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CIB e-Newsletter



Editorial:

Hello and welcome!

Greetings to all in India! Hope you all had a wonderful time of celebrations, peace and togetherness during Dussera, Durga Puja and Eid.

For those around the globe, we hope by now you are getting geared up to travel to India.... there's very little time left.

Our entire team is full of enthusiasm and excitement as we prepare for the CIB 2013 conference and we look forward to welcoming each one of you.

This issue however, will not have any conference updates as the November CIB e-Newsletter is proposed to be released soon, in early November (i.e. in advance, before the CIB main event and with the focus of CIB 2013 Conference).

This October issue will focus on :

1. Whispers to our friends.
2. A brief report on the visit of Dr. Amit Mukherjee and your editor to Africa in order to build a CIB team and to see how India and Africa can together help each other in sharing their best practices and ethical ways of doing business.
3. A write up by Mr. Sudhir Gogate, a very successful Director of an Indo - Japanese Joint Venture Company, who believes and lives by the ideas of Initiatives of Change and exemplifies the fact that yes, business can be done ethically and yet be competitive!

- Ms. Neha Mukherjee

Whisper to our friends:

Weather forecast for the Conference days

DATE	HIGH	LOW	REMARKS
5.11.13	26	14	Possible thunderstorms
6.11.13	26	15	Partly cloudy
7.11.13	27	12	Overcast
8.11.13	29	13	Sunny
9.11.13	24	12	Suuny
10.11.13	24	14	Mostly sunny
11.11.13	26	14	Rather cloudy but no rain
12.11.13	26	14	Party sunny with a shower
13.11.13	26	15	Sunny
14.11.13	27	15	Partly sunny

*All tempretures given in Celsius.

We therefore recommend light woolen clothes because late evenings may become chilly.

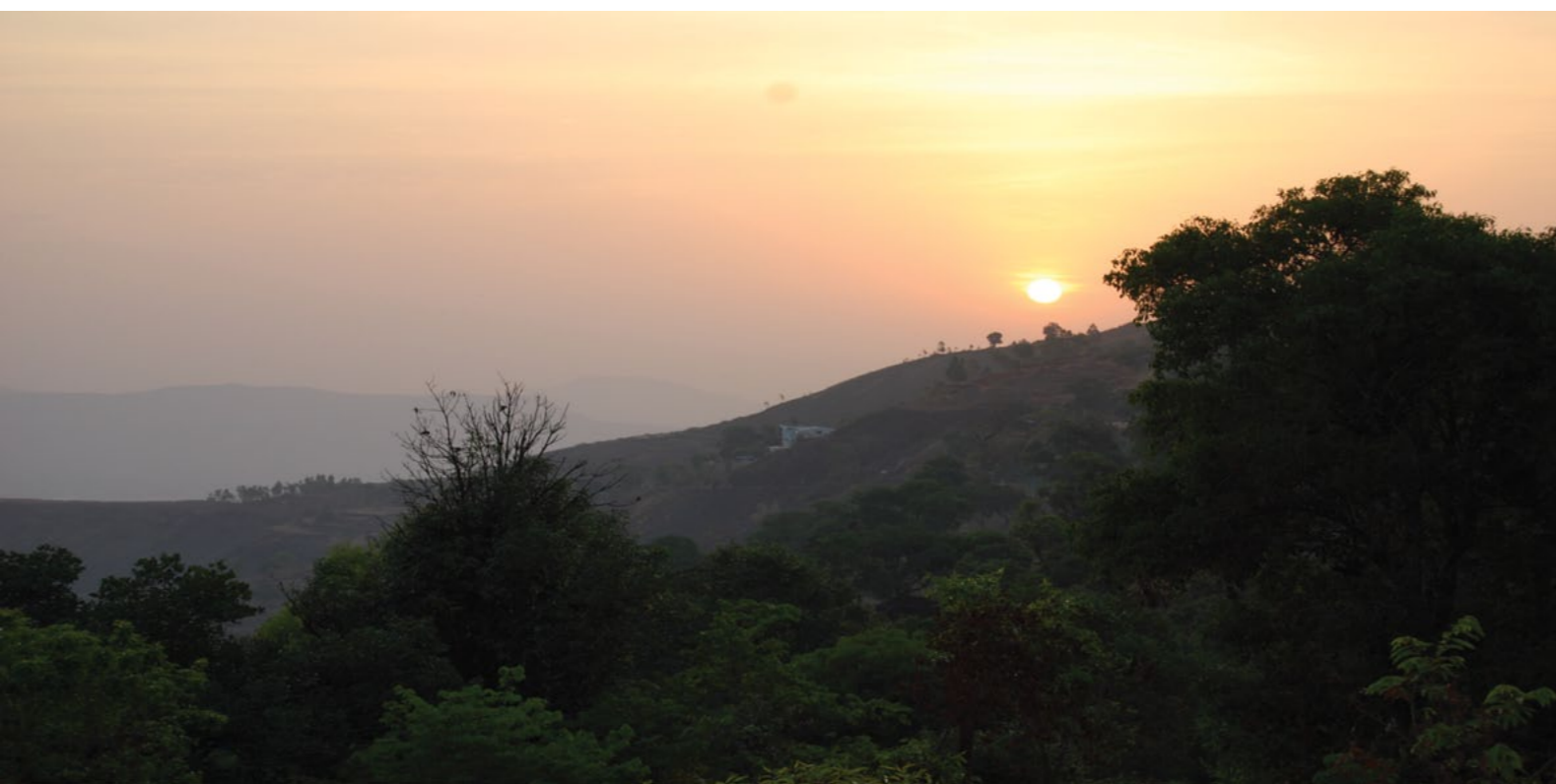
It would be great if you could carry your national costume and a musical instrument for a cultural evening (Indian Night and World Night). If you are interested to take some soft copies of conference material, etc., please bring your own pen-drive (USB – stick). If you want to use our Wi Fi internet (to be paid) you can bring your own laptops, tablets or other equipment.

Some of you may like to discover our campus during the free time. So please bring your sport's or walking shoes.

Information on daily life:

(A) General Introductory:

1. Many people have contributed in the creation and setting up of Asia Plateau, the MRA- IofC Conference and Training Centre, over the last 45 years. Please help us to conserve it for future generations.



2. The entire campus of Asia Plateau is a **No -Tobacco** and **No - Alcohol zone**.
3. All programs are aimed to be conducted strictly as per the time-table and all sessions start on exact time. Please watch your watch.

(B) Rooms / Accommodation

1. Please save electricity and water. Turn off taps / switches when not required.
2. Please do not put wet clothes on the wooden furniture. There is a drying line provided in the balcony for this purpose.
3. Drinking water tap is provided in the pantry room on each floor of Valley View building and the second floor of Rock View building.
4. You can keep your room keys in the wooden cabinet below the stairs at the Reception. Please take proper care of your valuables, Laptops, Mobiles etc.
5. In case of any maintenance complaints, please use the complaints register kept in the reception area.

(C) Dining Hall

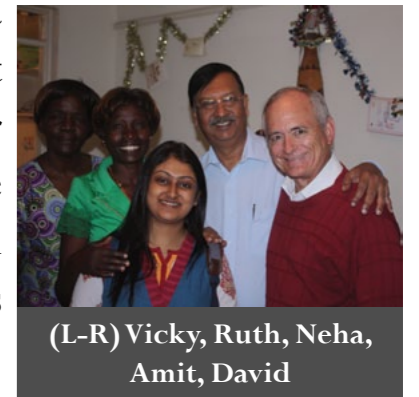
1. You are invited to be a part of the Asia Plateau family and participate in food service and cleaning up.
2. Please help yourself to as much as you can eat but do avoid any wastage of food. You are requested not to carry food items outside the dining hall.
3. After you finish eating, any one or two persons sitting at the table may collect all plates and take them to the wash-up area.
4. Any one person may clean the table afterwards. After dinner everyone is expected to please help to prepare the tables for the next morning's breakfast service.
5. The meal timings for this Conference are fixed as follows: Breakfast – 07.45 am, Mid-Morning Tea – 11.15 am, Lunch – 1.00 pm, Tea - 4.00 pm and Dinner - 7:00 pm.
6. Morning Tea [Optional] is provided at 06.30 am in the Reception on the ground floor of Valley View and Rock View buildings.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Our Visit to Africa:

On arrival at Nairobi Airport in Kenya, on Sep. 26, 2013, we were received by Alex Kimani, a former intern at Asia Plateau and stayed with Mr. B. Lakxmi, an Indian Businessman who shifted to Kenya many years ago and started his tannery, single handedly.

Later that day, we met David Bernard Stevens, a former American Senator from Nebraska. He had left everything behind to follow his heart and work for the people of Africa. He is now the CEO at Effective Change Ltd. in Kenya. His special area of work is in rural empowerment. This is where he met his wife, Ruth, who is working with an offshoot of IofC called Creator's of Peace. A few days later we also had dinner at their home where we met Ms.Vicky, a dynamic lady working with the Kenyan Anti-Corruption Department in Nairobi. David and Ruth plan to join us at CIB 2013.



(L-R) Vicky, Ruth, Neha, Amit, David



(middle) Governor, Dy. Governor (Baringo) & Kenyan IofC Team

On day 2, we went to Kabarnet, the State Capital of Baringo County to meet H.E. Benjamin Chesire Cheboi, Governor (Similar to Chief Minister in India) and H.E. Mathew Tuitoek, Deputy Governor. After a good discussion the Governor decided to send H.E. Tuitoek and 5 more from the business community for the CIB Conference. He was much taken by the phrase we used saying, “we may have the best of plans, but if we do not have ethical people to execute them, we cannot expect proper results”. He then offered to give us land to build a Centre of IofC in Kabarnet, which looks like Panchgani.

The next day, we met James Mageria. This is a man of great achievements, one of which is being the Police Chief of Nairobi. He made many reforms during his time but did not want to stop at that. So he went to the US and did his MBA, then worked there for a long while. He



Our meeting with the “Think Tank”

returned to Kenya to head a Hospital chain called the Karen Hospital. Mr. Mageria was so interested in CIB and the concept behind it that he invited us for a breakfast meeting to interact with the “Think Tank”, a group of very high powered people, from all walks of life, who had two things in common, viz (i) a deep concern and will to help society and (ii) their faith in the higher power. This group consisted of lawyers, the Chancellor of a University, a judge, CEOs, the Director General of Kenya’s Vision 2030 and many others.

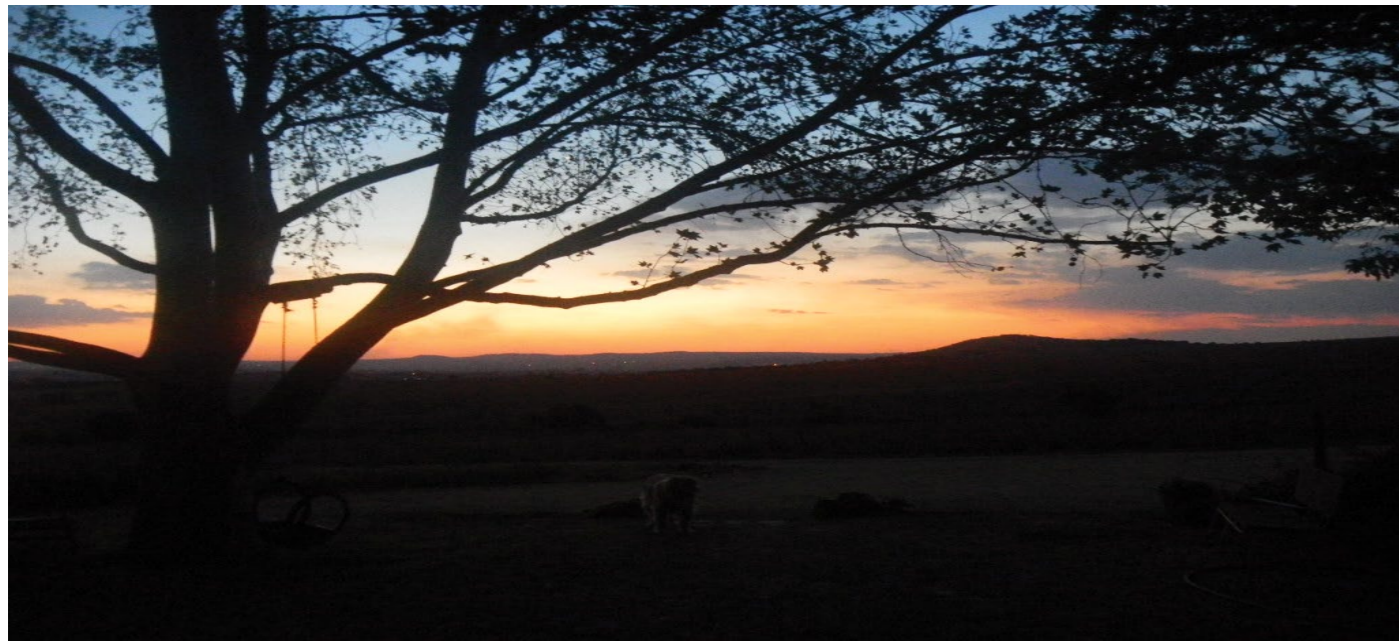
Later that day we met H.E Ms. Dorothy Nditi Muchungu, the Deputy Governor of the Embu County. She has some very impressive plans and vision for her County and hopes to find like-minded people at the CIB Conference. In the evening, we met the Shamaz Savani, Group MD of the African Banking Corp. Ltd.



Dy. Governor (Embu) & the IofC Team

On Oct. 2, 2013, we flew to Entebbe and then drove to Kampala, the lovely Capital of Uganda, spread out over 7 hills, next to Lake Victoria. That evening, we met the Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister, Ms. Christine Guwatudde Kintu. We chalked out a hectic schedule of meeting senior Government officials over the next 3 days. There is also a delegation of 10 officials, from the Prime Minister’s Office, who are coming to India for the International HEL program and Ethics in Public Governance, that are immediately following the main CIB Conference.

There was great enthusiasm for Indo - Ugandan exchanges to improve the business environment and for ethical governance. Many contacts have been made



for the future. We went to the Civil Service College in Jinga, which conducts similar programs like ours on ethical governance and interacted with Ms. Jane, the Head of the College and Frederick Anyine, Program Manager, Leadership and Management Development. Mr. Anyine is part of the 10 member official team coming to India.

We had good meetings with Mr. Badagawa, Executive Director of the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda, and Daniel Karibwije, Director of the Uganda Export Promotion Board in Kampala. Mr. Balinda, Executive Director of the Uganda Tourism Board, who is co ordinating business investors coming into Uganda, also expressed his keen interest to come to India and participate in our programs at Panchgani. He has a lot to share on corruption.

On the last evening in Uganda, we had dinner at the residence of Ms. Ahunna Eiakonwa-Onochie, Resident Co-ordinator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Uganda. We were joined by Mrs. Christine Guwatudde Kintu and her husband. We discussed how future exchanges could take place not only for Govt. officials, but also for business heads. Both husbands were from business.



Farrokh, Mrs. Raabia & the S. African IofC Team

On Oct. 5, 2013, we flew to South Africa where our next stop, after Johannesburg, was Cape Town. There, we met Farrokh Cassim and his wife, Raabia. Mr. Cassim is an ex Deputy Speaker of the Parliament, Journalist, businessman and much respected in political circles in South Africa. Mrs. Raabia Cassim, a very qualified and humble lady, a teacher earlier, also writes articles for Newspapers.

We are very grateful to Joseph Karanja, B. Lakxmi, Ashwin and Chandrika Patel, Ann Njeri, Mbindyo Kimanthi all from Kenya and Anthony Duigan, Sam Poono and Vilma Maritz all in South Africa for hosting us and providing us a home away from home.

We Came back very hopeful of a good beginning of a long association between India and Africa.

Dr. Amit Mukherjee and Ms. Neha Mukherjee

Why I give my time to IofC and CIB ?

Mid 50 is possibly rather late but not too late to look at your life and see whether you missed the road and would like to correct.

I have been brought up in a family with habit of service to society. However, in my early years it only meant donating for charity. While in itself is a noble way of serving, I realize that the knowledge and experience you have gained goes waste if you do not pass it to next generation.

That was the motivation which led me to conducting series of sessions with young team of Engineers in my company KEIHIN FIE Pvt. Ltd.

It not only gave me immense pleasure and satisfaction but improved my own oratory skills. The sparkle of happiness I was witnessing in their eyes and body language, made me to move beyond my work and company.

I started understanding that whether it's a technical problem or social or relationship issue the steps involved have some basic similarity viz;

- Understand the current situation
- Any change point you can recall
- If so check correlation
- Discuss with concerned person the underlying change
- Mend & correct the situation

I realized that observation of human behavior to any situation if full of positivity then solution is not only holistic but has ripple effect on many directions.

One of such ripple effects brought me to the MRA Centre, Asia Plateau at Panchgani as a key note speaker to ELL programs way back in April 2004, by Kiran Gandhi, Rahul Shirodkar and Dattaji Dhamnaskar. Here, I found an answer to my anger towards my estranged relatives. The misunderstanding created due to non-communication melted down and a new perspective to life emerged.



I decided to devote time to the programs and got reciprocal enthusiasm towards life – shattered by tragedy in my family in 2000.

The power of silence and daily looking at your life and changing yourself than the futile exercise of changing the world, became quite clear. At the same time there was a realization that your life is meant to be of service to the needy. Dialogue with concerned person became the hallmark of way forward.

So when I was asked, why I devote time to Asia Plateau (AP) and CIB, the answer was very clear – Self renewal and looking for bigger purpose in life .

Visit to AP, not only are soothing to eyes but also comforting to mind. Peaceful mind makes your body dynamic. The ever green atmosphere at AP and the care the community gives each other in itself, is a miniature world we want to see replicated.

By my involvement with CIB I stay connected with the real world, contribute towards sustenance and able to pass on the benefits of our experience to generation next through programs for youth and students of MBA programs.

Gratitude to the Almighty for connecting me to this fine idea, nurtured by veterans like RD Mathur ji and Rajmohan ji is appropriate , than taking credit for the association.

*Mr. Sudhir Gogate is the Director of KEIHIN FIE Pvt. Ltd., an Indo - Japanese Company in Pune.

