



Public Affairs Forum of India

Updates

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19 April 2024: Young PAFI—Policy Sparks: A Conversation with Chetan Krishnaswamy

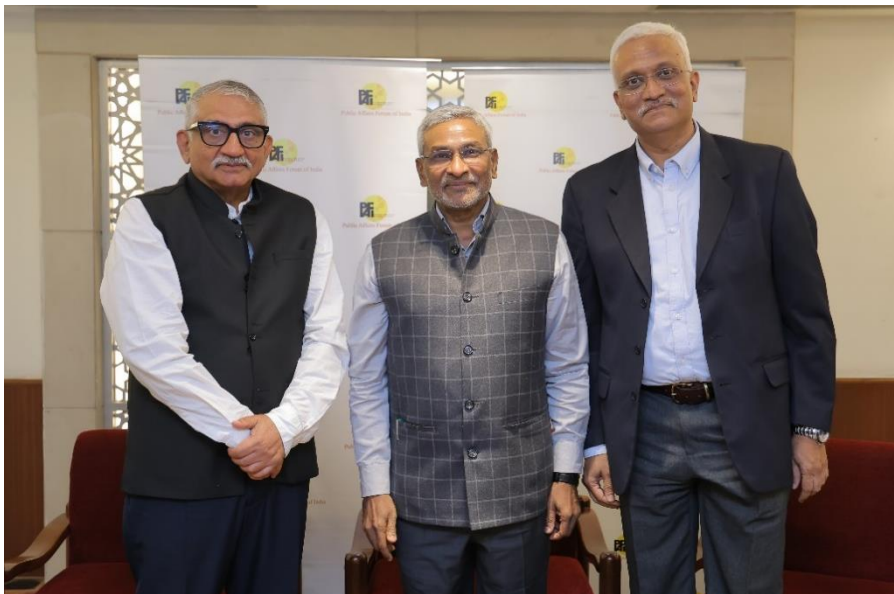
A conversation with Chetan Krishnaswamy, Vice President, PAFI and Vice President, Public Policy, Amazon India, on “Keeping Pace with the Tech Evolution: How to Engage with Regulators and Policymakers in a Fast-Evolving Space.”

“Policy Sparks—Igniting Conversations for Emerging Leaders” is a monthly series of intimate and closed-door sessions with senior policy professionals from the PAFI leadership aimed at the learning and development of young professionals.

For more, see [here](#).

26 April 2024: PAFI Dialogue with Dammu Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

A freewheeling discussion with Dammu Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on “Strategizing India’s Economic Rise Globally.” The



conversation, held under the Chatham House Rule, provided context for the objectives of the Government of India as well as priorities in areas of international trade, economic diplomacy and investments.

For more, see [here](#).

30 April 2024: Competition Law Newsletter – Volume 11

This volume of the newsletter features topical current issues including the release of Draft Digital Competition Bill, the Government’s proposal on the exemption of certain mergers and acquisitions from the approval of CCI, and many more.

For the current and earlier editions of the newsletter see [here](#).

2 May 2024: PAFI Dialogue with Shailesh K. Pathak, Secretary General, FICCI

A conversation with Shailesh K. Pathak, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, on the topic “FICCI’s Public Policies Plan for 2024-25.” The discussion under the Chatham House Rule highlighted the areas critical to economic growth identified by FICCI for representations to the government after the general elections.

For more, see [here](#).

10 May 2024: Presentation of Report: Public Affairs in India—An Evolving Landscape

PAFI's latest research that explores the state of public affairs as a profession in association with knowledge partner Indian School of Public Policy India was presented. The report audits the opportunities available in the profession and areas that need support. The report offers insights gathered through surveys and deep-dive interviews conducted with public affairs professionals working across organisations and sectors in India.

For more, see [here](#). Full text of the report available [here](#).

10 May 2024: PAFI Dialogue: Managing India's Growth Amidst Global Headwinds

Featuring Arun Kumar Singh, Former Ambassador to the United States, France and Israel and Ajay Bisaria, Former High Commissioner to Canada and Pakistan, and moderated by senior journalist Anil Padmanabhan, the conversation touched upon the challenges at home and abroad in meeting India's economic growth objectives. The session discussed issues, including the effect of collaborative frameworks like the iCET and the IPEF, the role that the private sector can play, and pathways to innovation and inclusive growth in India.



For more, see [here](#).

10 May 2024: PAFI Dialogue: Agenda 2024—Priorities for the New Government

The session, moderated by Rahul Sharma, Past President & Founding Member, PAFI, and Managing Director, APCO Worldwide, India, brought together Pranab Dhal Samanta, Executive Editor, Economic Times, Rezaul H Laskar, Foreign Affairs Editor, Hindustan Times,



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and T. S. Vishwanath, Director General, Past President & Founding Member, PAFI and Principal Adviser, ASL-Legal to discuss the key issues confronting India's new government following the 2024 general elections.



For more, see [here](#).

10 May 2024: Annual General Meeting 2024-25

PAFI's new office bearers for 2024-25 were announced in New Delhi on 10 May 2024.

Deepshikha Dharmaraj took over as the President of PAFI for 2024-25 from Vinita Sethi,



who completed her very successful tenure as President for 2023-24. Chetan Krishnaswamy, Vice President, Public Policy, Amazon India is the new Vice President. Medha Girotra, Vice President-Communications, Asia Pacific, Mastercard, is the new Secretary, and Shivnath Thukral, Director

and Head Public Policy, Meta India, is the new Treasurer.

For more, see [here](#). For Annual Report 2023-24 see [here](#).



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16 May 2024: Young PAFI—Policy Sparks: A Conversation with Rahul Sharma

A conversation with Rahul Sharma, Past President & Founding Member, PAFI and Managing Director, APCO Worldwide, India. On the topic “The Connection Between Politics and Policymaking”.

The conversation is part of a monthly series of freewheeling closed-door conversations aimed to provide young professionals with 5-7 years of experience an opportunity to interact with senior PAFI leadership and learn from them.

For more, see [here](#).

18-20 May 2024: PAFI on the Campaign Trail—Eastern Uttar Pradesh

A team of PAFI members visited Gorakhpur, Deoria and Kushinagar districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh between 18-20 May 2024, as part of PAFI on the Campaign Trail, an initiative



to expose members to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The team learnt about unique factors affecting the political contest in the region from candidates, sitting and former members of

Parliament, and electors. They immersed themselves in the political process, attended election rallies, and engaged with key voting groups, including local traders and political workers.

Under the aegis of Dharma Life, PAFI members met a group of women entrepreneurs who shared stories about their entrepreneurship endeavours and financial independence.



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In Deoria district, the team toured the Jagriti Entrepreneurship Centre where they were briefed about Jagriti Sewa Sansthan's initiatives to assist in innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship in Purvanchal.

Upcoming Events

24 May 2024: PAFI Members meeting—In-Person, in Mumbai

PAFI members are now spread across the country, in Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and all major cities. With this in mind, and to broadbase PAFI activities across cities, a meeting with PAFI members in Mumbai will be held on 24 May 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

For more details and to register, see [here](#).

24 May 2024: PAFI Dialogue with Mike Hankey, U.S. Consul General, Mumbai

Ahead of new administrations taking over in India and the United States, this in person PAFI Dialogue in Mumbai with Mike Hankey, U.S. Consul General, Mumbai, offers a window to discuss on principle-based policymaking and the priorities for public policy practitioners to take the relationship forward. The conversation aims to ignite dialogue on the following:

- What would successful partnering in policymaking with the new governments in India and the United States entail?
- How do we define the “principles” of principle-based policymaking that address areas of reform that will help lead to successful and sustainable business transactions and trade?
- How can policymaking in the two countries make the most of initiatives such as “Make in India” for a mutually beneficial relationship that helps develop people-centric policies that benefit domestic and U.S. companies alike?
- And finally, how can the flourishing start-up sector in the two countries contribute to this elevated partnership?

For more details and to register, see [here](#).

29 May 2024: PAFI Dialogue with Jonathan Heimer, Minister-Counselor, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi

For more details and to register, see [here](#).