



For Immediate Release:

His Excellency Mr. T.K.A. Nair Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India visits Minnesota and delivers a Keynote Address on Investment and Financing Opportunities in India at the Carlson School of Business.

Minneapolis: The India Chamber of Commerce (ICC), USA headquarter in Minneapolis received His Excellency Mr. T.K.A. Nair the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India, (Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister's Office), Government of India to the State of Minnesota on Thursday Sep. 22, 2011 with a warm welcome. The Principal Secretary and the Hon. Consul General of India in Chicago Mrs. Mukta Tomar was received by the ICC President and Director Mr. Seann Nelipinath and ICC Secretary Vineet Sinha.

Later in the evening Principal Secretary Mr. T.K.A. Nair and the Consul General Mukta Tomar met with the Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie, ICC President Seann Nelipinath, G.S. Pradeep Kumar, Chairman of Sree Chitra International Foundation (Thiruvananthapuram, India), and the ICC team (Paul Kuttikadan, Thomas McInerney, Vineet Sinha) at **Hotel Ivy Minneapolis**, to discuss business opportunities in India. The Principal Secretary said "the opportunities that India is looking to engage partners are mainly in the areas of power and energy sector, infrastructure and construction, medical, healthcare, manufacturing, technology and others". He also stated that "India acknowledges and welcomes the Chamber-private enterprises-government partnerships to move India forward". The Secretary of State expressed his appreciation on behalf of the State and thanked the Principal Secretary Mr. Nair for having accepted the India Chamber's invitation to visit Minnesota and mentioned "the State appreciates the opportunity and we look forward to working with the Chamber to build a strong partnership and assist businesses in Minnesota to tap opportunities and engage".

The Principal Secretary Mr. Nair met with a small contingent of CEOs at the **Minneapolis Club** in the morning on Friday Sep. 23 and later delivered a Keynote Address at the prestigious Carlson School of Business 3M Auditorium, University of Minnesota that was attended by key dignitaries, businesses, investors and entrepreneurs. The Mayor of Minneapolis R.T. Rybak welcomed the Principal Secretary to Minneapolis and felicitated the Chief Guest on behalf of Minneapolis and the Chamber. The Mayor mentioned that we look forward to building partnership with India and engaging in the growth.

The Principal Secretary in his keynote address at the **Carlson School of Business 3M Auditorium** spoke about the various opportunities in growing India and also mentioned various states and sectors that are growing and looking for business partners. "Waste management, power, constructions are some of the most sought after areas of today. Although businesses from several countries are entering India, US business has a significant advantage due to their knowledge, experience, investment capability and the new strong relationship between India and US". He complimented the India Chamber for its efforts and initiatives to bring US businesses and India closer and asked the chamber President to lead a delegation to India in the coming months in partnership with the Indian Consulate of Chicago. The keynote was followed by Q&A led by V.V. Chari PhD, Prof. of Economics at the University of Minnesota. The Consul General of Canada Martin Lokken mentioned "we look forward to engaging in business opportunities and building the US-India-Canada partnership" The event at Carlson was attended by several dignitaries and business leaders such as Mahendra Nath-Chairman, Nath Group of Companies, G.S. Pradeep Kumar- Chairman of Sree Chitra International Foundation-India, Ed Dieter from Trade Office, David Edmiston from US Commercial Services, Major Gregory Davis, US Army from "The Eagle" among others.

Later in the day the ICC President Mr. Nelipinath led a small delegation with the Principal Secretary Mr. Nair and the Consul General Tomar to **Medtronic world headquarters** and met with the senior executive leaders to understand business interests and explore potential partnership in India.

ICC is organizing a **Global Trade Summit in the US on Nov 3rd, 2011** focus on establishing B2B relationships between businesses from India, the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Kenya and other participating countries. The Global Trade Summit 2011 is being held in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota (USA) on November 3rd, 2011 and B2B site visits, partnership meetings on Nov. 4th, 2011. For more information please visit. www.indiachamber.org and click on Global Trade Summit or send an email to John Williams at connect@indiachamber.org.