



Indian American International Chamber of Commerce

*Promote and foster economic development of the United States of America,
Republic of India together with the rest of the world for the benefit of all*

Press Release

Recognizing Indian American International Chamber of Commerce (IAICC) as an important organization in promoting India-US trade relations, Phoenix, Arizona has declared December 20, 2019 as Indian American International Chamber of Commerce Day.

In a packed auditorium, the Hon. Kate Gallego, Mayor of Phoenix issued a Proclamation to that effect at the launch of the Arizona State Chapter at the Arizona State University (ASU), where prominent industry, government, academic, and community leaders from Phoenix, and other areas were present. IAICC partnered with the Consulate General of India in San Francisco and the ASU for hosting this launch.

Welcoming the launch, US Congressman from Arizona Ruben Gallego also issued a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, which was presented to the newly inaugurated IAICC Arizona State Chapter.

Stating that India is one of the closest allies of the US, Mayor Gallego, during her keynote address, said that through the new Chamber and its mission focused on inclusiveness and education of the public, Phoenix will now play a burgeoning role in the India-US relationship. Mayor Gallego often recognized and praised as an extraordinary friend of India and the Indian American community of Arizona, said she looks forward to visit India when ASU, a premier University for Innovation opens a hub in India.

Leaders who spoke at the launch not only immensely appreciated IAICC's novel initiative to open Chapters across the US to promote businesses but also vowed to deepen economic ties between India and the US.

Ambassador Panda, said there is an increasing strategic partnership between the US and India now. He also talked about the importance of the Indian American community as the bridge in the US-India relationship and that the community providing advocacy and education will help deepen the relationship.

"India is one of the fastest growing economies with a growth rate of 7.4 percent this year. Of course there have been some hiccups and tensions on trade with the GSP preferences, but with the bi-lateral relationship at around \$142 billion in goods and services, both sides have realized how unhelpful these are to the natural partnership," added Ambassador Panda.

Speaking on behalf of the Governor of Arizona, Mr. Doug Ducey, Mr. Paul Hughes, Executive Vice President, Arizona Commerce Authority, discussed the increasing number of Indian companies expanding in Arizona and how essential it is for Arizona to build strong international ties in order to attract strong foreign investment into Arizona. Mr. Paul further said that India's trade is increasing with Arizona and many new innovative and big ideas are being developed in areas such as cyber-security, financial-tech, and educational -tech among others.



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Mr. KV Kumar President & CEO, IAICC Executive Board said that his mission is to use all available resources through IAICC to promote and foster economic development between US-India together with the rest of the world for the benefit of all.

Further, Mr. Kumar praised Mayor Gallego, Ambassador Panda, Mr. Hughes and Ms. Patel for their support, and thanked the MCs and participants at the event. He also appreciated the work of IAICC Arizona State Chapter and commended the Chapter's Chair, Co-Chairs and board members.

During her speech, Ms. Safali Patel, Associate Vice President, ASU, who spoke about the increasing Indian student population at ASU, said ASU is an important long term partner for the IAICC's Arizona Chapter and both will work closely for the benefit of Indian students and to increase innovation, businesses and economic growth in the Arizona community.

All Speakers including Mayor Gallego, Ambassador Panda, Mr. Hughes, and Ms. Patel pledged their support for IAICC and Arizona Chapter. They also said the Chamber was launched at the right time in Arizona and commended Mr. Kumar, Arizona Chapter Chairman Gautam Shah, President Rano Singh Sidhu and the entire board.

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