

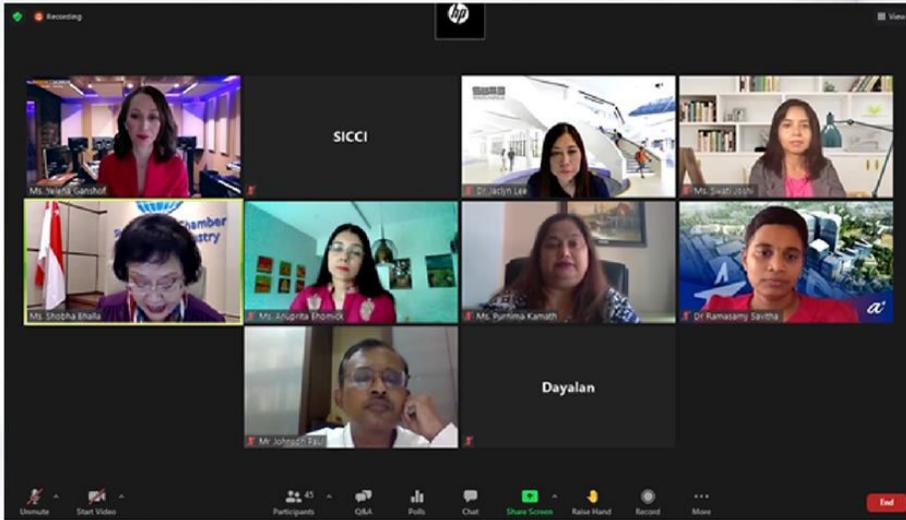
# SICCI CONNECT

MARCH 2021



Singapore Indian Chamber  
of Commerce & Industry

ESTABLISHED 1924



## AI & WOMEN IN TECH: GENDER, HUMANITY AND COLLABORATION (3RD EDITION)

Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) hosted the 3rd edition of the Women-In-Tech series on the topic, "AI & Women In Tech: Gender, Humanity, and Collaboration."

The webinar was organised by SICCI's Women's Committee - SHE@SICCI on 11 March in conjunction with International Women's Day celebrations.

Our panelists discussed topics related to the design of AI systems by women, how women can lead in the AI transformation of organizations as well as how AI helps women achieve work-life balance.

The session was chaired by Ms Shobha Tsering, Chairman, SHE@SICCI; Founder and MD, India Se, and moderated by Ms Yelena Ganshof van der Meersch, founder of BrandBoosting agency. The session was opened by Ms Purnima Kamath, Board Director of SICCI and Founder & CEO, De Ideaz Pte Ltd. Our panelists were Ms Anuprita Bhomick, Head, Customer Experience for Google, Dr Jaclyn Lee, Chief Human Resources Officer of SUTD, Ms Swati Joshi, Principal Data Strategist at Singapore Airlines and Dr Savitha Ramasamy, Scientist, Group Leader of I2R A\*STAR.

SICCI would like to thank all the panelists who participated in the webinar as well as those who attended. Click the link here to watch the webinar if you missed it: <https://bit.ly/3I33GjM>

## TOPICS COVERED

1. AI & Women In Tech Webinar (3rd Edition)
2. eCO Digital Endorsement webinar
3. Eye on Asia Forum 2021
4. Virtual Memorial Service for Late Dr R Theyvendran
5. MoU with TiE Singapore
6. MoU with Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
7. Lunch Hosted by High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Singapore
8. Featuring Profiles of SICCI New Members
9. New SICCI Members for Feb 2021

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**Register or Renew your SICCI Membership Now!**

**For more information, please contact Ms Gowri at:**

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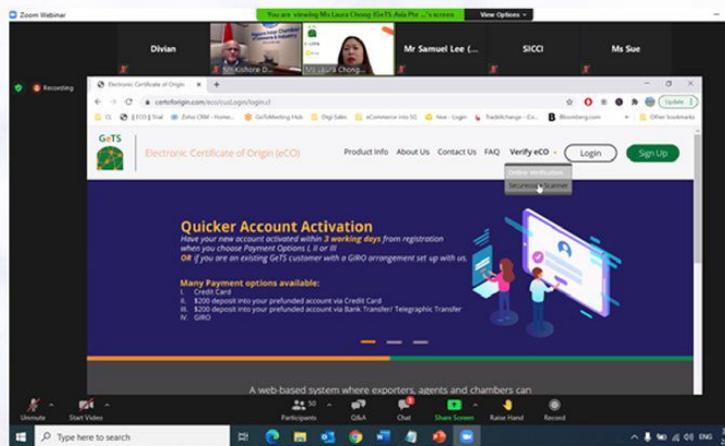
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# ECO DIGITAL ENDORSEMENT WEBINAR

"eCO Digital Endorsement", a collaborative webinar was held on 2nd March 2021 between the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) and Global eTrade Services (GeTS), a leading global trade platform company.

The main speakers were Ms Laura Chong, Account Manager at eCO and Mr Samuel Lee, Director of Digital Channels and Strategic Alliances at GeTS Asia. Mr Kishore Daryanani, Managing Director, Ganga Jamuna Electronics Pte Ltd and Board Director at SICCI gave the opening remarks.

The session shared the advantages provided by electronic COs, or eCOs. As businesses and societies at large become increasingly digitalised, it is only logical that such vital documents will move from paper to the digital space as well. Moreover, through digitalisation, the acquisition and certification of such documents can become even more efficient.



# EYE ON ASIA FORUM 2021

Eye on Asia Forum 2021, Session 2: China and India was organised by National Library Board (NLB) which was held on 4th March 2021. The dialogue had inspiring stories of Singaporeans who have ventured into new environments in the region and how to leverage growth opportunities in a post-pandemic Asia.

Ms Shobha Tsering Bhalla, Founder of India Se Media Pte Ltd and Board Director at Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI), provided perspectives on how India's Northeast region will play a crucial role in India's Act East Policy, focusing on how Singaporean companies may benefit from the opportunities made available by the policy. She touched on the various avenues for Singaporean businesses in India.



# VIRTUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LATE DR R THEYVENDRAN

On the 14th of March 2021, the தமிழர் பேரவை - Tamils Representative Council (TRC) organised a virtual memorial service for the late Dr R Theyvendran.

Dr T Chandroo, of Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chairman (SICCI) gave a touching eulogy at the memorial, remembering his friend and predecessor's life and achievements. It was a moment for all to come together to celebrate the life of this extraordinary man who had positively impacted our lives and whose achievements and legacy will live on.



# MOU WITH TIE SINGAPORE

On the 5th of March 2021, the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TiE Singapore to further the partnership in helping Singaporean entrepreneurs grow and develop the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The welcome address was delivered by Vice Chairman of SICCI, Mr Maneesh Tripathi. Chairman of SICCI, Dr T Chandroo, delivered his opening speech, addressing the recent efforts of TiE and how we can look forward to working together with them.

President of TiE Singapore, Ms Maya Hari gave her remarks before the two parties signed the MoU. The session was concluded by Vice President of TiE Singapore, Mr. Amit Gupta.

SICCI is excited to be partners with TiE Singapore and we look forward to achieving our combined goal of building a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem for our entrepreneurs, both locally and globally.

For those who missed the signing ceremony you can check out the video here: <https://bit.ly/3epdu6d>



# LUNCH HOSTED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER OF SRI LANKA TO SINGAPORE



# MOU WITH INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR

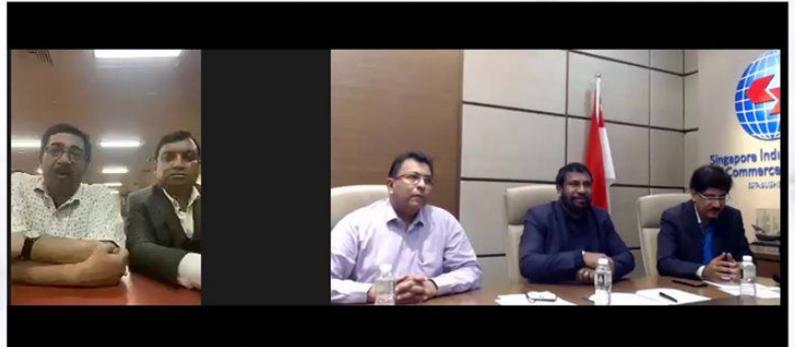
On 10th March 2021 (Wednesday), a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK).

SICCI is looking forward to what we can achieve together with IITK in both our local business environments and internationally. We at SICCI are proud to be partnering with IITK and helping it reach its goals of growing businesses and educating the business leaders of tomorrow.

On top of that, the pilot edition of SICCI Launchpad will also be taking place in collaboration with FIRST-IIT-K. We are confident that this is but the first of many initiatives in the pipeline.

The MoU was represented by Chairman of SICCI, Dr T Chandroo and Professor Amitabha from IITK. The ceremony was witnessed by SICCI Vice-Chairman, Mr. Maneesh Tripathi, SICCI Board Director, Mr. Tushar Pritamlal Doshi, SICCI Board Director, Mr. Kishore Jethanand Daryani, SICCI Board Director, Ms. Purnima Kamath and CEO of SICCI, Mr. Johnson Paul.

For those who missed the signing ceremony you can check out the video here: <https://bit.ly/30vzRio>



On 23rd March 2021, HE Sasikala Premawardhane, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Singapore hosted lunch for senior executives of SICCI, Dr T Chandroo, Chairman, Mr Hanif M. Nomanbhoy, Treasurer and Board Director, Mr Johnson Paul, CEO, together with Ms Nalika Kodikara, First Secretary (Comercial) and Mr Mohan Meegolla, Regional Manager for Southeast Asia and Australasia at SriLankan Airlines Official at Tanglin Club.

It is always a joy hearing her speak eloquently on various topics whilst she also took the opportunity to update on the latest development in Sri Lanka. She is very keen to connect companies interested to market Sri Lankan produce. SICCI is looking forward to work with the Sri Lankan team closely.

# FEATURING PROFILES OF SICCI NEW MEMBERS

Featuring few of latest new members who have joined the SICCI Family! Do join SICCI in welcoming them.



**BPEA**  
Baring Private Equity Asia

## **Mr Mahtani, Managing Director of Baring Private Equity Asia**

Mr. Mahtani joined BPEA in 2006. Mr. Mahtani is primarily responsible for BPEA's investments in India. At BPEA, he has led investments across IT Services, education, financial services, consumer goods and infrastructure sectors. Mr. Mahtani was previously a Vice President with General Atlantic Partners ("GAP") in Mumbai, whose India office he founded. During his tenure at GAP, he was responsible for India investments. Previously, he worked for Bear Stearns & Co., Inc. in New York and Merrill Lynch in Washington DC.

Mr. Mahtani graduated with honors from Georgetown University, where he received a B.Sc. in Business Administration with a triple major in Finance, International Business and Marketing. Mr. Mahtani was born in Singapore and is fluent in English, Bahasa Indonesia and Hindi.

Baring Private Equity Asia (BPEA) is one of the largest private alternative investment firms in Asia, with total committed capital of over USD 21 billion. The firm runs a private equity investment program, sponsoring buyouts and providing growth capital to companies for expansion or acquisitions with a particular focus on the Asia Pacific region, as well as investing into companies globally that can benefit from further expansion into the Asia Pacific region. BPEA also manages dedicated funds focused on private real estate and private credit. The firm has a 24-year history and over 190 employees. BPEA had made over 100 investments since inception and currently has approximately 43 portfolio companies active across Asia with a total of over 224,000 employees and sales of approximately USD 39 billion.



## **Mr P. Jayapalan, Director of Marvel Logistics Pte Ltd**

They started as a cargo clearing agent under Marvel freight in 2010. With the eagerness to provide their clients the one-stop-shop, smooth and hassle-free services, Mr. Jayapalan, formed Marvel Logistics Pte Ltd in 2018.

As with this new endeavour, they were able to serve more clients and partners not just as clearing agent in Singapore, but as a total logistics service provider around the globe - offering a full range of multi-modal forwarding and transport services and facilities that caters cargo handling, container loading and unloading, customs clearance, sea freight and air freight movements for import and export, warehousing and distribution.

Marvel Logistics Pte Ltd. has established a strong and continuing partnership with networks of experienced agents worldwide that provide an efficient, seamless, and worry-free cargo handling. Delivering value-added services has been their top priority! They will provide their customers with services that assure cost-efficiency, speed and reliability.

They seek to distinguish themselves by acting as an effective intermediary in the logistics chain, providing the best possible flexibility and choices in moving or receiving every precious cargo. They move the way clients want it.

# FEATURING PROFILES OF SICCI NEW MEMBERS (CONT'D)



**Mr Shashwat Garg Director of SR Natural Resources Pte Ltd**

SR Forestry is devoted on meeting the quickly developing wood needs of the Asian market by effectively taking an interest over the timberland product value-chain. This incorporates owning and collecting timberland resources, planning mid-stream coordination, chartering vessels, and collaborating with destination ports and logistics suppliers for product conveyance to the end users. They are headquartered in Singapore and their operations are mainly in New Zealand, Australia, and Ghana. Their products include Logs and Lumber. To know more, please visit the website at [www.srforestry.com](http://www.srforestry.com).

Mr Shashwat is an experienced Director, Business Development Executive and Head of Sales and Marketing with a demonstrated history of working in the Forestry sector, international trade and development industry and technological industry. Skilled in Management, Leadership, Marketing and Project Management with strong business development professional with a master's degree focused on International Business from Aston University, United Kingdom.



**Mr Harsh Maheshwari**

As APAC regional director, Mr Harsh drives Baker Tilly's long-term global strategy within the region, focusing on developing member firm's organic and in-organic growth, collaboration and increasing cross-border client services. Working closely with the leadership of Baker Tilly's members in Asia Pacific, he supports firms to implement business development, marketing and client service strategies focused on strengthening the brand and driving Baker Tilly's vision to be the growth advisor to mid-market clients. Prior to joining Baker Tilly, he worked with Grant Thornton in Singapore, Thailand and India and was involved in M&A, due diligence and transaction advisory services. He also briefly worked with Bank of America, as part of their global commercial investment banking process. Mr Harsh is an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and hold a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Delhi University.



**Mr Nikhilesh Goel, Co-founder and Group CEO of Signify**

Validus is Singapore's largest SME financing platform, connecting SMEs to short and medium-term financing, via funds from accredited investors. Licensed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, Validus is also an approved financing partner on GeBIZ, and provides government-assisted loans as part of the Enterprise Financing Scheme. Validus was recently awarded Winner of the prestigious 'MAS Fintech Awards 2020 (Singapore Financial Institution).'

Bringing over 15 years of Private Equity and Corporate Finance experience across Southeast Asia, Nikhilesh's expertise includes debt and equity financing across diverse sectors, as well as portfolio management and value creation at SME companies. He founded the M&A Advisory practice at Taipan Partners, focusing on consumer and tech sector deals across South East Asia. Prior to Validus, he led M&A deals for Masan Group and developed key experience in portfolio management and capital raising for various companies as an Investment Manager at Avigo Capital Partners.

At Validus, Nikhilesh runs the overall business operations and has played a key role in driving successful fundraising rounds, as well as forged strategic partnerships with key industry partners such as Visa and Temasek Holdings' Vertex Ventures.

Nikhilesh holds a Bachelor of Engineering Degree and an MBA in Finance. He is a regular speaker at Fintech and SME conferences, sharing insights in Alternative Lending, Small Business Financing and Peer to Peer Platforms. He is also the winner of Top 10 FinTech Leaders 2019 and Top 12 FinTech Leaders 2020 at Singapore FinTech Awards.

# FEATURING PROFILES OF SICCI NEW MEMBERS (CONT'D)



**Ms Rajalakshmi Iyer Director of Deeproots Design and Living Products Pte Ltd**

Ms Rajalakshmi Iyer, better known as Raji, is the Founder and Director of Deeproots Design and Living Products Pte Ltd. She is Singapore based with operations out of India. She passionately connects people to Nature and their Roots. Her firms are into creating experiential Biophilic landscaped spaces outdoors, indoors along with Innovative Landscape Products for a HUMAN CENTRIC design that's experiential.. They have successfully designed more than 250 projects in many parts of the world in the last 23 years that ranges from a small terrace to an entire city of Nagpur, India (227.4 km<sup>2</sup> ). Present projects are for Google, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Vijaywada airport, Moshvaraya developers, Capitaland , B ashyam group, Bagmane group, TRIL to name a few.

LIVING PRODUCTS PTE LTD was started to create innovative landscape products. Their first product the Harita is a patented design that revolutionized how nature can be made part of our spaces in creative way. WINNER of the VIA entrepreneur award 2005, ISOLA LANDMARK AWARD 2015 and Women excellency Gold award from NRI association , Singapore 2020.

Please contact her to work together for future opportunities:

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raji@deeprootsdesign.net  
+91 20 41206505/+65 96879715



**Ms Sharmila Nagarajan, Chairman and Founding Member of Velli Ventures Inc USA & Singapore**

She is the Chairman and Founding member of Velli Ventures Inc USA and Singapore, Founding Member for OnedollarERP.com, International Commercial and Cultural Development Forum, She is a partner in Jivi Solutions Malaysia, Lewis Pharma Pte Ltd in India and MDS Management Consultancy Sharjah - UAE for media and social enablement. She is the product owner of Velli herbal sanitary napkins with 2 lakhs pieces daily manufacturing capacity.

Velli ventures together with USMD INC and American Health Holdings are engaged in building Aradhana Medi City a Billion-dollar health care project in Puducherry India and USA as well. She serves as a Partner and Board of Director in Bangabandhu Healthcare City together with USMD INC USA and Bangladesh Government.

She is an enabler of society transformation through multiple engagements. She is actively engaged in Women empowerment and technology enablement activities. Together with World hunger solution her organisation provides food to 100's of needy people in India on a monthly basis. She served as VP in a renowned Banking corporation and was a Executive member of Telecom services in Singapore. VV has a vision to provide a successful end to end ecosystem to business enablers and society to empower innovations in all needed areas to provide palpable, elemental solutions and products to achieve results.

# NEW SICCI MEMBERS FOR FEBRUARY 2021

**SYNOVAGEN LIFE SCIENCES PRIVATE LIMITED**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**GOOD STARTUP PTE LTD**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**SINGAPORE KADAYANALLUR MUSLIM LEAGUE**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**FORWARD LOOKING TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**NBS SINGAPORE PTE LTD**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**DULWICH COLLEGE (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD**  
ORDINARY CORPORATE

**VINAYPRATAPSINGH BHUREYSINGH THAKUR**  
ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

**SUNIL RAI**  
ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

**VINOD RAI SHARMA**  
ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL

**RP SINGH**  
ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL



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