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96th SKOCH Summit

**PUBLIC
POLICY
FORUM**

**PUBLIC
POLICY
LITFest**

PUBLIC POLICY FOR INDIA 2047

10th February 2024 | 09:15 - 17:30
Constitution Club of India, New Delhi

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Sa-Dhan
Fostering Inclusive Impact Finance

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INCLUSION
MAINSTREAMING THE MARGINALISED

Agenda V10



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INAUGURAL SESSION

0915 - 1000

0915 - 0930	Arrival, Meet and Greet, Formal Photograph
0930 - 0935	National Anthem
0935 - 0940	Welcome
0940 - 1000	Opening Address

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

THE SCIENCE OF PUBLIC POLICY

1000 - 1020



Mr Sameer Kochhar
Chairman
SKOCH Group



Dr Shamika Ravi
Member, Economic Advisory Council
to the Prime Minister

Public policymaking is considered an art and a science. In India, it has traditionally been more of an art and less of a science due to the lack of an adequate statistical knowledge base. We were also quite late in starting with measuring outcomes. It is only with the administrative reforms kicked in over the past decade and the success of Digital India that intense monitoring and dashboarding is in place.

India is again on a manufacturing-in-high-gear approach for various reasons. This conversation has three central themes. One is changing the defeatist mindset of people who argue that India has no future in manufacturing. The same argument has been rehashed since the 1980s. Geopolitical as well as industry lobbies drive this. Some historical events driving these arguments would be the signing of WTO, the signing of ITA, and more recently, the argument in favour of China-led RCEP.

The second is knowledge-based policymaking. All sorts of proxies are used to support arguments. These are more based on allegiances and opinions rather than sound public interest. The statistical system needs an overhaul. In India. What can be done?

And finally, the a lack of wide sharing of the ground covered in governance. The type of administrative reform and cutting of the red tape to deliver development objectives is unprecedented. The softer areas that yield inclusivity and reduction in multi-dimensional poverty have been a high priority.

Mr Sameer Kochhar, Chairman of SKOCH Group, tries to find answers to these in conversation with one of the sharpest development economists of our time, Dr Shamika Ravi, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister.

1000 - 1020	Dr Shamika Ravi , Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister in conversation with Mr Sameer Kochhar , Chairman, SKOCH Group
1020 - 1025	Awards & Acceptance
1025 - 1030	Nazrana

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

NORTH EAST ON THE HIGH GEAR

1030 - 1050



Mr Rohan Kochhar
Public Policy Professional



Ms S Phangnon Konyak
Hon'ble Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha

Called the 'Ashtalakshmi' – the eight North Eastern states have witnessed a dramatic change in the last nine years ever since Mr Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister. The focus of conversation is around imperatives of mainstreaming the North Eastern Region and bringing it at par with the other developed regions of the country. There is need for extra focus on areas including women empowerment, improving transport infrastructure, employment and skill development. According to the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region, there are 112 schemes across 55 Ministries and Departments that are helping data driven decision making, ease-of-operations, centralised monitoring and policy level information integration for the region. To what extent have these delivered to the objectives of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'?

Mr Rohan Kochhar, Public Policy Professional tries to find answers to these and more in a conversation with Ms S Phangnon Konyak, who recently became the first woman elected to the Rajya Sabha from Nagaland and has been the foremost voice promoting a number of social and economic causes for the North East.

1030 - 1050	Ms S Phangnon Konyak , Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha in conversation with Mr Rohan Kochhar , Public Policy Professional
1050 - 1055	Award & Acceptance
1055 - 1100	Nazrana
1100 - 1130	Awards

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

TAMING OF GAMING

1130 - 1150



Mr Rohan Kochhar
Public Policy Professional



Dr Amar Patnaik
Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha

The rapid ascent of online gaming has given rise to a range of issues, including addiction, mental health issues, suicides, financial fraud and concerns about privacy and data security. Money laundering and national security have also become real threats. The situation is further complicated by the proliferation of illegal offshore gambling and betting markets, where the high volume of digital transactions provides ample opportunities for financial misconduct. Addressing these challenges requires urgent and robust regulation of the online gaming industry. Some state governments have attempted outright bans, but the inherently cross-border nature of the Internet makes enforcing such bans difficult.

Dr Amar Patnaik highlights some of these concerns in conversation with Mr Rohan Kochhar, saying that unintended consequence often results in legitimate, regulated platforms being supplanted by unregulated and potentially harmful alternative.

1130 - 1150	Dr Amar Patnaik , Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha in conversation with Mr Rohan Kochhar , Public Policy Professional
1150 - 1155	Nazrana
1155 - 1210	Awards

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

THE BIG HARDWARE PUSH

1210 - 1230



Mr Sameer Kochhar
Chairman
SKOCH Group



Dr Ajai Chowdhry
Co-Founder, HCL

Tech pioneer, Dr Ajai Chowdhry – commonly known as the Father of Indian Hardware – believes that policy push around manufacturing has set a fertile ground for transforming the country into a global powerhouse for electronics and semiconductor production. The conversation revolves around how a timely push has or will help the country grab a massive opportunity in the electronics hardware space. There is need to upgrade India to a product nation rather than focusing only on manufacturing.

How to make India Atmanirbhar in electronics, from design to manufacturing is what remains at the core of conversation between Dr Chowdhry and Mr Sameer Kochhar.



1210 - 1230	Dr Ajai Chowdhry , Co-Founder, HCL in conversation with Mr Sameer Kochhar , Chairman, SKOCH Group
1230 - 1235	Award & Acceptance
1235 - 1240	Nazrana

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

MAKE IN INDIA - AI FOR THE WORLD

1240 - 1300



Mr Rohan Kochhar
Public Policy Professional



Mr Abhishek Singh
Additional Secretary, MeitY

India stands at the forefront of the AI Revolution. The country leads the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence and champions responsible and ethical AI policies, addressing themes like Sustainable Agriculture and Collaborative AI. India has the potential to add \$1.2 Tn to \$1.5 Tn to its cumulated GDP between 2023-24 to 2029-30 with the potential to add \$359 Bn to \$438 Bn in 2029-30 alone. The conversation focuses on factors for making AI in India for the world that hinges on it's compute capacity. Leveraging AI prowess through collaborative approach addressing global challenges while ensuring responsible AI adoption within the country is an important part of the discussion.

Mr Rohan Kochhar in conversation with Mr Abhishek Singh finds out how AI impacts the job market and how India can ensure a smooth transition through reskilling and upskilling initiatives to remain a competitive talent hub for AI-related jobs while promoting inclusive growth.

1240 - 1300	Mr Abhishek Singh , Additional Secretary, MeitY in conversation with Mr Rohan Kochhar , Public Policy Professional
1300 - 1400	Lunch
1400 - 1405	Nazrana

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

POLICY FOR PROMOTING MSME'S

1405 - 1435



Dr Gursharan Dhanjal
Vice-Chairman
SKOCH Group



Mr Anil Bhardwaj
Secretary General
FISME



Dr Saibal Paul
Associate Director
Sa-Dhan

The role of MSMEs cannot be denied in making India Aatmanirbhar by 2047. Union Budget 2023-24 has earmarked Rs 22,138 crore for the MSME ministry, around 41.6 per cent higher than the preceding fiscal year. It presents a financial plan to address financial needs of the MSMEs. These businesses are recognised as the growth engine of the Indian economy as these contribute around 30% of India's GDP and provide employment to more than 110 million.

There are strong headwinds from the global economy that may impact the small businesses, which contributed more than 45% to India's exports last fiscal. There is need to conduct an impact assessment of the institutions and policies over the last couple of decades to help fresh thinking that may help mitigate the crisis and layout the path to 2047.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can emerge as a transformational force for MSMEs in e-commerce that may boost profits and make them more competitive. On the other hand, there are innovations using ML and AI enabling quicker and more informed lending decisions suitable to their credit needs.

The panel discusses the implications of the budget announcements, how to address their need for access to credit and how can the current institutional mechanism be improved to help strengthen the MSME sector.

1405 - 1435	Mr Anil Bhardwaj , Secretary General, FISME & Dr Saibal Paul , Associate Director, Sa-Dhan in conversation with Dr Gursharan Dhanjal , Vice-Chairman, SKOCH Group
1435 - 1440	Nazrana
1440 - 1500	Awards
1500 - 1505	Nazrana

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

RETHINKING MARKETS

1505 - 1525



Dr Gursharan Dhanjal
Vice-Chairman
SKOCH Group



Mr U K Sinha
Former Chairman
SEBI

The bullish narrative for the country's stock markets has gathered momentum as economies, geopolitics and policy have all aligned in its favour. The maturing of Indian stock markets is leading to increase in competition. It is important that there is level playing field for all the players. The conversation revolves around the theme of Rethinking Markets and includes how to make Indian markets more vibrant, safe and even more competitive. There is need for a connect between the real economy and markets. Similarly, it is important to de-risk the markets, widen the product portfolio and encourage more and more players. Additionally, there is also a need for MFs to bolster their presence on the exchanges equally to deepen liquidity.

Dr Gursharan Dhanjal, Vice-Chairman, of SKOCH Group tries to find answers to these and more in a conversation with Mr U K Sinha.

1505 - 1525

Mr U K Sinha, Former Chairman, SEBI
in conversation with **Dr Gursharan Dhanjal**, Vice-Chairman, SKOCH Group

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

LET'S TALK FINANCIAL LITERACY

1525 - 1545



Dr Gursharan Dhanjal
Vice-Chairman
SKOCH Group



Ms Monika Halan
Author

We work hard to earn our money. But regardless of how much we earn, the money worry never goes away. Then the question arises, wouldn't it be wonderful if our money worked for us just as we worked hard for it? What if we had a proven system to identify dud investment schemes? How to get a simple, jargon-free plan to get more value out of our money for tomorrow (insurance) and have a good life today as well? At the core remains something that we call sound financial planning that requires financial literacy. An important element of it is the cost of financial literacy and who would bear this cost?

Dr Gursharan Dhanjal converses with Ms Monika Halan, according to whom the answers in managing cash flow, building emergency fund, investments and retirement lie in financial literacy.



India's most trusted name in personal finance, Monika Halan offers you a feet-on-the-ground system to build financial security. Not a get-rich-quick guide, this book provides you a smarter way to live your dream life, rather than stay worried about the 'right' investment or 'perfect' insurance. Unlike many personal finance books, Let's Talk Money is written specifically for you, keeping the Indian context in mind.

1525 - 1545	Ms Monika Halan, Author in conversation with Dr Gursharan Dhanjal , Vice-Chairman, SKOCH Group
1545 - 1550	Award & Acceptance
1550 - 1600	Nazrana

Some speakers are subject to confirmation

A SWADESHI POLICY

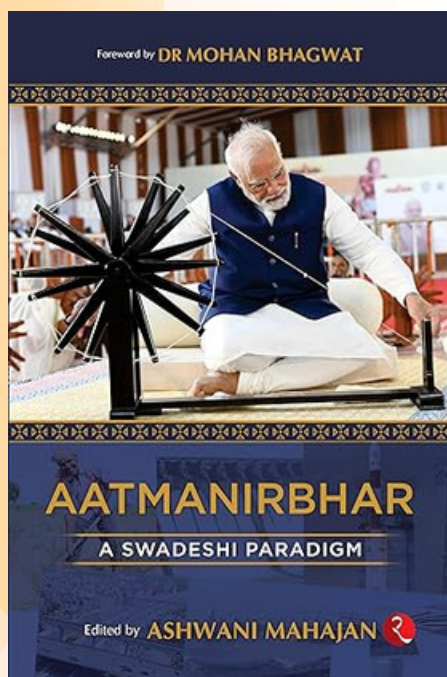
1600 - 1620



Mr Sameer Kochhar
Chairman
SKOCH Group



Dr Ashwani Mahajan
National Co-convenor Swadeshi
Jagran Manch



India's approach to globalisation over three decades ushered in a surge of companies that contributed to their respective countries' prosperity, simultaneously deepening India's reliance on overseas supplies. The pandemic laid bare the severity of this situation, highlighting the weaponisation of global instruments, particularly in the international payment system and the supply chain for essential materials. The growing influence of global powers caused many nations to lose confidence in the concept of globalisation.

At this pivotal moment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a resounding call—the AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

This new vision for self-reliance diverges significantly from earlier approaches. It centers on adopting best practices for global production while concurrently cultivating domestic capabilities to reduce dependence on imports. According to Prof Ashwini Mahajan, this strategy incorporates a blend of innovative measures, including production-linked incentive schemes and government-backed technological support. He is in conversation with Mr Sameer Kochhar and talks about a practical framework for revitalising industries impacted by inexpensive foreign goods.

1600 - 1620	Dr Ashwani Mahajan , National Co-convenor Swadeshi Jagran Manch in conversation with Mr Sameer Kochhar , Chairman, SKOCH Group
1620 - 1625	Award & Acceptance
1625 - 1630	Nazrana
1630 - 1730	Awards

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ABOUT SKOCH GROUP

SKOCH Group is India's leading think tank dealing with socio-economic issues with a focus on inclusive growth since 1997. The Group companies include a consulting wing, a media wing and a charitable foundation. SKOCH Group is able to bring an Indian felt-needs context to strategies and engages with Fortune-500 companies, State Owned Enterprises, Government to SMEs and Community-Based Organisations with equal ease. The repertoire of services includes field interventions, consultancy, research reports, impact assessments, policy briefs, books, journals, workshops and conferences. SKOCH Group has instituted India's highest independent civilian honours in the field of governance, finance, technology, economics and social sector.



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A 222, Sushant Lok-I, Gurgaon - 122001, Haryana, India
Tel: +91-124-4777444, Fax: +91-124-4777440
e-Mail: info@skoach.in, www.skoach.in

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