

The Young Indians Regional Summit on  
**“India on the Rise...  
Sustaining the momentum through Young Indians”**  
14-15 July 2006: PSGIMS Auditorium: Coimbatore

**Post Event Report**

Yi Coimbatore Chapter organized the first ever Young Indians Regional Summit with the theme **“India on the Rise... Sustaining the momentum through Young Indians”** on 14-15 July 2006 at the auditorium of PSG Institute of Medical Sciences, Coimbatore.

**Padma Shri Suresh Krishna**, CMD, Sundram Fasteners Limited inaugurated the summit on the first day where he stressed upon the various opportunities that the Young Indians can grab upon to bring India on the rise. In his inspirational speech, he coined down India’s potential and said that “India is a miracle which is waiting to happen. “This undoubtedly is the right time to explore more opportunities to take India forward. Every Young Indian must have **“Excellence”** as their passion. One needs to anticipate change, dominate the environment and not complain about it” he remarked. He also gave few guidelines to the young CEO’s of India regarding having a wholly magnetic vision instead of having a single set vision. His impactful speech was a definite take away for all the delegates present during the summit.

The second day started with the session on **“Sustaining growth in an era of global competition”**, where the speakers came from different sectors of Industry. **Mr S Gopalakrishnan**, Co founder, COO & DMD, Infosys Technologies Ltd threw light upon the crucial role played by the Govt in helping foreign investments come to India. “The young managers of today’s era must think big, must do the business plan for the next 3 years, must be quick and wise in decision making” he said. **Mr T Kannan**, Managing Director, Thiagarajar Mills Ltd spoke about the “Diverse India”, where he had a vision of having nation builders who would be rising from the petty politics & foresee India after 20 years. He also highlighted the importance of primary education & good health. He emphasized that physical assets, natural resources and talent pool to harness them were very important. **Mr B V R Subbu**, Former President, Hyundai Motor India Ltd urged the Young Indians to be greedier towards excellence. “Make World come to your feet” was the moral taken from his speech. Mr Subbu highlighted the need to recognize and improve capabilities and to create infrastructure needed for it. **Mr Sanjay Jayavarthanelu**, Chairman, Young Indians Southern Regional Summit, who chaired this session gave away the closing remarks.

The theme of the second session was “**Socio-Economic Challenges**”, which had speakers representing NGO’s and organisations working towards social causes. **Mrs Vanitha Mohan**, Managing Trustee, Siruthuli [which is a movement working towards water conservation in and around Coimbatore] emphasized on the eco system. She deliberated the activities of Siruthuli showing a film on its activities. She said that the policy makers only address the symptoms and not the deep rooted problems which was very superficial. “Individuals need to take the first step than waiting for somebody else to do it” and urged upon the Young Indians to be self motivated in working towards a better society by supporting such activities. **Mr M P Vasimalai**, Executive Director, Dhan Foundation stressed how to catalyze humane action through enabling processes. He asked the Young Indians to look at the social impact as their guidance and plan their activities. He said that every professional should ultimately have the aim of developing the poor and should work towards leadership among women & farmers of our country. Dhan Foundation, which works mostly in the areas of micro financing is being supported by the Tata Group. Mr Vasimalai emphasized on the need to build leadership of women and farmers and in enabling Young Indians to unleash their potential. **Mrs Ingrid Srinath**, CEO, Child Rights and You [CRY] gave an overview of the existing situation for children in the country today with statistics on the difficulties that they face. She highlighted the need for a standard primary education for all children irrespective of their sex, caste, creed or religion and called upon the Young Indians to take firm action on people or elements who were against this. She also highlighted the activities of CRY in providing solutions to the problems that Children face in the country. **Dr Sudha Iyer**, National e-Yi Chairperson was the Session moderator and gave away the closing remarks.

The first session after lunch was on “**Enhancing the intellectual talent pool of Indian youth**”, addressed first by **Dr Aravind Srinivasan**, Administrator, Aravind Eye Hospitals which is known for its eye related work. He turned the attention of the audience towards the unserved population of India who are either visually impaired or blind. He highlighted that 50% of the Indian unmatched demography were below the age of 25 and they are the ones who should be tapped and moulded to bring out a better India. **Dr R Natarajan**, Former Chairman, AICTE and Former Director, IIT Madras said that there was a bridge, which is dividing India from rest of the world. “Today’s youth should follow the work ethics since many foreign investors are pouring into our country. Before going global, one must think of the scarce resource which we have in hand” he remarked. Dr Natarajan highlighted the need for Young Minds to work towards motivating the upcoming generation by all means, thus preparing them for a better India. **Ms Gayathri Sriram**, Chairperson, National Education Committee, Young Indians chaired the session.

The first plenary session was on **“The role of Young Indians in sustaining the momentum”**, which was addressed first by **Mr P K Mohapatra**, Deputy Chairman, CII Southern Region. Mr Mohapatra spoke on the small thoughts, small pictures and small incidents that have changed the world better. He highlighted examples of Gandhi’s life and his ideologies and how they were relevant for Young Indians and their roles in sustaining the momentum of India’s growth. **Dr Neeraj Mittal IAS**, District Collector, Coimbatore spoke about a few schemes that the Government was working towards like “Food for All” and “Noon Meals” schemes. He called upon the Young Indians to work in cohesiveness with the Government and support it in all possible ways. He urged the Young Indians to work towards a corruption free environment where everything is based on law and merit. He said that a good governance is possible only by enlightened citizens and both should go hand in hand in providing all services to the poor. **Dr B K Krishnaraj Vanavarayar**, Chairman, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore Kendra who was the Chief Guest for this session drew the attention of the audience by his inspiring speech, as always. Dr Vanavarayar said that there was a need to harness the enormous potential of the Youth’s energy to bring out a situation that would make everyone fit to survive in this competitive world. He said that the youth were self centered and career oriented and that the indifference of youth should change the human excellence and thereby urged them to focus, apart from Intelligence Quotient and Economic Quotient on SQ, “Spiritual Quotient”

The second plenary session was on **“A session with young achievers from various fields on My Vision for India”**. **Mrs Roopa Purushothaman**, Chief Economist and Strategist, Future Group and Author of the book, **“Dreaming with BRIC’s: The path to 2050”** spoke on the findings done by the studies she and her team has done for the book. Mrs Roopa said that the population of India would continue to remain younger, also emphasizing that the per capita income would be the most potential. She said that the middle class population of India would overtake China in due course of time and said that Brazil, India, Russia and China would dominate the world around the year 2050. Mrs Roopa was optimistic on India’s growth and said that the consumption of food and beverages would be the highest in India by 2050 and so would be the car ownership. “India would continue to fight China in all fronts, though China has almost twice the number of cities as India has” she remarked.

**Mr Ashok T Aram**, Managing Director – Corporate & Investment Banking, Deutsche Bank AG, London shared his thoughts on his vision for India after Mrs Roopa. Mr Ashok Aram, one of the youngest Managing Directors of the bank shared his thoughts on the changing image of India globally. Having travelled extensively across the world, Mr Aram said that India was growing

through an important phase where the youth have to come together. Mr Aram referred to the government's decision of favoring Foreign Direct Investments into the country and that they should be respected. Mr Aram's speech focused on five core issues for India namely, Creating an Educated India, Creating a Healthy India which meant good healthcare systems for all Indian citizens, Efficient Institutions, Effective Governance and Creating Capacities. He also remarked that the Indian Banking Industry is one of the best in the world and that they have a very crucial role in the country's development. Mr Aram, in his speech, touched on the stringent rules prevailing in the country that usually leads to a long time in decision making for the investors and said these have to be made more transparent and quicker. "The way the IT industry has moved beyond barriers to prove to the world that India is capable of being world class should be adopted by every sector. Today, we have brilliance in parts, in the auto component sector, the services, the textiles and so on. But, when we have a unified vision and a growth pattern on all fronts, this booming economy will become much stronger a force to reckon with and young Indians should never compromise on anything lesser than excellence in any activity that you are involved in. Through excellence comes brilliance, which in turn would make it a habit and these habits would form examples to the suppliers, buyers, partners and on the society as a whole, many societies form a state and they form the nation" he said.

**Mr Aravind Seshagiri**, State President [Tamil Nadu], Lok Paritran spoke about his political party's vision on various fronts and said how Young Indians, as individuals can collectively come together to form an India that strong, corruption free and sustaining. He said that his party had a lot of views against a lot of systems in the country and shared his views on a few of them. Mr Seshagiri informed the audience that the number of votes that their candidates could get in the elections this year has been very encouraging and that they are working towards a Vision Document. He said that, the vision document would encompass the thoughts of the youth and would soon be officially released on their website.

The summit was well attended by 75 **Young Indians** from Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Kochi & Coimbatore chapter and about **250 delegates** from various disciplines in and around the region. The Regional Summit also coincided with the meeting of the Governing Council of Young Indians which was held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at The Residency Hotel.