

Interactive session with
Shri Neeraj Kumar Gupta, IAS, Secretary, Department of Investment & Public
Asset Management, Ministry of Finance, Government of India
on **“India’s Disinvestment Plan”**
on Saturday, 02 December 2017 at 12.00 Noon at Pine Hall, The Park Hotel, Kolkata

PRESS RELEASE

Merchants’ Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized an Interactive Session on **“India’s Disinvestment Plan”** with **Shri Neeraj Kumar Gupta**, IAS, Secretary, Department of Investment & Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance, Government of India today.

Addressing the House Shri Gupta said that India had become the most attractive investment destination for FDI & FII with 8.6 billion in March 2017, which increased to 17.6 billion USD in April 2017. He also spoke about deep capital market emerging in India with 1.8 trillion USD market capital.

Outlining the strategic divestment plans of the current Government, Shri Gupta pointed out that there had been a paradigm shift in the divestment policies in the current Government with more stress on unleashing the potential and more resource mobilization. He said that the objective of disinvestment was not to make money, but to share resources with the shareholders and private players, for betterment of the economy.

He spoke of 3 tracks : 1stly, retaining majority shareholding of 51% for those companies where there would be less private interest, 2ndly, to unlock potential for around 2 dozens of companies, Government had decided to go for strategic sale, where both private equity and management could be given to private hands for better resource mobilization, without creating market distortions. 3rdly, use of ETF as a very attractive instrument, in about 6 industry verticals.

He also informed the House about listing of all major public sector companies as also of divestment of 25% in 3 years. Govt has plans for listing 13 companies and 4 companies have already listed.

The Government is viewing disinvestment as not only as a stake sale but increase private participation for more efficient management, bring more transparency and better oversight.

The Session was chaired by **Shri Ramesh Agarwal**, President, MCCI, who delivered the Welcome Address. He enquired about the status of disinvestment in CPSEs, particularly Air India and the prospects of disinvestment through ETF route.
