system (taking into account both air mass flow rate and electricity) is higher than the conventional system .

[Analysis of SCV-PV-PCM system through the different months](#)

The outlet air temperature of the SCV-PV-PCM is shown in Fig. 8 for different months (and different hours through a day). It is clear that, the outlet temperature of the air from the chimney has its lower value in the month of December due to the lower ambient temperature that is in contact with the system frame and also low sky temperature that reduces the system temperature by radiation mechanism. Also, the variation of temperature during the day in this month is around 3 C. However, the outlet air temperature has a rapid variation during the day in the month of March.

The amount of outlet air temperature is about 10 C. Thus, it is predicted that the amount of air ventilation during the day in the month of March is higher than the December due to the more air temperature variation. Additionally, the highest outlet air temperature occurs in June and September due to the climate condition at these months.

Fig shows the provided air mass flow rate (from the inside to the ambient). In the winter, due to the cold temperature of the ambient, a complete reverse flow occurs in the SCV-PV-PCM system. Indeed, at this month the air temperature in the chimney reduces, and consequently its density increases. As a result, the air moves back to the building environment, and the ventilation process does not occur at this month. Thus, it is recommended that the vent of the chimney get close in the season of the winter to prevent cold air entrance to the building.

Furthermore, the results of the numerical simulation reveal a vacillating performance for the SCV-PV-PCM system in the month of March. In this month, in the morning and

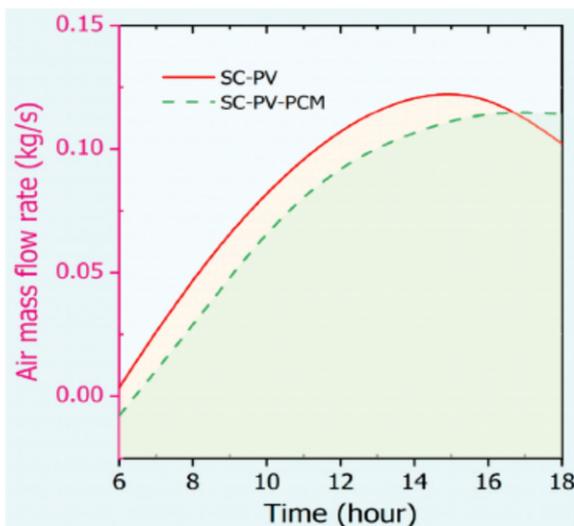


Fig. 5. Mass flow of the air in SCV-PV-PCM and the SCV-PV system during a day of June.

noontime, the air mass

Fig. Average temperature of the airflow in the SCV-PV-PCM and SCV-PV system in June.

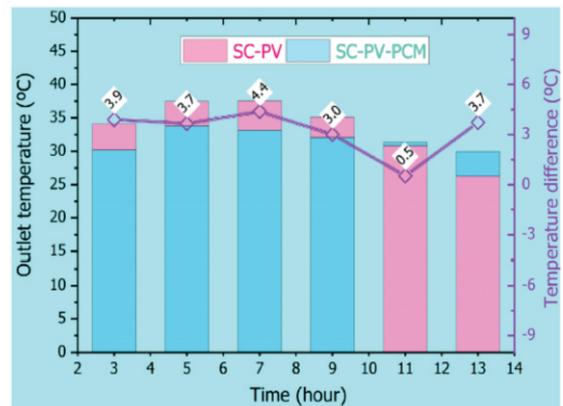


Fig. 6. Average temperature of the airflow in the SCV-PV-PCM and SCV-PV system in June.

The electrical efficiency of the PV module in the SCV-PV-PCM and SCV-PV system in June.

Flow at the outlet of the chimney is negative (reverse flow). In the afternoon, the ventilation occurs in the building (due to the changes in the weather condition and the fresh air can be replaced with the contaminated air which moves to the outside of the building through the solar chimney).

The ventilation process occurs in the month of June and September almost during all hours of the day. In these months, the solar radiation intensity is much higher than that for other tested months (also the temperature of the ambient is higher than the temperature of the inside of the building). As a result, the ventilation of the building will continue for the whole day. Moreover, the results show that the maximum number of people that the SCV-PV-PCM system is able to provide ventilation power are 15, 41, and 40 in the month of

March, June, and September, respectively. It should be noted that the system is not able to provide natural ventilation for the building in the month of December. However, in this month the electrical output of the system can serve as the input power of an exhaust fan for providing ventilation power.

The temperature and velocity distribution in the solar chimney at the months of June and December are presented in Fig. According to this figure, in the month of June, by increasing the distance of the airflow from the inlet of the channel the amount of temperature of the air increases, due to the heat absorption from the glass of the PV module by convention mechanism. Besides, the air temperature near the upper side of the channel is low (due to the heat transfer of the other glass component to the ambient). Moreover, the airflow velocity near the outlet of the chimney reaches to the maximum value (due to the reduction in its density by getting warm). However, a minor reverse flow occurs in the outlet of the chimney.

Furthermore, the temperature and velocity of the airflow in the month of December are depicted in figure respectively. Based on these figures, the temperature of the air is reduced by increasing the distance of the air from the inlet of the channel (due to the low solar radiation intensity and ambient temperature in the month of December). Also, an extreme reverse flow occurred in the solar chimney in this month. As depicted, at 18:00, no ventilation can be provided for the building in the month of December. Besides, as presented in Fig. not only the solar chimney is unable to provide air ventilation for the building near the sunset in the month of December but also the system cannot

provide any ventilation for the building all during the day. PV cell efficiency in different seasons of Hong Kong are illustrated in Fig. It can be found that the cell temperature is almost the same in the month of June and September which causes the same ventilation power during the day in these months. Moreover, the PV cell temperature has its minimum value in the month of December when the system is unable to provide proper ventilation for the building.

Fig. The variation of outlet temperature of the air versus time of the day at different months.

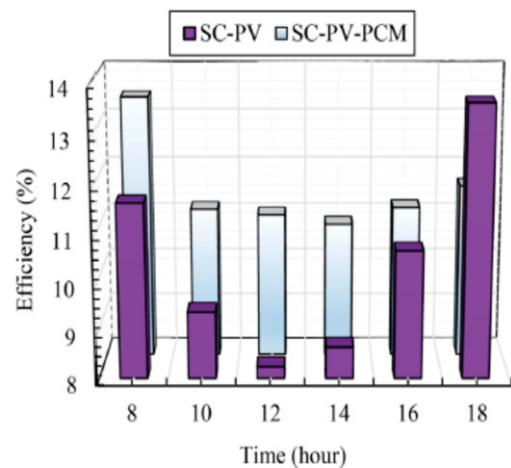


Fig. 7 The electrical efficiency of the PV module in the SCV-PV-PCM and SCV-PV system in June.

It should be noted that the PCM melting process starts in the 80 C, and this is the reason that the systems couldn't reach high temperatures in various months. In fact, in the month of December and March, the maximum temperature of the PV cells is about 80 C due to the incapability of the system in the melting of the PCM. While in the month of June and September all the PCM is melted in almost 2 h and after that, the temperature of the system raised slightly.

But, due to the solar radiation reduction in the afternoon the system temperature reduced immediately after the melting of the PCM.

The electrical performance of the PV at the different months of the year is shown in Fig. According to the results, the highest electrical efficiency of the PV module during the year belongs to December which has the lowest PV cell temperature, while the electrical efficiency of the SCV-PV-PCM system in the month of June and September has its lowest value. The average electrical performance of the SCV-PV-PCM system in the month of March, June, September, and December is 12.36%, 11.57%, 11.54%, and 12.85%, respectively.

Conclusion

In this study, the performance of the solar chimney combined with the PV module and PCM is evaluated at different months of Hong Kong. In these simulations, the models are simulated under transient conditions with variable solar radiation intensity, speed of the wind, and ambient temperature from the sunrise until the sunset. Also, the considered parameters in this study included the air temperature/massow, temperature/ efficiency of the solar panel and the electrical power production by the system through different months.

Findings are derived:

The ventilation power of the SCV-PV system is about 7.6% higher than the SCV-PV-PCM system. In fact, the SCV-PV and SCV-PV-PCM systems can ventilate the building for 45 and 41 persons, respectively. On the other

hand, the electrical performance of the SCV-PV-PCM system is around 14.8% higher than that of the SCV-PV system.

The SCV-PV-PCM system does not provide ventilation for the building in the season of winter. However, the system is able to provide electrical power for the building which can serve as the input power of an exhaust fan in order to ventilate the building. The performance of the SCV-PV-PCM in the season of spring is oscillating, in the morning and noontime this system is unable to provide ventilation for the building, while in the afternoon the system maintains a part of the ventilation of the building need.

According to this study, the SCV-PV-PCM system can be announced as a suitable choice for the seasons of summer and fall. But this type of solar system is not able to provide good ventilation for the building in the seasons of winter and spring due to the air coldness and lower amount of solar radiation. In conclusion, it can be interpreted that the SCV-PV-PCM system can be implemented in the building besides the installation of an exhaust fan. The system is able to provide the electrical consumption of the fan during the time periods that the SCV-PV-PCM system is not able to maintain the ventilation of the building including in the winter and spring. Also, the extra electrical generation of the SCV-PV-PCM system can be used for building needs. Additionally, some recommendations can attract the attention of the researchers to improve the performance of this type of system:

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the United Nations' global development network. UNDP works in about 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion. We help countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities and build resilience in order to sustain development results.

This is a critical time for the world. At UNDP, we see this period as a huge opportunity to advance the global sustainable development agenda. In September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. UNDP is working to strengthen new frameworks for development, disaster risk reduction and climate change. We support countries' efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, or Global Goals, which will guide global development priorities through 2030.

Our mission, our goals, our mandate

As the United Nations lead agency on

international development, UNDP works in 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality. We help countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities, and to build resilience to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Our work is concentrated in three focus areas; sustainable development, democratic g
Mission and vision

UNDP's mandate is to end poverty, build democratic governance, rule of law, and inclusive institutions. We advocate for change, and connect countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

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The Charter of the United Nations was signed in San Francisco on 26 June 1945, at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organization, and came into force on 24 October 1945. Its purposes and principles are to maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations based on equal rights and self-determination, and to achieve international co-operation in solving economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian challenges without distinction for race, sex, language, or religion.
History

UNDP is based on the merging of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, created in 1949, and the United Nations Special Fund, established in 1958. UNDP, as we know it now, was established in 1965 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Governance and peace building, and climate and disaster resilience.

Work at UNDP

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We place high importance on the following 5 core competencies. [Download the full document here.](#)

- Leadership: ability to persuade others to follow
- Innovation: ability to make new and useful ideas work
- People Management: ability to improve performance and satisfaction
- Communication: ability to listen, adapt, persuade and transform
- Delivery: ability to get things done

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. They are on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of

UNDP and their wide range of partners. World leaders have pledged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including the overarching goal of cutting poverty in half by 2015. UNDP's network links and coordinates global and national efforts to reach these Goals. Their focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of: Democratic Governance Poverty Reduction Crisis Prevention and Recovery Environment and Energy HIV/AIDS UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively. In all their activities, they encourage the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women. In each country office, the UNDP Resident Representative normally also serves as the Resident Coordinator of development activities for the United Nations system as a whole. Through such coordination, UNDP seeks to ensure the most effective use of UN and international aid resources.

UNDP on the ground in Africa: With its extensive representation and network of partners in 45 Sub-Saharan African countries, UNDP, in collaboration with regional institutions and other UN agencies and partners, is building the capacities of African governments and communities to accelerate progress toward the MDGs. Following the 2005 Gleneagles G8 Summit which committed to increasing aid to Africa by US\$25 billion dollars in 2004, by 2010, UNDP has worked with partner governments in Africa and regional institutions to develop "Gleneagles Scenarios" which show that scaling up action toward the MDGs at the country-level is feasible. On the ground, the organization is working with governments, regional institutions, the United Nations and other development partners, including civil

society organizations and the private sector, to tackle the multi-dimensional aspect of poverty by working on four focus areas, with gender equality and women's empowerment as cross-cutting areas: Poverty reduction and the MDGs Democratic governance Environment and energy Crisis prevention and recovery

UNDP on the ground in The Arab States: UNDP helps countries across the Arab region to build and share their own solutions to development challenges within UNDP's four main focus areas: Poverty Reduction and Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, Democratic Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, and Environment and Sustainable Development. UNDP's work also emphasizes the priority concerns of HIV/AIDS, gender equality, and the protection of human rights, while addressing as well the human development deficits identified by the first series of the Arab Human Development Report - in knowledge, freedom, and women's empowerment. Building on the tradition of UNDP's Global Human Development Reports, the Arab Human Development Report has become a milestone in the discussion and debate on the reform agenda for human development in the Arab region.

UNDP on the ground in Asia & the Pacific: UNDP in the Asia & the Pacific region is responsible for delivering UNDP's country and regional programmes through 24 UNDP Country Offices in the region. They work in a diverse environment: a region that is fastest growing in the world while at the same time it is home to half of the world's poor: a region that houses countries experiencing economic transition (China, Mongolia, Viet Nam), two of the world's largest economies (China, India),

middle income countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand), and countries facing or recovering from conflict (Afghanistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste). Out of the 14 Least Developed Countries in their region, four are landlocked - Afghanistan, Bhutan, Lao PDR and Nepal - while seven are island developing countries - Kiribati, Maldives, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (the other three LDCs are Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Myanmar). UNDP in the region also has a Regional Centre located in Bangkok with an office in Suva, Fiji. They deliver the regional programme and provide policy advisory and knowledge management services. What they do: Poverty reduction and the MDGs Democratic governance Environment and energy Crisis prevention and recovery

UNDP on the ground in Europe and CIS:

UNDP in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States is on the ground in 28 countries and territories in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Working under a mandate issued by the United Nations Secretary-General, UNDP first set up offices and programmes in the region in 1992. To date, UNDP has provided over \$334 million in assistance to support human development in the region. UNDP works closely with national partners - including governments, civil society and the private sector - supporting country needs and priorities that fall into UNDP's areas of expertise: Strengthening the democratic process and promoting human rights and the rule of law Reducing poverty and promoting inclusive growth Applying the latest approaches to crisis prevention and recovery,

mine action and weapons collection
 Managing the environment in a sustainable manner
 Preventing, and providing treatment for HIV/AIDS
 Promoting gender equality and empowerment of women
 Facilitating cooperation between countries in the European Union and throughout the region
 Strengthening partnerships for development cooperation
 This includes working closely with countries in the region to make sure that the Millennium Development Goals are achieved by 2015. UNDP in the region is known as the Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS ("RBEC") and consists of: country offices; headquarters in UNDP New York; and a regional centre in Bratislava with an office in Almaty, which administers UNDP's regional programme and provides substantive support to country offices.

UNDP on the ground in Latin America and the Caribbean: Across Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP helps countries build and share their own solutions to urgent development challenges, supporting coalitions for change and connecting individuals and institutions so they can share knowledge, experience and resources. As countries develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and their wide range of regional and global partners. UNDP's Regional Centre in Panama offers support to Country Offices to strengthen their capacity in project management, and to endorse the creation of strategic alliances and distribution of knowledge in high-priority areas of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Centre is integrated with a growing team of professionals and experts working on initiatives that promotes human development in focus areas such as Democratic

Governance, Energy and Environment, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, HIV/AIDS, Capacity Development, and Poverty Reduction and MDG. Additionally, the Regional Centre Office in Port of Spain is also consolidated to fortify the capacity of governments and communities, to promote the sustainable development, and to support the completion of the Millennium Development Goals.

UNDP and Procurement UNDP's volume of procurement has more than tripled since 2003 - from an annual procurement volume of US\$800 million to US\$2.6 billion in 2009.

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EGYPT

Egypt, country located in the northeastern corner of Africa. Egypt's heartland, the Nile River valley and delta, was the home of one of the principal civilizations of the ancient Middle East and, like Mesopotamia farther east, was the site of one of the world's earliest urban and literate societies. Pharaonic Egypt thrived for some 3,000 years through a series of native dynasties that were interspersed with brief periods of foreign rule. After Alexander the Great conquered the region in 323 BCE, urban Egypt became an integral part of the Hellenistic world. Under the Greek Ptolemaic dynasty, an advanced literate society thrived in the city of Alexandria, but what is now Egypt was conquered by the Romans in 30 BCE. It remained part of the Roman Republic and Empire and then part of Rome's successor state, the Byzantine Empire, until its conquest by Arab Muslim armies in 639-642 CE.

Economy

Although the constitution of 1971 described the economy as one based on socialism, with the people controlling all means of production, the public sector thoroughly dominated the economy for only about two decades following the revolution of 1952—prior to which time the country had a free market. Most major nationalization took place between 1961 and the early 1970s, when most important sectors of the economy either were public or were strictly controlled by the government. This included large-scale industry, communications, banking and finance, the cotton trade, foreign trade as a whole, and other sectors. During that time, private enterprise came gradually to find its scope restricted, but some room to maneuver was still left in real estate and in agriculture and, later, in the export trade. Personal income, as well as land ownership, was strictly limited by the government.

Manufacturing of Egypt

During the 20th century, manufacturing grew to be one of the largest sectors of Egypt's economy, accounting (along with mining) for roughly one-fourth of the GDP by the 21st century. Domestic manufactures were weak from the late 19th century until about 1930 because of free trade policies that favoured importing foreign products. Motivated by the need to increase national income, to diversify the economy, and to satisfy the aspirations of nascent nationalism, the government imposed a customs tariff on foreign goods in 1930 that promoted the development of Egyptian manufactures. The Bank of Egypt



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also extended loans to Egyptian entrepreneurs in the 1920s and '30s to help stimulate Egyptian domestic production. A succession of companies were founded that engaged in printing, cotton ginning, transport, spinning and weaving (linen, silk, and cotton), vegetable oil extraction, and the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and rayon. Egypt was a major Allied base during World War II (1939-45) but was largely cut off from European imports; this situation further fueled the development of manufacturing, particularly of textile products.

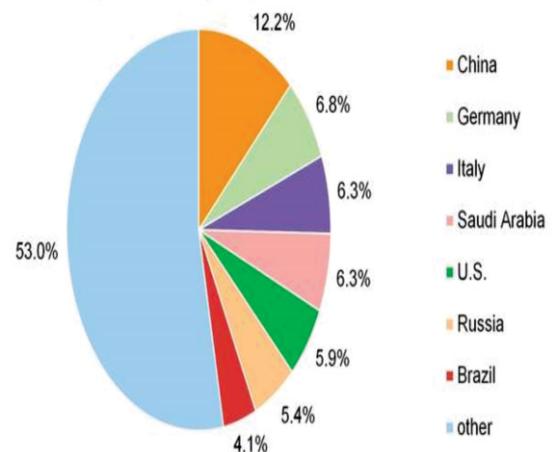
Most large-scale manufacturing establishments were nationalized beginning in the 1950s, and emphasis was placed on developing heavy industry after a long-term trade and aid agreement was reached with the Soviet Union in 1964. Another aid agreement with the Soviets in 1970 provided for the expansion of an iron and steel complex at ?ulw?n and for the establishment of a number of power-based industries, including an aluminum complex that uses power generated by the High Dam. An ammonium nitrate plant was opened in 1971, based on gases generated in the coking unit of the steel mill.

Trade of Egypt

The value of imports into Egypt is usually equal to about one-third and exports about one-tenth of the GDP. Since World War II exports have tended to fall short of imports. The trade deficit was particularly sizable from 1960 to 1965 as expenditure on development rose, reaching a peak in 1966. After the 1973 war with Israel, there was a decided effort to restrict imports and stimulate exports, but this met with little success. The trade deficit rose to record highs in the early and mid-1980s,

largely because of the decline in revenue from petroleum exports and the increase in food imports. These problems have persisted in the early 21st century. The large visible trade deficit was partially offset by transfers from abroad, such as aid from Western governments and remittances from Egyptians working in other countries.

Egypt major import sources (2017)

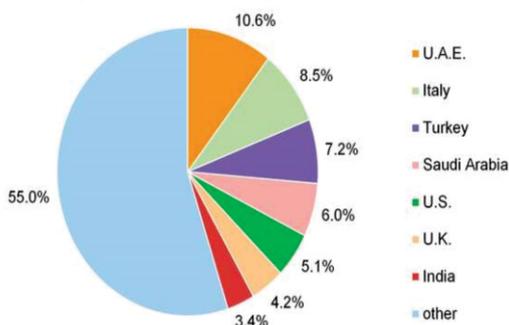


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Egypt: Major import sources Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Nearly two-fifths of imports consist of raw materials, mineral and chemical products, and capital goods (machinery, electrical apparatuses, and transport equipment), some one-fifth are foodstuffs, and the remainder are other consumer goods. Its most important exports include petroleum and petroleum products, followed by raw cotton, cotton yarn, and textiles. Raw materials, mineral and chemical products, and capital goods are also exported. Among agricultural exports are rice, onions, garlic, and citrus fruit. Egypt's most important trading partners include China, the United States, Italy, Germany, and the Gulf Arab countries.

Egypt major export destinations (2017)



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The foundations of SME policy: definitions, statistics and institutions

Egypt is in the process of redesigning its institutional and policy framework for SME and entrepreneurship and is starting to address one of the key recommendations of the SME Policy Index 2014 - which noted that the country should address the fragmentation of the institutional framework by defining the role of the various institutions and government agencies, co-ordinating support instruments and developing synergies among programmes.

As part of these efforts the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) are working towards the development of a unified SME definition, which is expected to be included in the upcoming SME law. Currently, there are three definitions, i.e. those of 1) the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS) the Establishment Census; 2) the Egyptian Small Enterprise Law No. 141 of 2004; and 3) the CBE. Each institution applies a different definition.

SME definitions in Egypt

In terms of SME statistics, the main source of information is the Establishment Census

Table 7.1. SME definitions in Egypt

Class	Existing companies		Newly established companies	
	Annual revenues (EGP Mn.)	Number of employees	Paid-up capital (EGP Mn.)	Number of employees
Micro	< 1	<10	< 0.5	<10
Small	1 : 50		Industrial companies 0.05 : 5 Non-industrial companies 0.05 : 3	
Medium	50 : 200	< 200	Industrial companies 5 : 15 Non-industrial companies 3 : 5	<200

Source: Central Bank of Egypt, <http://www.cbe.org.eg/ar/BankingSupervision/Pages/Circulars.aspx?p=4>.

undertaken by CAPMAS. This census is usually conducted every ten years, and the latest was issued on 2017. According to the Census, there are 3.8 million micro enterprises and 67 600 small and micro enterprises in Egypt. In 2010-2011, the Egyptian Banking Institute (EBI), the financial development arm of the Central Bank of Egypt, and CAPMAS conducted an SME survey, which was expanded by the Economic Census of CAPMAS in 2013. There are plans to create an SME Observatory in the context of the new SME agency.

Egypt's overall economic policy framework is being shaped by a number of important structural reforms, including those launched in November 2016 in the context of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Extended Fund Facility. These reforms have been mostly oriented at redressing macro-economic imbalances and structural challenges (such as low growth and investment rates, rising inflation, high government debt and an overvalued exchange rate) that had negative effects on the current account deficit and international reserves. The implementation of these reforms has yielded positive results such as increased economic growth and declining inflation (despite the negative immediate effects of the floatation of

the currency and the removal of subsidies). Yet, as noted by the IMF in its latest Article IV Consultation for Egypt, the state continues to play a prominent role in the economy, either as the employer of choice given the better job conditions and security it offers, or through its direct participation through state-owned enterprises in sectors such as banking, energy, manufacturing, agriculture, transport, tourism and services.

Another important initiative guiding the overall economic, social and environmental orientations is the Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030. The economic development pillar of Vision 2030 focuses on mega infrastructure projects, notably the expansion of the Suez Canal, the construction of a new administrative capital and the development of a 4 million-acre project. Vision 2030 also includes a series of reforms designed to improve the investment climate and the regulatory environment for businesses, but it makes no direct reference to SME and entrepreneurship policy.

According to the SME Policy Index 2014, the institutional SME policy framework in Egypt was highly fragmented, with a blurred separation between the functions of policy development and policy implementation. The Social Fund for Development (SFD) was in charge of micro and small enterprises, while the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) focused on SMEs with high growth potential. The Ministry of Trade and Industry, through the Industrial Modernisation Centre (IMC) and other affiliated organisations, supported small-to-large enterprises operating in industrial sectors. Policy development responsibilities

were split between different ministries: Trade and Industry, Investment and Finance, and Planning. Some form of co-ordination took place through cross-board representation in the implementation agencies (SFD, GAFI, IMC), but co-ordination remained difficult in the absence of a comprehensive SME development strategy. In 2013, the SFD was mandated to co-ordinate the development of the new SME strategy with other stakeholders and work had already started in parallel with the launching of a wide consultation process.

Egypt has taken important steps to address the fragmentation of the SME policy framework. First, in November 2016 the Ministry of Trade and Industry launched a National Strategy for Enhancing Industrial Development and Foreign Trade until 2020, which had been developed with support of the EU.² This strategy includes a thematic pillar on developing SMEs and entrepreneurship, under which the "National MSME & Entrepreneurship Development Strategy & Operational Plan 2018-2023" is developed with the support of Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Fostering access to finance

The credit bureau, I-Score, issues credit reports based on data provided by banks and by the credit registry of the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE). I-Score has increased the coverage of the adult population since the last assessment from 19.6% to 25.3% and has introduced a credit rating system. Furthermore, on September 2017 the Financial Supervisory Authority (EFSA) awarded I-Score the contract for the creation of a registry of moveable assets, addressing in

principle one of the shortcomings identified by the SME Policy Index 2014. The initiative for a registry of moveable assets builds on efforts undertaken after the SME Policy Index 2014, in particular the issuance of a law governing secured transactions over movable assets (Moveable Security Law), which was enacted in December 2016.⁷ The Movable Security Law regulates the pledging of movable assets and specifies the types of assets that can be taken as collateral. It aims to facilitate the granting of funds and to reduce the risks of small and medium-sized projects.

In terms of the availability of sources of finance, by 2014, credit guarantee schemes were both publicly and privately funded and the Credit Guarantee Company (CGC) was the main actor, with nine commercial banks and one insurance company as stakeholders. However, there were no monitoring mechanisms measuring the impact of the schemes. Since then, the CBE has bought the shares of banks in the CGC and has injected money into the company for the purpose of incentivising banks to disburse loans under the CBE MSME lending initiative.

Challenges Facing SMEs: The Egyptian Case

The real GDP growth rate reached 7.2% in 2008, while annual GDP growth averaged 4.7% over the period from 2000 to 2008. Recent reforms in Egypt resulted in spectacular progress at the macro level. This was reflected in very healthy economic indicators, such as high growth, a stable exchange rate, commendable accumulation of foreign reserves, a balance of payments surplus and an unprecedented spurt of both

domestic and foreign investment. However, the impressive growth rates witnessed over the past few years did not translate to lower poverty levels, improved income distribution or higher per capita expenditure. This is explained by the fact that this growth was mainly the result of an increase in revenue from the Suez Canal, tourism, oil and worker remittances from the Gulf and was by no means coming from the development of the SME sector or the growth of innovative entrepreneurship.

In Egypt suffers from several concrete constraints that hinder its growth and development and can be summarised as the severe lack of the following crucial factors:

The skills and systems required to compete effectively in global markets.

- Access to finance.
- Access to information.
- Business development services (BDS).
- Vocational training for labour.

The lack of these factors, together with a weak logistics sector and limited access to markets, distribution channels and supply linkages with larger firms, has created a disabling business environment for SMEs in Egypt. Above all, informality has become a dominant characteristic of the SME landscape. Estimates indicate that the informal sector accounts for more than 30% of the Egyptian economy compared to less than 15% in countries such as China, Singapore and Vietnam (Schneider and Buehn, 2009). The SME agenda should lie at the heart of all national strategies and activities because only SMEs can make a positive contribution to development as

**Abhijit Kamra,
Director,
Global Trade, Amazon India**



Trade, import, and export for MSMEs: "Every possible category that you can think of, Indian MSMEs are exporting that to different countries through 17 market places across the world we operate that caters to customers in over 200 countries."

"While Covid badly impacted all of us, but it also exposed the importance of diversifying for entrepreneurs."

Trade, import, and export for MSMEs: Amazon's flagship programme for MSMEs to start or expand their e-commerce exports business – Amazon Global Selling — has onboarded over 70,000 exporters since its launch in 2015. The cumulative sales by these exporters so far stood at over \$3 billion. This assumes significance amid the government's vision to boost MSME exports from 48 per cent share in total exports last year to 60 per cent in the following five years. To achieve this, e-commerce exports by MSMEs could prove to be a vital component towards achieving the overall goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat, Abhijit Kamra, Director, Global Trade, Amazon India told Financial Express Online's Sandeep Soni in an interaction. Kamra, who leads the Global Selling programme, explains its evolution and shares his views on the upcoming foreign trade policy (FTP), challenges to e-commerce exports, learning from Covid for such exporters, and more. Edited excerpts:

How the Global Selling programme has evolved over the past six years to enable e-commerce exports by MSME sellers?

From a global selling standpoint, we started the Amazon Global Selling business in 2015. A lot of data was telling us that Indian entrepreneurs including manufacturers, weavers, artisans, etc., are creating very good quality products. And our thought was that, how do we connect all this good supply coming out of India with customers across the world by leveraging our technology and expertise in supply chains for anybody who's motivated to build an export business.

How do you see this from a forex perspective as MSME exports are a critical part of India's overall export?

Everybody knows how critical the MSME sector and its exports are as the backbone of India's economic activity. And, specifically now as we are putting the pandemic behind us, it is important to see how can we create more opportunities for the economy to jumpstart more avenues for forex to come into the country. So from that standpoint, e-commerce exports is a very efficient way. Every possible category that you can think of, Indian MSMEs are exporting that to different countries through 17 marketplaces across the world we operate that caters to customers in over 200 countries. Overall this has such a large multiplier effect leading to product innovation, technology, advancement, job creation, and finally, contributing to India's economic growth.

In light of the upcoming foreign trade policy (FTP), what definitive measures need to be taken to boost e-commerce exports?

This is where FTP actually comes in. Because the current FTP was initiated in 2015, it primarily caters to offline exports because at that time there were no e-commerce exports. But now as the channels have evolved, e-commerce exports are growing really fast. So it is critical that FTP acknowledge e-commerce and technology-led exports and then take definitive measures towards it.

Digitisation is important but what about challenges related to efficiency in production, supply chains, storage, etc.?

It all comes down to efficiency in every leg of the value chain. The first part is efficiency in what you're

The first thing done is providing market intelligence that is very machine learning-led and provided to all exporters so that they know in which market what products are selling and at what price points because that allows you to be very efficient in what you're producing, knowing the capabilities that exist in our country. So, technology allows you to be precise and reduce overheads in terms of products that fail. The second thing is market access. If you want to be an exporter, typically you will have to visit one of the trade fairs, set up a booth, take samples, and show products. That's a lot of costs built-in even before you start. So now with market access what we're trying to do is wherever you are in the country, you can open an account, like a social media account that reduces your cost right from step two.

Then the third thing is the supply chain which is very expensive. If you are an offline exporter, you need to get your own container and warehousing in the destination. Sitting in India, getting a warehouse let's say in the US is going to be expensive and intimidating. Also, there are minimum order quantities in terms of where you need to take a certain size of warehouse because otherwise, nobody's going to give you a warehouse. The way we've designed the model is that if you want to store one product with us for one day, we will charge you for one product for one day. By variablizing that cost structure, there's a lot of fixed costs, money blockage, and inefficiency that go away.

How many MSME exporters are likely to be added as Amazon targets \$10 billion worth exports by 2025?

We've got multiple scenarios playing out right now and it is very difficult to say. I think the short answer is more and more because \$10 billion is a large export number. The only way one could do it is if we are able to achieve our goal of large-scale enablement of exports, a lot of people will participate in the export journey.

Are you looking at a dedicated export programme for women sellers you are looking at similar to Amazon Saheli for domestic women-run businesses?

We don't have a focused export programme for women entrepreneurs, but we partner with women who are part of the Amazon Saheli programme, and wherever there is interest for them, to export, we partner with them. But the Saheli program is largely focused on the domestic market.

Any learning out of the pandemic for you and exporters on your platform?

While Covid badly impacted all of us, but it also exposed the importance of diversifying for entrepreneurs because during Covid what happened was that people who had exposure to exports when the India business was impacted, the US business was still doing well. When the US business got impacted, the UK business was doing well. So, they were able to really hedge their businesses. And that's become a learning.

Lastly, a lot of e-commerce sellers are scouted by Thrasio-style startups to acquire and grow them. Do you think sellers' growth could be accelerated through this model?

I'm not super privy to their thinking and operating model. I look at it from a customer standpoint because, in the long run, that's the only thing that succeeds. So any brand, whether they manage it on their own, or they are managed through one of these entities, as long as they can do the right thing for customers, which provides good quality products, innovate, and provide a good experience, I feel any brand on our platform can succeed.

source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/sme/cafe-sme/msme-exim-interview-ftp-must-acknowledge-msmes-e-commerce-exports-for-atmanirbhar-bharat-amazons-abhijit-kamra/2330759/>

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE MONTH

Kshitij Bajaj CEO



Kshitij started his career on a high note working as an outsourced vendor for the biggest Automobile manufacturer in India. And has been consistently pushing boundaries and limits of what is possible, in this industry for the past 15 years.

A graduate from the prestigious Coventry University as a Transport and Product Designer; Kshitij returned home in 2009, to establish Torque. His venture instantly started making waves in the 'Bespoke Vehicle Aftermarket' for its avant-garde modifications and customizations to vehicles. What distinguished him from the established players in the market was his flair for creativity and work intellect.

Circa 2010, Kshitij was also approached by India's largest automobile manufacturer to Design Interiors and exteriors, Fabricate and display vehicles for the 2010 Autoexpo. With flawless execution; he delivered 6 cars for the expo in a record 90 days with extra deliverables in 3D based simulators on the Microsoft Surface table.

Thereafter he went on to work on projects with various companies and started delivering projects to individuals.

Continuing with the Automotive heritage, Kshitij started a new firm to build bespoke trucks and motorhomes which was short lived. None the less, keeping the stride, he actively started looking for better avenues to further the adventure and ended up working on more than 25 Food Truck projects across the country before he moved on.

In 2017, Ion Ohms was established. Through it Kshitij took another plunge outside his comfort zone and ventured into Electric vehicles with success coming in the first few months in the form of India's first Electric Tractor.

Kshitij has had the opportunity to work and learn from the major OEMs in the industry too. In each instance he proved his worth with his unconventional approach and take on how vehicles could be improved upon with innovation and the use of technology which made the impossible, possible.

He founded Dandera as his 3rd venture, with the aim to bring state of the art technology, sustainability and a fresh approach to the Indian EV Industry.

Events Organized

WEB-CONFERENCE ON 'DEMYSTIFYING PREPACK INSOLVENCY FRAMEWORK FOR MSMEs

IBC 2016 has been in vogue for nearly five years and has provided effective succor to creditors in an expeditious manner. The code and processes therein have reasonably evolved and stabilised. The raging pandemic in the form of Covid 19 with the attendant adverse impact on economy accompanied by stress to various industries including MSMEs fuelled the thought process of the policy makers leading up to the realization that a Pre-packaged Insolvency Resolution Process (PPIRP) may be need of the hour. PPIRP has been envisaged as a subset of the IBC code and an additional option for resolving insolvency, given the obvious fact that normal CIRPs would not yield the outcome as desired by the IBC code due to the anticipated

dearth of Resolution Applicants in the aftermath of the adverse impact of Covid 19. It was at this juncture that the Government thought it fit to promulgate Pre-pack Insolvency Resolution Process (PPIRP) with the avowed objective for aiding the existing insolvency framework by cutting costs and the time taken for resolution process.

MSMEs are considered as the engines of economic growth and for promoting equitable development in the country. MSMEs play crucial role in providing large employment opportunities at comparatively lower capital cost than large industries and also help in industrialization of rural & backward areas, thereby, reducing regional imbalances, assuring more equitable distribution of national income and wealth. The MSME sector's contribution to India's GDP is significant and has been measured at around 30%. Moreover, MSME Sector contributes to about 48% of the total exports of the country.

Given the criticality and noble underlying objectives, IIIPI, the frontline regulator and the largest insolvency professional agency in India, alongwith WASME organised a web-conference on 'Demystifying Prepack Insolvency Framework for MSMEs' on 10th September 2021 on online platform to bring about better awareness among the stakeholders, especially MSME. The webinar was implemented and executed by TDP Global and team.

Dr. Sanjiv Layek Executive Secretary, WASME, welcomed galaxy of experts

- CA Nihar Jambusaria President, ICAI
- CA (Dr) Ashok Haldia Chairman, IIIPI Indian Institute of Insolvency Professionals of ICAI
- CA Rahul Madan Managing Director, IIIPI
- Mr. Sudhakar Shukla Whole Time Member Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
- CA G. Ramaswamy Past President-ICAI and Member, Advisory Group-IIIPI
- CA & Adv. Ashish Makhija Insolvency Professional
- Mr. Nitin Arora Sr. Vice President-SAG, Axis Bank
- Mr. Satish Gupta Insolvency Professional
- Mr. Narinder Wadhwa Managing Director, Ski Capital Ltd
- Mr. Rajan Johri Fellow-CIPD (UK) and Mentor-TDP Global

and dignitaries and participants attended this webinar.

Dr Layek gave his thought on covid and MSME sector. He told Covid 19 has disrupted our life as well as businesses and Small and Medium Businesses (SMBs) are the hardest hit. He highlighted MSME sector as backbone of the Indian economy, an estimated 6.33 crore unincorporated MSMEs engaged in non-

agricultural economic activities, employing 12 crore persons across the country, 99% Industry share, contributing 30% to Indian GDP, generating 70-80% employment, contributing around 50% to exports and Micro's share in MSME more than 99% having turnover less than 5 crores. The government's target for 2024 is for MSMEs to account for 50% of GDP and 75% of exports, while employing 150 million people, in line with a target to make India a \$5 trillion economy. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has severely impacted the lives of informal microenterprises, constituting 99% of the MSMEs, owing to lack of managerial resources, capacities, and backward-forward linkages to cope with economic downturn.

Recently, the Government of India via an ordinance issued Pre-Pack Insolvency Resolution Process. We believe that this is a great opportunity for MSME to formulate a revival mechanism.

Under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, micro, small, and medium businesses will now be able to choose a pre-packaged insolvency resolution. The step comes shortly after the government's one-year moratorium on insolvency filings was lifted in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Last year, the government raised the default amount for insolvency proceedings from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 1 crore. No insolvency proceedings against the MSME can be started when the pre-pack process is in progress. Instead of a formal competitive bidding process, a pre-pack is the settlement of a distressed company's debt by an arrangement between secured creditors and investors.

Applicability of Prepacks:

- MSMEs only, as per the definition under MSME Act
- Actual Default by MSME Corporate Debtor (CD)
- Minimum Threshold Default of Rs. 10 Lacs by MSME CD

CA (Dr) Ashok Haldia Chairman, IIPPI Indian Institute of Insolvency Professionals of ICAI presented key note address on "Demystifying Prepack Insolvency Framework for MSMEs "

There was a panel discussion moderated by CA Rahul Madan Managing Director, IIPPI. Panelists shared their thoughts on the topic. Some of the points as follows -

CA & Adv. Ashish Makhija Insolvency Professional shared insights on legislative intent behind and key features of PPIRP

Mr. Satish Gupta Insolvency Professional highlighted practitioners' perspectives around roles across PPIRP and grey areas if any

Mr. Nitin Arora Sr. Vice President-SAG, Axis Bank deliberated upon features which make the PPIRP more likeable to bankers as compared to existing dispensation

Mr. Rajan Johri Fellow-CIPD (UK) and Mentor-TDP Global talked about industries, especially MSMEs' perspectives as the user segment of PPIRP, particularly expectations from Insolvency professionals

Mr. Narinder Wadhwa Managing Director, Ski Capital Ltd talked about industry's perspectives as the user segment, particularly expectations from bankers as key stakeholders in the process.

Participants actively took part in Q & A session where experts answers all the questions. A large number of participants attended the webinar. Overall the webinar was successful in fulfilling awareness about the topic.

Dr Sanjiv Layek Executive Secretary, WASME proposed vote of thanks.

LIVE WEBINAR ON "NORTHEAST - THE UNEXPLORED SLICE OF PARADISE: EMPOWERING NORTH EAST MSMEs THROUGH CREDIT, TECHNOLOGY AND MARKET ACCESS BY PROMOTING AATMANIRVAR BHARAT AND VOCAL FOR LOCAL"



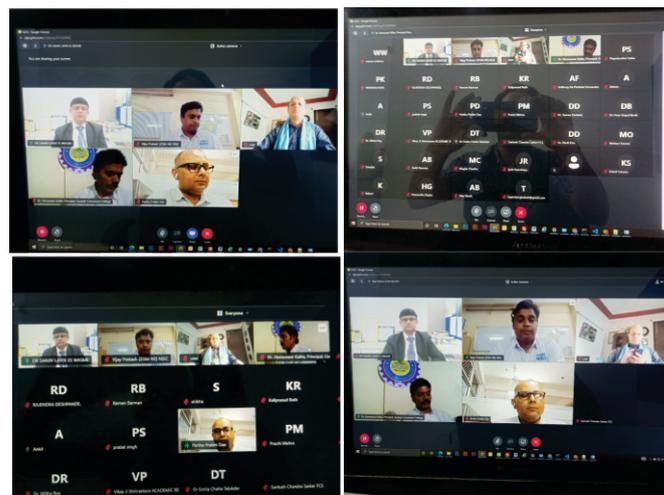
World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME) organised a Live Webinar On "Northeast - The Unexplored Slice Of Paradise: Empowering North East Msmes Through Credit, Technology And Market Access By Promoting Aatm-anirvar Bharat And Vocal For Local" on Wednesday, 29th September 2021 on online pla-tform.

Dr. Sanjiv Layek Executive Secretary, WASME heartily welcomed and thanked Chief Guest Dr Suvro Kamal Dutta

Renowned Right Wing Media Tank, Hon'ble Guests of Honour Mr. Madhav Nalapat Editorial Director, Sunday Guardian, Mr Partho Pratim Das from Assam Tourism, Dr. Homeswar Kalita Principal, Commerce College, Guwahati and our special guest Shri Vijay Prakash Zonal General Manager, NSIC for contributing their valuable and precious time to make available for this event. He also welcomed all the dignitaries who have take out valuable time to participate in this event.

He highlighted that as this pandemic has disrupted businesses including MSMEs. No clue when and how it stops. Covid pandemic will be the new normal.

India has about 63.4 million micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Together they account for about 30% to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and 50% of exports, and employ 111 million persons. The government's target for 2024 is for MSMEs to account for 50% of GDP and 75% of exports, while employing 150 million people, in line with a target to make India a \$5 trillion economy.



COVID-19 has exposed the serious strategic implications of India's import dependence, especially on China. Politics, Policy and Pandemic are the challenges to Prime Minister Modi's vision of Atmanirbharta (self-reliance). While the initiative is essential to promote capacity building and competitiveness on a local and global scale, among the issues that still need to be looked into are cost of logistics, bureaucratic hurdles and comparatively higher taxes in some sectors that discourage investments. The military action by China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh has led to dramatic changes in policies in keeping with the vision of self-reliance. The brief explores the Central Government's policies towards curbing Chinese investments, defines protectionism in the new context and attempts to analyse the way ahead to achieve self-reliance, especially in the manufacturing sector of the Indian economy. The aim is to make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses. He further outlined five pillars of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat - Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand. Finance Minister further announces Government Reforms and Enablers across Seven Sectors under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan.

UNITED NATIONS

From recovery to resilience: Hanging together or swinging separately?

In 2021, the global economy will bounce back with growth of 5.3%, the fastest in nearly 50 years. The rebound is, however, highly uneven along regional, sectoral and income lines, according to UNCTAD's Trade and Development Report 2021.

- Growth deceleration next year could prove sharper than expected if policymakers lose their nerve or heed misguided calls for deregulation and austerity.
- Policymakers in advanced economies have not yet woken up to the size of the shock to developing countries or its persistence. Many countries in the South have been hit much harder than during the global financial crisis, while their now-heavier debt burden reduces their room for fiscal policy.
- The pandemic response in developed countries has activated a resurgent state and suspended fiscal constraints, but international rules and practices lock developing countries into pre-pandemic responses and a semi-permanent state of economic stress.

UNCTAD's Trade and Development Report 2021, released on 15 September, says this year will see the global economy bounce back thanks to the continuation of radical policy interventions begun in 2020 and a successful (if still incomplete) vaccine roll-out in advanced economies. Global growth will

hit 5.3%, its fastest rate in nearly five decades.

The recovery, however, is uneven across geographical, income and sectoral lines. Within advanced economies, the rentier class has experienced an explosion in wealth, while low-earners struggle.

Constraints on fiscal space (Figure 1), lack of monetary autonomy and access to vaccines are holding many developing economies back, widening the gulf with advanced economies and threatening to usher in another lost decade.

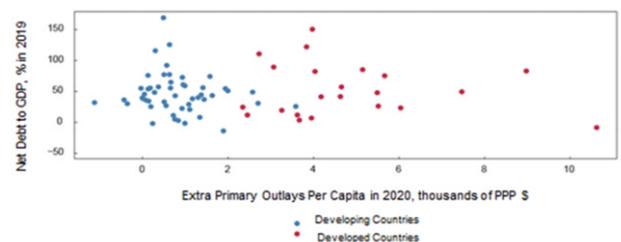


Figure 1: Additional primary outlays in 2020 relative to inherited debt ratios in developing and developed economies

Source: UNCTAD secretariat calculations, based on IMF database.

TDR 2021 draws four main lessons from the pandemic

Eighteen months into the COVID-19 pandemic, the world is waking up to the indispensable role of international cooperation in achieving economic resilience, a principle endorsed at Bretton Woods when the multilateral system was founded. But the resolve to rebalance the global economy and reform the international economic archit-

ecture is still missing.

First, any talk of financial resilience in developing countries would be premature since in many cases investment flows remain volatile and the burden of indebtedness intolerable. Although spiralling sovereign debt crises were avoided in 2020, developing countries' external debt sustainability deteriorated further.

That higher interest rates could spark a run on developing country assets and balance-of-payments problems reflects just how little has changed since the GFC. This fragile state of affairs heightens external solvency and international liquidity constraints.

Over the coming years, pressures on external debt sustainability will persist because many developing countries face a wall of upcoming sovereign debt repayments in international bond markets.

Together, developing countries (excluding China) face total repayments on sovereign bonds already issued to a value of \$936 billion until 2030, the year earmarked for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNCTAD calls for concerted debt relief and in some cases outright cancellation in order to reduce the debt overhang in developing countries and avoid another lost decade for development.

Second, the pandemic has seen an emergent consensus around the need for significant public sector intervention, but there is less agreement on what this will

involve beyond countercyclical measures. There is a risk that expansionary fiscal measures will be regarded only as fire-fighting tools, while, in fact, they are critical instruments of long-term development. UNCTAD calls for the political space created by the pandemic to be used to re-assess the role of fiscal policy in the global economy, as well as the practices that have widened inequalities.

Third, delivering the necessary support to build back better will require much greater policy coordination across systemically important economies; reforms to the international economic architecture that were promised after the 2008-09 crisis but were quickly abandoned in the face of resistance from the rentier class.

Fourth, the reluctance of other advanced economies to follow the US lead on the vaccine waiver is not only a worrying sign of disjointed obduracy in the North; it is a particularly costly one for already financially constrained economies. On one recent estimate, the cumulative cost of delayed vaccination will, by 2025, amount to \$2.3 trillion with the developing world shouldering the bulk of that cost.

Renewed international support is needed for developing countries, many of which face a spiraling health crisis, even as they struggle with a growing burden of debt and face the prospects of a lost decade.

Source: <https://unctad.org/news/recovery-resilience-hanging-together-or-swinging-separately>

STARTUP NEWS

15 Expert-Recommended Resources For Keeping Up With The Latest Tech News

Almost everyone these days—including professionals in any role as well as consumers who love to read about the newest gadgets—would like to keep up with the latest tech news. However, it can be difficult to find a source that uses simple language and terms a layperson can easily understand.

Tech leaders are familiar with all the technical terms used in industry-specific publications, but even they enjoy getting fast, easy insights on the latest tech news without all the jargon. Below, 15 industry experts from Forbes Technology Council share layperson-friendly resources they recommend for accurate, up-to-date and easy to understand news on tech developments.

1. Apple News

Apple News is a good aggregator of various online news resources—it's what I use when I'm in bed trying to wake up and digest what's been going on around the world. It offers a good selection of topics, and there's a lot of information on current events that can be casually and quickly consumed. - Alexander Hill, Senseye

2. BetaKit And The Technology Headlines

I love BetaKit for Canadian tech startup news and The Technology Headlines for killer features and profiles on tech entrepreneurs. Additionally, I follow many of the top venture capital firms to stay current on their latest

releases, trending companies and new investments. - Amanda Dorenberg, COMMB

3. Business2Community And Customer Think

I like visiting the sites Business2Community and CustomerThink when I want to learn about new developments in the tech industry as well as get helpful marketing advice. They frequently upload new content, so these are excellent resources if you like getting rapid-fire updates. - Thomas Griffin, OptinMonster

4. Computer Weekly

The British publication Computer Weekly has evolved very successfully from its start as the world's first weekly IT newspaper in 1966 to today's digital offering, which covers the latest global tech news. I particularly follow the "IT Management" section for updates on governance, legislation and regulation. - Martin Taylor, Content Guru

5. Discover And WIRED Websites

The websites for the magazines Discover and WIRED are both reliable, layperson-friendly sites where readers can get accurate information. Discover sees science as a new horizon. Each article focuses on the potential that new facts can bring to people's lives. On the WIRED website, nonsubscribers can read five articles a month on different topics, ranging from new technology in the market to related new events and reviews of media. - Arnie Gordon, Arlyn Scales

6. Morning Brew's Emerging Tech Brew Newsletter

The Morning Brew website offers a variety of podcasts and email newsletters, including Emerging Tech Brew, which is a great resource for the latest on all things tech.

Focused on the future of technology, this newsletter and site is the perfect place to stay up to date with the latest tech news and trends. Great stories, original content and engaging writing are just three of the reasons why you should add this site to your morning routine. - Kris Jones, VML Technology

7. Engadget

I recommend engadget for overall news and updates on all sorts of technology, including resources. It is well-written and broad enough to give you a good update on where the industry is going as well as how to best take advantage of tech that's related to your own industry and business. - WaiJe Coler, InfoTracer

8. Experfy

It is tough to keep pace with constantly evolving technology. I would recommend Experfy as a reliable resource for staying abreast of how technology is evolving and can be adopted for genuine human impact. Experfy's platform provides industry leaders' perspectives on new technology, best practices, things to watch out for and more in an easy-to-follow structure, and there's a newsletter for offline consumption. - Gaurav Aggarwal, Avanade Inc.

9. Gartner

Gartner is one of the best websites out there for accurate, up-to-date tech news. Covering various industries and sectors, Gartner equips executives across an enterprise with the technology news and trends they need to make the right decisions and stay ahead of change. The site's featured content provides insights related to technology for a diverse group of functions across industries. - Zheng Fan, University of Miami Herbert Business

School

10. Google Alerts And Google News

Google Alerts is a customizable content change detection and notification service. It will send an email to a user when it finds newly published results-including Web pages, news articles, blogs or research-that match that user's selected search term(s). It's an easy way to keep track of news on a specific topic. Searching for a topic of interest on Google News is another quick way to learn about new developments. - Ritesh Mukherjee, Reliance Jio

11. MobileSyrup

MobileSyrup is Canada's news source for all things tech. It reviews the trends in smartphones, smart home devices, wearables, streaming TV, gaming culture, electric vehicles and tech products. While it isn't a source of in-depth information, it provides easy-to-consume material for staying up to date. - Maddison Long, CloudOps

12. TechRadar

TechRadar is one of the most accurate, simple and user-friendly online resources to stay current with the latest tech news and developments. What makes TechRadar stand out from the rest is the website's simplicity and the easy ability to switch between different countries. Lifehacker, BBC News and TechSpot are also good online resources to get the latest tech updates. - Roman Taranov, Ruby Labs

13. Twitter

Twitter is an incredible resource to follow tech developments because of the speed and customizability of the flow of information. It enables you to learn about whatever is most

pertinent to your field constantly and instantaneously. - Noah Mitsuhashi, Portfolio Insider

14. Interest-Specific Newsletters And Social Feeds

Subscribing to an interest-specific newsletter or social media source (such as Twitter feeds) is possibly the best way to stay updated on specific topics. For example, MacRumors is a good source for information on everything related to Apple. For generic tech info, I have found TechCrunch and CNET to be quick, easy-to-read sources of information. - Biju Nair, HYL A Mobile

15. Email Newsletters

Email newsletters are an underutilized resource to keep up with tech news from the outlets you read most. They're often customizable, they're delivered regularly to your inbox and they allow you to look back at what you missed if you're too busy to read for a day or two. TechCrunch and The Information offer great content in the form of email newsletters. - Mikael Berner, Edison

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2021/09/17/15-expert-recommended-resources-for-keeping-up-with-the-latest-tech-news/?sh=2806573-924d4>

Blue-collar digital hiring startup Apna becomes a unicorn in just 15 months

Apna serves more than 16 million users and 150,000 employers and enables an average of 18 million job interviews each month, the company said in a statement Thursday.

Listen to this article

Apna, a digital hiring startup in India that

connects millions of blue-collar workers to employers, reached a valuation of \$1.1 billion with a new funding round led by Tiger Global Management. The startup reached unicorn status just 15 months after beginning full-scale operations, raising \$100 million in a Series C round also joined by Owl Ventures LLC, Insight Partners Inc. and Sequoia Capital India. It serves more than 16 million users and 150,000 employers and enables an average of 18 million job interviews each month, the company said in a statement Thursday.

"We are solving the biggest problem in the world and, if successful, will not just remedy unemployment but also poverty, health care and education of the next generation," said Nimit Parikh, a Stanford graduate who quit Apple Inc. to found Apna in 2019.

Source: <https://unctad.org/news/switzerland-commits-44-million-unc-tads-ecommerce-and-digital-economy-work>

WOMEN WING

Top 10 women leading healthcare startups

Here is our list of top 10 women leading healthcare startups today

The following women are leading companies that are changing people's lives - whether it's facilitating more heart transplants, developing life-saving, chemical-resistant PPE suitable for women's bodies, preventing suicides or creating the world's first totally silent breast pump. Here is our list of top 10

revolutionary and discreet breast pump to date". Compared to most breast pumps, which are noisy and require wires, Elvie's is practically silent and has no tubes. Boler's other product is a training device that exercises pelvic floor muscles which is now prescribed through the UK's National Health Service (NHS).

Boler founded Elvie in 2013, having worked at reproductive clinic Marie Stopes, and leading an HIV programme for UNESCO. She also has a PhD in women's health, and helped to launch the first United Nations Curriculum on Sexual Education.

2. Dr Lisa Anderson, co-founder and CEO, Paragonix

Dr Lisa Anderson is the CEO and co-founder of tech startup Paragonix Technologies. She is one of the inventors of the SherpaPak, a transportation device that enables organ transplantation - specifically hearts. It works by using proprietary thermal cooling to keep hearts at a steady temperature during transport, helping the hearts to travel further than using conventional methods, and therefore expanding donor options.

3. Dr Asha Parekh, co-founder and CEO, Front Line Medical Technologies

Dr Asha Parekh is the co-founder and CEO of Front Line Medical Technologies, a medical device company. It recently developed the COBRA-OS™, which helps front line medics control bleeding in emergency situations. Born in Canada, Parekh has a PhD in biomedical engineering with a speciality in biomaterials and medical devices. She has several patents and publications to her name, and has secured multiple grants and funding for her projects.

4. Hilary Coles, co-founder & SVP Brand & Innovation, Hims & Hers

Hims & Hers provides access to medical products and solutions via telemedicine, focusing on products that are specific to men and women such as hair loss, erectile dysfunction, birth control, and sex drive changes. Hilary Coles co-founded Hims initially, before realising that women in the US were lacking a convenient way to access healthcare and information. Since launching Hims & Hers in 2017, the company has become one of the fastest growing direct-to-consumer brands in history, exceeding the expectations of Wall Street analysts.

5. Beau Wangtrakuldee, founder and CEO, AmorSui

Beau Wangtrakuldee, PhD, is behind AmorSui, a healthcare tech company that has created software to help hospitals implement reusable, environmentally-friendly and gender-inclusive PPE. Called Viridi®, the software helps to manage the cleaning of items by tracking their washing life cycle.

Wangtrakuldee was inspired to develop the software after she experienced a spill in a lab where chemicals burned through her lab coat. As a result she found that there was a lack of PPE that was protective enough to resist incidents, while also properly fitting a woman's body. She founded AmorSui in 2018, and soon after launched her first collection of antimicrobial, fire and chemical resistant clothing suitable for women.

6. Jo Aggarwal, co-founder, Wysa

Jo Aggarwal is behind Wysa, an AI-powered mental health startup that uses an "emotionally sensitive AI bot" to treat

I therapy (CBT), meditation, breathing, yoga and motivational interviewing among other techniques. Users can also access a human coach or therapist through the app, which Aggarwal says has prevented hundreds of suicides, and helped millions with their mental health. Aggarwal has previously worked to improve the skills of young people



in rural India, and helped young people in the Middle East gain employment in tech fields, work for which she won a Stevie/Global Telecom Business Innovation Award.

7. Sahar Arshad, co-founder & COO, CloudMedx

Sahar Arshad is the co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of CloudMedx, an AI platform that helps healthcare providers make clinical decisions. The system uses NLP to analyse data from clinical workflows and deliver insights to help clinicians them with care delivery. CloudMedx has won a Cisco Global Disruptors award among others. Pakistan-born Arshad was previously the CEO of augmented and virtual reality

company Imagine Technologies.

8. Louise Stevenson, CEO and founder of WorryTree

WorryTree is an app that uses CBT to help people manage anxieties and stress. Louise Stevenson decided to create the app after she was diagnosed with Generalised Anxiety Disorder and referred for CBT herself. Some of the tools the app teaches are directly inspired by her sessions with her therapist.

In April 2020 WorryTree was listed as a recommended mental health app on the NHS Digital App Library. WorryTree's founding team have also recently graduated from the first-ever cohort of FemTech Labs, Europe's first femtech-focused accelerator program. . The network grew substantially during the COVID-19 pandemic when mothers were most at risk of feeling isolated. Lee decided to start Pachamama after seeing a need for a more mother-focused approach to postnatal care.

10. Melissa Snover, founder & CEO, Rem3dy Health Group

Under the Rem3dy Health Group banner she founded, Melissa Snover is pioneering personalised health solutions. One of her ideas is Nourished, a nutrition product that uses patented 3D printing technology to create a personalised nutrition gummy. Meanwhile Scripted is positioned to be the first 3D printed medicine dispensary in the pharmaceutical market, following clinical trials in Spain.

Source: <https://healthcareglobal.com/digital-healthcare/top-10-women-leading-healthcare-startups>

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Since its inception, WASME has been rendering quality services to its members. Our membership offers access to all facilities of WASME including right to participate, access to circulars, literature, documents etc.

Our members support WASME's mission to advance, promote and support SMEs in their respective countries through association and collaboration mechanism with local government bodies, regional authorities, international linkages, civil societies and SMEs.

General Members	Any Government Organizations, Small Business Authorities, Authorities bodies, Financial Institutions, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, SME Associations, Training Institutes, Consultancy Organisations, Technology Providers etc.
Permanent Members	Any General member of Associate Member who contributes to the funds of the Organization.
Associate Members	Any Individuals, Enterprises, Corporations, Stakeholders, Research Institutions, Large Enterprises, Academicians, Consultants etc. engaged in SME sector.
Associate Membership-Indian Chapter	Indian MSMEs, Entrepreneurs, Corporates, SME Associations, Universities, Training Institute and Individuals who are interested in the growth of SMEs.

Information Assistance	Benifits Enterprise Support	Bussiness Support
Basic business related laws, business legislation, trade regulation, Public policy, Taxation, Available MSME support by different stakeholders.	Expert guidance and assistance for starting new business, improving existing business, Skill development and empowerment, Business matching, International experts search.	Tender information, potential buyer & seller, Marketing linkages, import/export facilitations, financial assistance technology transfer, branding and promotions etc.
Exposure Visit to Global members	Participation & Knowledge Support	Branding Opportunity
Facilitate exposure visit at National & International Organizations, Institutes, Research Centres etc	Participation of WASME National/International conferences and seminars, workshops, training and programmes etc	Sponsorship and volunteering, advertising and programs, newsletters, website, e-bulletins, publications etc.

For more information visit our website: www.wasmeinfo.org or contact wasme@wasmeinfo.org

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