

## CII Logistics Summit – 2020

### COVID-19: Challenges and Opportunities for Indian Logistics Sector

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to hold India under Lockdown, we are witnessing the most significant economic disruption in recent history. Today, the Logistics industry is facing three major challenges – *top line risks* triggered by demand and supply constraints, *operational stress* due to labour shortage and increased cost and *insolvency* due to working capital issues.

However, as the economy claws back, the Logistics industry will drive the economic revival and the challenges triggered due to COVID-19 are likely to accelerate latent trends that the sector has been witnessing – *deglobalisation, consolidation and digitisation*

In this context, this year's CII Logistics Summit aims to explore and debate on these trends with supporting case studies and to review the outlook for the logistics sector in India.

#### **Session 1: Deglobalisation – Restructuring of global supply chains and impact on India**

In recent years there has been a rising sentiment amongst countries to encourage localized production. Events like Brexit and US-China trade tensions have been disrupting global supply chains and COVID-19 has further exposed the vulnerability of just-in-time, global supply chains. There has been growing demand to provide enhanced resilience in terms of flexibility and redundancy by nearshoring. Below are topics for discussion:

- a. Global and domestic driving forces for realigning/ redesigning companies' supply chains
- b. Global trade overview and India's position - Can India emerge as China's substitute?
- c. Policy thrust areas and impact on driving India's global competitiveness
- d. Potential challenges and threats for India

#### **Session 2: Consolidation and emerging transformational themes**

Given the fragmented nature of the Indian logistics industry and with increasing presence of global players, consolidation has been a trending theme. Triggered by COVID-19, companies especially in the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) segment that lack diverse sector/ customer presence are likely to suffer the most. The emergent themes thereof will create opportunities for players to optimize/ diversify. Below are topics for discussion:

- a. Overview of logistics sub-segments and relevance of consolidation
- b. Key drivers for consolidation and outlook post COVID-19
- c. Opportunities resulting from consolidation: Multi-modal - Need to focus on multi-modal transportation solutions
- d. Opportunities resulting from consolidation: standardisation of logistics facilities and equipment

#### **Session 3: Digitisation and role of technology in logistics sector**

While significant emphasis has been laid on digitisation, current situation will drive the need to reduce cost and enable ease of access by integration. With tech-led innovative solutions and increased 'social distancing', digitisation is expected to gain pace and digital transformation and collaboration will emerge as the new standard. Below are topics for discussion:

- a. How will COVID-19 accelerate the digitisation trend?
- b. Implications of going digital – financial, business integration and societal
- c. Perspectives from a service provider community
- d. Perspectives from a user community