FEBRUARY - BUSINESS MEETING AND NETWORKING EVENT.

EB-5 Investment – New Sources for New Businesses and Development

The monthly business meeting for February will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 6:30 pm at 5300 W. Cypress St. Tampa, FL 33607. This month's topic will be **EB-5 Investment – New Sources for New Businesses and Development** - and will be presented by a panel of experts.

The Immigrant Investor Program, also known as "EB-5," was created by Congress in 1990 to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by immigrant investors by creating a new commercial enterprise or investing in a troubled business. In exchange, high net worth overseas investors get an available and expedient green card alternative. The result: More than $2 billion has been invested into American enterprises through EB-5 over the past four years, with more than 95 percent of it coming through EB-5 Regional Centers.

EB-5 program can be used in several scenarios. Its possible that you or someone you know might secure funding from investors in this manner or someone you know might be interested in investing through this program. Come join us and find out more. As always, the event is free and dinner will be served. Some of the valuable information discussed will be:

- What is the EB-5 Program?
- Preparing your business for EB-5 investment
- What are the costs?
- The role of economic analyses in EB-5
- What is a "Target Employment Area" and how does it affect EB-5?
- Developing an EB-5 business plan?
- What are the restrictions on your business when you have EB-5 investment?

Panelists include:

Hongling Han-Ralston, Managing Member, Law Offices of Han-Ralston, PLLC

Ms. Hongling Han-Ralston primarily practices in the areas of international business transactions, immigration, real estate and general commercial transactions. Ms. Han-Ralston is actively involved in the Tampa Bay business community and Asian Community. She is the immediate past President of the Asian American Chambers of Commerce of Tampa Bay, and sat on the Board of Directors of the World Trade Center Tampa Bay. She co-founded the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay, and served at the Board of Directors of the Suncoast Association of Chinese Americans.

Gar Lippincott, CEA Group, Senior Managing Director, Special Opportunity Funds

Alternative Asset Management

Gar joined the CEA Group in 2005 initially working on new fund concepts through Atlantic American. He currently serves as a Managing Principal with Atlantic American Opportunities Funds I and II ("AAOF"). AAOF represents the first state wide, professionally managed, diversified investment fund which is exclusively designed to allow foreign investors and their family members to qualify for a U.S residence Visa ("Green Card") by making an investment in AAOF. AAOF, in turn, invests in Job Creating Enterprises in Targeted Employment Areas throughout the state of Florida.

With best wishes, we bid farewell to our President Darshna Patel.

On behalf of Board of Directors and the Executive committee of the Indo-US Chamber of Commerce, we say a big "Thank You", to Darshna for her leadership, vision and tireless and enthusiastic service to our community. Darshna is the first female president of the organization and she has worked very hard to raise the bar in every aspect of the chamber's activities and provide value to its members. The work she has done and the structure she brought will continue to stay and help the organization continue to grow. We wish her best in her endeavors overseas.

Started or starting a new Business?

If you have started a new business or planning to start one, chamber events are perfect places to share experiences and learn from others. Indo-US chamber events and the relationships built there provides access to entrepreneurs, seasoned and successful business people, and an open forum for you to discuss your ideas, expand on them and to collaborate. The events are free and so is the membership. We urge you to come out and be a part of it. Together, the future is ours.

JANUARY 2014 EVENT ON BECOMING A KEY PERSON OF INFLUENCE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS.

Members enjoyed a sumptuous dinner served by Cilantro Indian Cuisine Tampa, followed by a very informative and exciting presentation by Topher Morrison.

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INDIAN INNOVATION: HOW TO ACCELERATE IN REVERSE

By Harvey Mackay

Recently, my fifth trip to India brought me face-to-face with non-stop contradictions. How could a land, primitive in large areas, elbow its way ahead to being the world's fourth largest economy?

At the Camel Fair in Pushkar, 50,000 camels – with their owners and traders – congregate for a colorful 17-day festival. That's down considerably from what I saw on my first Pushkar pilgrimage 30 years ago. Motorized options – India now ranks second in two-wheelers and third in small cars – are nudging the beasts aside. Still, the aroma just 50,000 camels can muster is unforgettable.

Check this juxtaposition: My wife and I were in a cart being pulled by a camel and led by a native driver. He had a very long rope guiding the camel in one hand, while he was talking on his cell phone with the other. That's India today!

The average camel stands 7'1" at the hump. That's exactly as tall as Shaquille O'Neal. Sound pretty big? Depends on your vantage point. Indians shrewdly adjust expectations versus results. An old Hindu adage holds: "When a camel is at the foot of a mountain then judge his height."

The Indian economy has advanced at 9-10% in recent years. Now it's slowed to 5-6%. Indians think they're in trouble . . . measuring that growth "camel" against the recent past. Hey, wouldn't we in the United States love to be in that sort of trouble?

The Young Presidents Organization/World President's Organization – 390 strong – journeyed to New Delhi for a recent university event. Indian executives, professionals and academics dazzled my colleagues and me with mind-blowing insights. Take Amity University – which I also visited. Its huge 20,000-student campus has another large campus snuggled close to it. The most stunning number is the one million avid learners Amity has enrolled in 240 programs on 40 campuses and six countries, plus online.

When I revisited the Gandhi Memorial Museum in Madurai, I was even more taken by this tribute to modern India's founding father than I was decades earlier. Emblazoned on the wall are Mahatma Gandhi's immortal words: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

Priceless wisdom for a continuous-learning freak as I am. India will need each one of those lessons as its population surpasses China's in the near future.

Awesome challenges foster incredible creativity. One of the smartest lessons in the Indian playbook is known as trickle-up or reverse innovation, described by Dartmouth professors Vijay Govindarajan and Chris Trimble.

Under CEO Jeff Immelt, GE has explored reverse innovation too. Here's how it works: Places like India develop inexpensive versions of high-cost technology and processes. These brainstorms are then remarketed back to "advanced" economies as low-cost options.

Does evidence support this ultimate switcheroo?

- According to a *Harvard Business Review* piece, a new wave of Indian hospitals emphasizes "world-class health care at ultralow cost" often through selective specialization done at high volumes.
- Throughout India, the electric grid is not efficient, hamstringing high-power electro-technology. Battery-powered medical instruments often do the job.
- In 2001, a massive earthquake struck India's state of Gujarat killing 2,000 and leaving 400,000 homeless. In response, CNN reported, "one young entrepreneur, Mansukhbhai Prajapati . . . designed a low-cost clay refrigerator which required no electricity and continued to function in the event of major catastrophes."
- Would the challenges of poverty eject India from the continuing global space race? In November, India launched MOM – the Mars Orbiter Mission. *Forbes* reports the venture will "make India the first Asian country, and the fourth in the world, to get to the planet." While richer nations book billions lost in space, India rigged up its Mars mission on a $75-million shoestring. Getting to "Mars on a budget" included carefully limited testing, low-cost rocket fuel technologies and acquiring older engine options.
- With 70 percent of its population rural, India has been at the forefront of solar-cooking solutions. These practical technologies are now drawing international attention.

Having once served as a Miss America pageant judge, I was fascinated to watch Nina Davuluri crowned as the first Miss America of Indian descent in September. Nina, who aspires to be a cardiologist, is a pragmatist. Winning an earlier pageant competition landed a scholarship enabling her "debt-free" college graduation.

Much is made of India being the largest democracy. While wonderful and true, another powerful bond binds America and India. It's one we Americans would all do well to relearn: India's passion for practical resourcefulness.

Mackay's Moral: *Trickle down-economics? India's trickling-UP . . . all the way to the bank!*

To your success, Harvey Mackay

INDO US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 12 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday March 7, 2014
Cheval Golf & Country Club

For sponsorship opportunities at the Golf tournament call Jal @813.451-8229

For more info and to register: www.indo-us.org

INDO US Chamber of Commerce "Together, the future is ours."

Upcoming Indo-US Chamber Event:

Business &Networking Event: EB-5 Investment – New Sources for New Businesses and Development

Date: Wednesday, February 19th, 2014

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Location: Homeowner's Choice Building Ballroom,
5300 W. Cypress St, Tampa FL 33607

This is a FREE event. Dinner will be served. No RSVP required.

12th Annual Golf Tournament

Date: Friday, March 7th 2014

Time: 12:00 Registration and Lunch, 1:00 pm Shotgun start

Location: Cheval Golf & Country Club.
4312 Cheval Blvd, Lutz, FL 33558

Register online at www.indo-us.org

INDO-US CHAMBER MISSION

"To provide an active forum in which Asian American professionals and business owners, through an exchange of ideas, with a unified voice, can communicate, interact, and secure a position within the business industry and become a source of inspiration by promoting professionalism and excellence through education and community involvement."

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