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2014.11.24

Smt Nirmala Sitharaman
Minister of State for Commerce & Industries (I/C)
Room No. 45, Udyog Bhawan
New Delhi 110107

Dear Nirmalaji,

Make in India and Ease of Doing Business

Greetings!

In regard the subject, I am pleased to send herewith three recent articles and one CUTS policy paper as per following, with the salient agenda points for action by the government to enable faster and smoother growth for your kind attention:

1. Will India ever change, Businessline, 7th November, 2014

- Establishing Task Forces at central and state level headed by Cabinet Ministers to push regulatory reforms with RIA as a work agenda
- Construction permits need to be accelerated at the municipal level by dialogue with the State governments which should include a stick and carrot approach
- Judicial delays need to be curbed by a purposive dialogue with the judiciary lead by senior lawyer ministers in the Government and similarly at the level of the States. Even ordinary citizens like you and me suffer from the vicissitudes of the delayed justice system, which is getting worse every day
- Activating the Inter State Council to conduct structured dialogue with the States to carry out the agreed reforms through an empowered committee of state industries ministers

2. An ombudsman for investor grievances, Businessline, 24th November, 2014

- Developing alternate grievance redressal systems for investors thus avoiding lengthy court procedures
- Creating an arms length and empowered Ombudsman for addressing problems of investors. The Banking Ombudsman has been doing well.

3. Aftercare—Reaching out to Investor Community, CUTS International, 15th September, 2012

This paper has been covered in brief in the above article, but depicts greater depth.

4. The administrative route to growth, Businessline, 27th October, 2014

- Implementation of the 2nd ARC Recommendations which includes weeding out civil servants after 20 years of service as in the armed forces (Goldman Sachs has estimated that this can add 0.9 per cent growth to our GDP, The Hindu, 22nd November copy enclosed)
- Domain specialisation and placement of civil servants
- Training and merit based promotion rather than seniority based automatic promotion
- Fool proof accountability for non or poor performance
- Lateral entry at senior levels including reviving the Industrial Management Pool
- Such reforms will help change the mindset of civil servants hugely which will enable India in its growth process.

Indeed, there are many flanking issues which need to be addressed simultaneously without which many of the good intentions and policies suffer from effective implementation.

If required, we will be happy to meet with the DIPP officials and/or you to take forward these ideas.

Yours sincerely,

with warm regners

Pradeep S Mehta

Cc:

- 1.Shri Arun Jaitley, Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, and Information & Broadcasting
- 2. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for Communications and IT
- 3. Shri Jayant Sinha, Minister of State, Ministry of Finance
- 4. Shri Nripendra Misra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India
- 5. Shri Rajiv Mehrishi, Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance
- 6. Shri Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Deptt of Industrial Policy & Promotion