



BHARUCH CSR CONCLAVE, 2017

*“Focusing the Regional CSR
perspective for better tomorrow”*

Monday, 18th September, 2017

Hotel RE:GEN:TA Central
Harimangla, Bharuch

Bharuch CSR Conclave, 2017: “Focusing the Regional CSR perspective for better tomorrow”

Introduction

In recent years, Indian businesses have seen the emergence of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) like never before. With the introduction of Companies Act, 2013, the mandate for CSR has been formally established through Section 135 and Schedule VII of the Act (also referred to as the CSR Rules, 2014), which has come into effect from 1st April 2014. To comply with the same, every company with a

- net worth of Rs. 500 crore or more OR
- turnover of Rs. 1,000 crore or more OR
- a net profit of Rs. 5 crore or more during any of three preceding financial years,

is required to spend at least 2% of their average net profit of last three preceding years on CSR. As per the CSR Rules, the provisions of CSR are not only applicable to Indian companies, but also applicable to branch and project offices of a foreign company in India.

In the present environment, businesses must find new ways to address the social, economic, and environmental impacts of doing business, while balancing the conflicting demands on their attention, time, and resources.

This, in fact, demands the alignment of CSR with business strategy to create a business that is sustainable in the truest sense. It is also important that the joint efforts be made to directly influence the public to achieve the fruits of overall social development.



Activities as per Schedule VII of Sec. 135 of the Companies Act (2013)



NEED

1. *CSR mandate has also been formally introduced to the dashboards of the board of PSUs / corporates with the passage of this act. What is clear is that if CSR spending is to achieve results on the ground (which is the intent of the Act), then the same needs to be done strategically, systematically and thoughtfully.*
2. *As the concept of CSR and its compliance takes shape over time, some gaps and several issues relating to rules and practices are constantly evolving, which requires a collective wisdom to discuss and debate the solutions as well as for knowledge dissemination and bringing improvements in current policies and practices.*
3. *Low participation and lack of managerial skills are also (due to no interference of outside knowledge) leading to the lesser impact of CSR spending.*

Seminars, conferences and conclaves, therefore, provide platforms to increase efficacy of efforts being carried out by corporates under CSR. Such educative events promote exchange of ideas, knowledge and experiences for benefiting participants of civil society, academia, public and private sector companies who are looking for innovative and practical solutions for the delivery of 'right' and 'quality' services in the CSR space.

About Gujarat CSR Authority

GCSRA was established in April 2015 as an institution chaired by the Honourable Chief Minister of the State with a mission to catalyse sustainable growth by creating an enabling environment for the corporate sector to work in partnership with the Government, and community based organizations in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility. The thrust areas of GCSRA are (a) addressing the issue of malnutrition, (b) improving the access of poor to low cost diagnostic healthcare and allied healthcare activities, (c) construction of community toilets, (d) skilling & livelihoods, and (e) promotion of entrepreneurship & innovation.

GCSRA also organizes seminars, conferences and training programmes for various stakeholders at large to make them aware about CSR. GCSRA organized its first National CSR Conclave and CSR Awards, 2017 on 9-10th March at Ahmedabad led by an objective to emerge as a catalyst to address some of the pressing challenges being faced by the state as a part of its long term initiative of knowledge dissemination. More than 300 delegates participated in the conclave to share, discuss and ideate on how the state and corporates could collaborate to provide an enabling environment to solve social challenges.

Major highlights of the conclave were as follows:

- Over 50 National speakers (with representation from **Ministry of Corporate affairs, Govt. of India and other State Secretaries**) with special focus on Health, Sanitation, Education and Entrepreneurship etc.
- Presented GCSRA CSR Awards (first of its kind state level awards) to recognize and acknowledge CSR work of corporates
- Releasing compendium of case stories on CSR activities of corporates within the state
- Launched a revamped version of GCSRA website by Honourable Governorshri of Gujarat during the Conclave
- Plenary sessions and panel discussions on different thematic areas of CSR



Bharuch CSR Conclave

INTRODUCTION

GCSRA is organizing **Bharuch CSR Conclave** on **18th September, 2017** at **Hotel RE:GEN:TA Central Harimangla, Bharuch** to further knowledge dissemination. This contextual and bottom up conclave would focus on the key findings of a needs and capacity assessment that GCSRA had conducted with a sample of companies at Surat cluster (Bharuch, Ankleshwar, Surat, Vapi etc.) in August last year, segregated by areas wherever possible. Key findings of the needs and capacity assessment are combined with the learning from **1st National CSR Conclave** to design this unique seminar to provide exposure to stakeholders on vivid areas of CSR.

This Regional Seminar would provide a platform to discuss the challenges at regional and state level for effective implementation of CSR and co-create an enabling environment with stakeholders to address some of the social and economic gaps. The discussions would revolve around creating a collective, collaborative and convergent forum for all the stakeholders with a view to strengthening partnerships for development and facilitate inclusive growth at regional level.



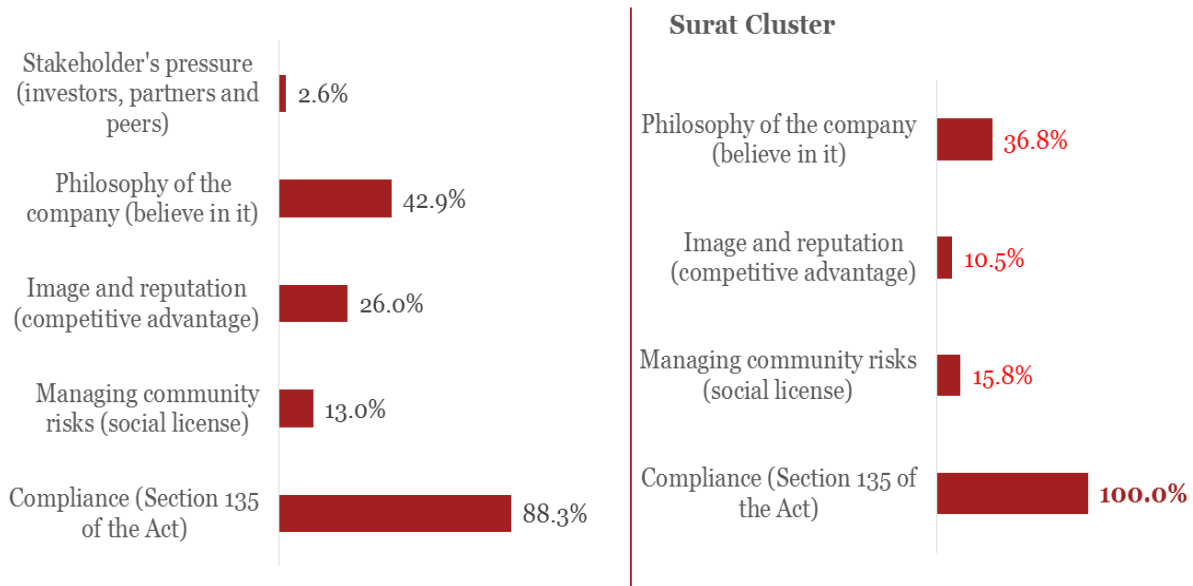
NEED ASSESSMENT AT SURAT CLUSTER

GCSRA had conducted CSR needs and capacity assessment with a sample of companies in Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat clusters to identify and document the challenges faced by companies while executing CSR projects and analyse the status of compliance w.r.t. CSR mandate as per the CSR rules last year.

Figure 1 depicts that the key CSR driver for SMEs at Surat cluster (Bharuch, Ankleshwar, Surat, Vapi etc.) is (a) Compliance as per Section 135 of the act (~100%) against the average rate (~88.3%.) of SMEs of Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat (overall).



Figure 1: Key CSR drivers for SMEs



Some of the interesting findings of needs and capacity assessment similar to above would be presented during the Bharuch CSR Conclave.

OBJECTIVES	KEY THEMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To orient the participants towards Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 Adopting constructive bottom-up approaches to discuss the best practices, current issues and development in CSR in the region as well as in the state To strategize for enhancing CSR impact in the region, by sharing, discussing and ideating on how the stakeholders can collaborate Discuss and share best practices for programme implementation and impact creation at regional level, through dissemination of state and national level experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on CSR needs and capacity assessment to highlight the Regional CSR perspective. CSR Governance and Policy development Strategy articulation and plan focusing on identifying the right sectors and geography Operationalizing the institutional mechanism Performance Measurement and disclosure

TARGET AUDIENCE

Large, Small & Medium Enterprises, state PSUs, banks/MNCs with operations at the Bharuch cluster in Gujarat. Participation would be strongly encouraged from following:

- Corporates (including their CEOs, strategy leaders, CSR managers, Company Secretaries etc.)
- NGO Heads and project leaders
- Social entrepreneurs, consultants working in the field of CSR and Research and academic institutions



KEY TAKEAWAYS



- *Dedicated time and space for networking opportunities with 150+ eminent industry experts, civil society stakeholders and other stakeholders from a particular region*
- *Potential Collaboration with GCSRA (CSR facilitator in the state) to get the advisory support in policy formulation, programme design and implementation at ground level etc.*
- *Understanding of views & perspectives of the Government and local administrative officials*
- *Clarifications on doubts / concerns through discussions with India's top CSR thought leaders / practitioners / experts / regulators*

PARTICIPATION FEES

The participant fees for this seminar is INR 5,900/-¹ (inclusive of @ 18 % GST) for mid and senior- level professionals. The above participation fees shall include (a) Conclave kit and badge, (b) Lunch, snacks and high-tea, (c) certificate of participation and (c) E-copies of the Seminar proceedings.

Registration

FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Participants need to submit registration form along with the payment transaction details. Payment of the above fees can be made via Bank transfer/Demand Draft/Cheque.

FOR PARTNERSHIP:

This seminar is expected to draw the participation of more than 150 delegates, across different stakeholder segments from across the country. This would be an opportunity to showcase offerings, initiatives, and solutions to effective target audiences at one platform. Organizations can come forward to support the event. Different categories of opportunities are available (refer Annexure).

Refer to the details below for payment:

Beneficiary Name	GUJARAT CSR AUTHORITY PROJECTS FUND
Bank Name	Corporation Bank
Branch Name	Navrangpura Branch, Ahmedabad
Account No.	033500101025116
IFSC Code	CORP0000335
Swift Code	CORPINBB335

¹This regional seminar aims for capacity building of its participants w.r.t. CSR. In this regard, it may further be noted that above fees can be factored in under the administrative expenses of the CSR budget of a company.



ANNEXURE 1: PARTNERSHIP PROPOSITIONS

This regional seminar will be attended by 150+ delegates across industry sectors and functional domains from different parts of the country. For organisations interested to engage with GCSRA from a visibility / partnership standpoint, the following opportunities are available:

CATEGORY	Gold Partner (1)	Silver Partners (3)
Partnership amount	Rs. 2, 00,000	Rs. 1, 50,000
Logo & visibility in final agenda/ brochure	Yes	Yes
Logo on the event poster in the Backdrop	Yes (Large)	Yes (Medium)
Logo positioning at GCSRA website and dedicated social networking pages	Yes	Yes
Exhibition table/ Stall (2*2 m)	Stall	Stall
Entry Passes (Can be passed on to partners/ affiliates/ clients etc.)	4 Passes	3 Passes
Standee with logo display on Final event poster	1 standee inside and 1 outside the seminar hall	1 standee inside and 1 outside the seminar hall
Promotional material in delegate kit	Yes	-
Participation in seminars of GCSRA at discounted rates	10% discounted rates	5% discounted rates
Free technical advisory services by GCSRA to help implement CSR	1 Year	6 months
Name on Lanyard (with GCSRA)	Yes	-
Access to GCSRA's publications and reports	Lifetime	Lifetime

ANNEXURE 2: TENTATIVE AGENDA

Particulars		Time
Registration		9:00-10:00
Session 1	Inaugural session	1hr
1	Welcoming delegates	10:00-10:15
2	Presentation on "The Regional CSR Perspective: Key findings of CSR needs and capacity assessment"	10:15-10:45
3	Theme address by the Chief Guest	10:45-11:00
Tea Break		11:00-11:30
Session 2	Panel Discussion on Policy development, Strategy articulation and Operationalisation	1 hr 45 m
1	Key note address on "The CSR Rules & Policy changes (with focus on CSR Committee, Policy, Schedule VII) and newer amendments"	11:30-12:00
3	Summary by the Chair, openhouse discussion and Moderated Q/A session	12:00-1:15
Lunch Break		01:15-02:15
Session 3	Panel Discussion on Performance measurement & disclosure (s)	1hr 15 m
1	Presentation on "Measuring the outcome and impact of the CSR projects"	02:15-02:45
	Summary by the Chair, openhouse discussion and Moderated Q/A session	02:45-03:30
High Tea		03:30-4:00
Session 4	Networking Session and Closing Ceremony	1hr 30 m
1	Way forward and Vote of thanks	04:00-04:10
2	Opening floor for one-to-one discussion with delegates, signing MoUs etc. (networking break)	04:10-05:30



ANNEXURE 3: GLIMPSE OF NATIONAL CSR CONCLAVE AND AWARDS ORGANIZED BY GCSRA ON 9-10TH MARCH, 2017



CONTACT

For further information, please contact: Mr. Subhash Advani (seminar_training@gcsra.org, subhashgcsra@gujarat.gov.in; 09636888599, 079 - 40192052).

