

Moving towards India@75

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IN FOCUS

India Inc. helps India breathe: CII sets up Task Force on oxygen supply chains



With an unprecedented rise in Covid-19 cases and acute shortage of medical oxygen pushing the hospitals in the country to the edge, India Inc has come forward to lend a hand. Industry majors have been stepping forward to keep the supply chain moving and augment the availability of medical oxygen in different parts of the country.

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has formed a Task Force on Oxygen Supply Chain to strengthen the oxygen supply in the country by working on domestic capacity enhancement and imports; logistical issues between states including issues of transportation, non-availability of cylinders and policy-level interventions. It has made some critical propositions to the government such as - direct vessels to import the liquid oxygen, removing logistical bottlenecks, reducing transit-time, faster unloading of containers, speedy clearances and transport to the destinations through green corridors, augmenting capacity to produce oxygen using supercritical process. The Task Force has also suggested

that the government could explore G2G mechanisms for getting support in the current health emergency within friendly countries.

The biggest bottleneck is the shortage of cryogenic containers. Tatas are importing 36 cryogenic vessels. In addition, ITC is airlifting 24 Cryogenic ISO Containers, with 20 tones capacity each. It is also exploring the imports of oxygen concentrators and generators for distribution. The Adani Group is importing 4 ISO cryogenic tanks with 80 MT liquid oxygen from Saudi Arabia.

The Industry is also stepping in to help with medical oxygen. Tata Steel is supplying over 600 MT medical oxygen from its plants to hospitals. JSW Steel is also supplying 1000 tonnes per day and plans to ramp up further. The total supply from all its plants to Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in April 2021 was approximately 20000 tonnes of liquid oxygen. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is also supplying liquid medical oxygen upwards of 700 MT per day to Gujarat, Maharashtra, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. ITC's Paperboards unit in Bhadrachalam has already begun supply of oxygen to identified Government hospitals in the state.

The Commercial Vehicle manufacturers under the aegis of Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) are sensitising and alerting the eco-system to ensure fastest turnaround time for vehicles transporting oxygen. Technologies like track and trace and / or connected vehicles are being leveraged. The support required to keep these vehicles running is also being made available. Read more about CII's covid interventions [here](#).

VOLUNTEERING / PARTNERSHIPS / CONVERSATIONS

Building capacity: India@75 and SBI Foundation join hands to help grassroots organizations



As part of its Pro Bono volunteering initiative, India@75 in partnership with Sukalyan Welfare Society organized a workshop titled 'Fellowship & other Volunteering Models for Grassroots Organizations (NGOs)'. The session was facilitated by Alex Arockiasamy from SBI Youth for India and around 50 grassroots NGOs attended the session. They were introduced to various volunteering models running across the globe which could also benefit their organizations.

#My2020Hero: CII celebrates real life heroes



CII held the #My2020Hero Contest invited photo essays of people engaged in meaningful work. Photographs had to be submitted, along with a small write up to help the jury understand why the contestant chose the subject of his essay. The campaign received a warm response. Nine submissions were selected after due diligence. The winning entries are [here](#).

A water secure world: CII announces National Awards for Excellence in Water Management 2021



Increasing domestic and industrial demand have stressed India's water resources. Poor water management and climate change are aggravating the issue further. Stakeholder groups need to merge their efforts and collectively address this problem.

The CII-Triveni Water Institute runs the CII National Awards for Excellence in Water Management to recognize Industry initiative in the space of water management and encourage more businesses to follow suit.

For over a decade, these awards have been celebrating innovative water conservation and management practices undertaken by businesses from different sectors. The awards process includes transparent and rigorous assessment that includes three levels of scrutiny and verification. A pre-eminent jury reviews the results of each assessment before arriving at the final decision.

500 businesses both public and private have won this award to date. CII-TWI has announced the 2021 edition of the Awards. Apply [here](#).

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

“While we have been able to ramp up our pace of inoculation considerably, it has to move to a level of 8-10 million people on a daily basis in the next few months. For this, the vaccine output has to increase exponentially from the current monthly level of 65-70 million doses, which would require several measures such as fast-tracked approval for new production capacities, facilitating local manufacturers to produce other brands of vaccines (like Johnson & Johnson and Novavax) in large quantity, ensuring hurdle-free availability of inputs to manufacturers and improving the cold storage facilities for vaccines in the country.”

[Read the full blog by Chandrajit Banerjee](#)

COMING UP

India@75 Foundation will be holding a virtual workshop for NGOs, under its pro bono volunteering initiative – **Project Manthan**. This edition will focus on Effective Hiring.

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