

## **CIB (India) Bangalore Chapter**

### Inaugural Meeting Report

November 28, 2014

Venue: Siemens Ltd., St. Mark's Road

The origin of a river is a small but continuous source of water. It is only when the river starts flowing does it gain momentum and grow. With this thought in mind, the CIB Bangalore Chapter launched itself by having the Inaugural meeting on November 28, 2014.

Under the leadership of Chapter Convenor, Dilip Patel, Jt. MD, Addon Engineering Pvt. Ltd., around 17 persons gathered at the meeting room at Siemens Ltd. on St. Mark's Road. The intent of this first gathering was clear: deliberate and suggest ways on how a fledgling group with the resolve to encourage businesses that it was possible to remain competitive while still being ethical, could be sustainable and relevant.



After the customary lighting of the lamp, Dilip Patel expressed gratitude to Ashok Swaminathan of Siemens Ltd. for permitting the use of their meeting room. In the course of the introductions that followed, it was evident that the small group that had gathered represented a fairly diverse field ranging from manufacturing, IT and banking & finance industry on one side of the spectrum to members from education, the medical profession and management consultants

on the other side.

For the benefit of those who did not know about the CIB program or its parent organization, Initiatives of Change (IofC), Prof. R Rajagopalan, an Educationist and Environmentalist of repute, was requested to make a brief introduction on IofC.

Sarosh Ghandy, Director, CIB then took the audience through the history and background of CIB before presenting his listeners with the intent of initiating the Bangalore City Chapter. Elaborating, he shared that the objective was to include many industry/business heads to this platform with a focus on enhancing ethical practices while remaining competitive.



The floor was then thrown open to all for suggestions as to how the CIB Bangalore City Chapter with such an objective could be made meaningful and full of purpose. Posers to this effect were placed before the members to help elicit suggestions.

- Is such a platform desirable?
- If so, what should be the value-adding prospects to help this platform grow?
- What should be the periodicity of the meetings?

Several suggestions came forth. Some said that:

1. Each one should invite new like-minded members in the coming meetings.
2. A Google/Gmail group should be created for all of us to interact. Sunitha, one of the members, agreed to take up the task. Dilip was later briefed that a Gmail address for the Bangalore City Chapter already exists and that the members were welcome to use this for the purpose of forming a group.
3. Compliance officers from various companies should be invited for expanding the base.
4. Members should be encouraged to share their success stories of ethics and the tribulations they went through.



Others also suggested that:

5. the first couple of meetings should be held at the same venue, i.e. the Siemens Ltd. office at St Mark's Road; and later other venues by rotation can be utilised. Chand Basha offered his premises in Peenya for such prospects.
6. Generally, the last Friday of the month should be fixed for the monthly meetings. It was however agreed that the meeting in December be held on 19<sup>th</sup> because the last Friday fell on the Christmas week.
7. Dilip Patel explained that he had to be away at Panchgani on December 19, hence Sarosh Ghandy kindly consented to preside over the meeting and



conduct the same. B R Nagaraja, Sector Compliance Officer - Infrastructure and Cities Sector, Siemens Ltd. was requested to help Sarosh in conducting the meeting and calling on his experiences and contacts to invite Compliance Officers from other MNCs. Mr. Nagaraja readily accepted this request.

8. K Krishnakumar, one of the members who attended the Inaugural meeting, promised to teach juggling if members came half an hour early on the next meeting day.

An inspiring short documentary of how a business in Belgaum became what they called a 'temple of ethics'. This film on Suresh Hundre of Polyhydron, showcasing their journey to establish an ethical company, was shown to all. The members applauded the achievements of Polyhydron.

Inviting each one to be increasingly involved while also bringing in other industry/business friends within one's circle of influence to become part of the Chapter, Dilip Patel, thanked everyone for their time and commitment.

***Next Bangalore Chapter Meeting***

*Date: December 19, 2014*

*Time: 3:30 pm*

*Venue: Siemens Ltd. St. Mark's Road*

*RSVP: Dilip Patel at [cib.bangalore.india@gmail.com](mailto:cib.bangalore.india@gmail.com) or*

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