



PROGRESS

PULSE

July & Aug 2025

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



Dear Friends,

The month of July was fully occupied with preparations for the much-anticipated Summit on "Industrial Relations and Labour Laws (IR & LL)."

We are pleased to share that the Summit, held on Friday, 1st August 2025, at Banyan Hall, Chitnavis Centre, Civil Lines, Nagpur, was a resounding success, with a packed hall and enthusiastic participation from across sectors.

Organized by the Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED), the Summit brought together industry leaders, legal experts, policymakers, and IR professionals to engage in meaningful discussions on the evolving landscape of industrial relations and labour legislation.

The Inaugural Session was graced by Hon'ble Adv. Shri Ashish Jaiswal, Minister of State for Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Justice, Labour, Government of Maharashtra, and MLA, Ramtek Assembly Constituency. His presence added immense value to the event, reflecting the government's strong commitment to fostering a collaborative and conducive industrial environment.

In his keynote address, Shri Jaiswal stressed the importance of partnership between industry and government to enhance industrial relations and ensure effective compliance with labour laws.

The Summit served as a vibrant platform for sharing success stories, case studies, and best practices from professionals who have adeptly navigated the changing dynamics of industrial relations.

A special note of appreciation goes to Project Director Adv. Harish Thakur for his leadership in coordinating the Summit, and heartfelt thanks to all VED Members and association representatives whose presence and support contributed to the event's success. We are also pleased to report that, over the past two months, VED has successfully welcomed 12 new members to the Council. Notably, the highest number of recommendation came from Mr. B. K. Shukla, Vice President, VED—our sincere thanks to him and Varun Vijaywargi, Mohammed Master & Aatish Jindal encouraged new participation.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to taking tangible steps toward the economic development of Vidarbha. Your continued involvement and support are essential in building a strong, united platform for progress.

Dhanyawad!

Rina Sinha
President

HIGHLIGHTS

**VED Recognized by
Central Central GST
office**

**1ST
JULY
2025**

**Meeting on Organising
Industrial Relations and
Labour Laws (IR & LL)
Summit**

**4TH
JULY
2025**

**Executive Committee
Meeting**

**25TH
JULY
2025**

HIGHLIGHTS

**1ST
AUGUST
2025**

**Industrial Relations
and Labour Laws (IR &
LL)**

**Income Tax Exemption
Process Meeting**

**4ST
AUGUST
2025**

**22TH
AUGUST
2025**

**Executive Committee
Meeting**

VANAMATI Sabhagruha

**24TH
AUGUST
2025**

**25TH
AUGUST
2025**

General Meeting

Meeting on Organising Industrial Relations and Labour Laws (IR & LL) Summit

Date: 4th July 2025

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Smt. Rupadevi Daga Hall | VED Council Office



Executive Committee Meeting

Date: 25 July 2025,

Time: 5.00 P.M.

Venue: Smt Rupadevi Daga Hall | VED Office



SUMMIT ON “INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOUR LAWS (IR & LL)” SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES IN NAGPUR

THE VIDARBHA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (VED) SUCCESSFULLY HOSTED A LANDMARK SUMMIT ON “INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOUR LAWS (IR & LL)” ON 1ST AUGUST 2025 AT THE PRESTIGIOUS BANYAN HALL, CHITNAVIS CENTRE, NAGPUR. THE EVENT WAS CONCEIVED AS A PLATFORM TO EXPLORE THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOUR LEGISLATION IN INDIA, ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF VIDARBHA’S ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS.

BRINGING TOGETHER A DYNAMIC MIX OF INDUSTRY LEADERS, LEGAL PROFESSIONALS, POLICYMAKERS, AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS EXPERTS, THE SUMMIT AIMED TO FOSTER CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE, SHARE BEST PRACTICES, AND ADDRESS KEY CHALLENGES RELATED TO LABOUR COMPLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL HARMONY.

THE EVENT WAS INAUGURATED BY HON’BLE ADV. SHRI ASHISH JAISWAL, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING, AGRICULTURE, RELIEF AND REHABILITATION, LAW AND JUSTICE, LABOUR, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, AND MLA, RAMTEK ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY. HIS PRESENCE ADDED SIGNIFICANT WEIGHT TO THE PROCEEDINGS, UNDERSCORING THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS IN THE REGION.

IN HIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS, HON’BLE SHRI JAISWAL EMPHASIZED THE CRITICAL NEED FOR INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF LABOUR LAWS AND TO FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INDUSTRIAL PEACE.

MS. RINA SINHA, PRESIDENT OF VED, OUTLINED THE PURPOSE AND VISION BEHIND THE SUMMIT, STATING:

THIS CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD TO ATTRACT INVESTORS TO THE REGION, DISPEL MYTHS SURROUNDING LABOUR LAWS, AND STRENGTHEN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

SHE ALSO HIGHLIGHTED VED’S ENDURING EFFORTS OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS TO SUPPORT VIDARBHA’S DEVELOPMENT, PRESENTING THE COUNCIL’S STRATEGIC VISION, “VIDARBHA 2030!”—A ROADMAP AIMED AT SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION.

SUMMIT SESSIONS

SESSION 1: INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

THIS SESSION FEATURED HIGH-LEVEL INSIGHTS FROM A DISTINGUISHED PANEL OF SPEAKERS:

DR. M. K. SHARMA, CEO, BAJAJ STEEL

MR. K. V. DAHIPHALKAR, ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER - LABOUR, NAGPUR

MR. NITIN SHRIVASTAVA, DIRECTOR – WORKS, RAYMOND UCO DENIM PVT. LTD.

ADV. HARISH THAKUR, PROJECT DIRECTOR

MR. NITIN SUDAME, FOUNDER & MD, SPACEWOOD OFFICE SOLUTIONS

MR. AMIT DHAWAN, VP – OPERATIONS, HNI OFFICE INDIA LTD.

SUMMIT ON “INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOUR LAWS (IR & LL)” SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES IN NAGPUR

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT

- * FACILITATE DIALOGUE BETWEEN INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS, LEGAL EXPERTS, AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES
- * DISPEL PREVAILING MYTHS ABOUT LABOUR LAWS, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AND ENTREPRENEURS
- * PROVIDE MSMEs, STARTUPS, AND IR PROFESSIONALS WITH ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS TO BUILD RESILIENT AND COMPLIANT WORKPLACES
- * STRENGTHEN THE NARRATIVE OF VIDARBHA AS AN INVESTMENT-FRIENDLY DESTINATION

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE SUMMIT WAS SMOOTHLY AND EFFECTIVELY COORDINATED BY PROJECT DIRECTOR ADV. HARISH THAKUR.

VOTE OF THANKS WAS DELIVERED BY MR. ALIASGER WAGH, JOINT SECRETARY, VED THE EVENT WAS ANCHORED BY MR. ASHISH SHARMA, SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO SERVED AS MASTER OF CEREMONY

THE EVENT WITNESSED THE PARTICIPATION OF SEVERAL PROMINENT VED MEMBERS AND DIGNITARIES, INCLUDING:

RINA SINHA, PRESIDENT, VED
DEVENDRA PAREKH, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
SHIVKUMAR RAO, PAST PRESIDENT
BHUPESH SHUKLA AND PANKAJ MAHAJAN, VICE PRESIDENTS
NIDHI GANDHI, AATISH JINDAL, MOHAMMED MASTER, MANISH AURANGABADKAR, PREMLATA SABOO, AND OTHER ACTIVE VED MEMBERS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS.

THE IR & LL SUMMIT CONCLUDED ON A HIGH NOTE, HAVING SUCCESSFULLY FULFILLED ITS OBJECTIVES OF KNOWLEDGE-SHARING, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND POLICY DIALOGUE. THE CLOSING REMARKS BY ADV. HARISH THAKUR REITERATED THE COUNCIL'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, LEGAL COMPLIANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN VIDARBHA.

THIS SUMMIT MARKS A SIGNIFICANT STEP UNDER VED'S VISION 2030, AIMING TO POSITION VIDARBHA AS A VIBRANT, INVESTOR-FRIENDLY REGION WITH ROBUST INDUSTRIAL PRACTICES AND FORWARD-LOOKING LABOUR POLICIES.









Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Fri., 22nd Aug 2025

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Smt. Rupadevi Daga Hall | VED Council Office



VANAMATI SABHAGRUHA



On behalf of VED, President - Rina Sinha and VED, Vice-President, Pankaj Mahajan - Honouring Distinguished Personalities – Shri Balasaheb Kulkarni, Senior Reporter & Thinker, and Dr. Satish Gogulwar, Renowned Social Worker, for their Remarkable Contributions to Social Work at the Sarthak Foundation Felicitation Program.



Felicitation Ceremony – On behalf of VED, proudly Honouring Young Grandmaster Ms. Divya Deshmukh at the Sarthak Foundation Felicitation Program.

General Meeting

Date: Sat., 30th Aug 2025

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: Smt. Rupadevi Daga Hall | VED Council Office



CA Day and GST Day: A shared responsibility

By CA Varun Vijaywargi

AS WE celebrate CA Day alongside GST Day, it's important to reflect on the evolving role of Chartered Accountants in a self-assessment tax regime like GST.

GST is built on trust - taxpayers assess and pay their own tax liabilities. Trust alone isn't enough - it must be backed by expert advice and responsible regulatory checks. CAs play a crucial role in interpreting complex laws, ensuring compliance, and helping businesses adopt tax positions that are legally defensible. At the same time, GST authorities have a duty to question positions—especially where multiple views exist.

Scrutiny should not be seen as mistrust, but as part of a healthy, evolving system.

Clients must place their trust in CAs - not just for filing returns, but for sound judgment and risk-aware advice. Our role is not to find shortcuts but to guide businesses through grey areas with clarity and caution.

Today, indirect tax compliance is not limited to GST. With growing international trade, Customs, the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), and non-tariff barriers are becoming critical focus areas.

Compliance here is vital for operational continuity and global competitiveness.

As professionals, we remain committed to upholding trust, transparency, and excellence—supporting businesses while reinforcing the integrity of India's tax framework.



CA Varun Vijaywargi

Kickstart Process To Grant Metro City Tag To Nagpur: Fuke Writes To Fadnavis

VED Council Backs Initiative

Nagpur: MLC Parbaty Fuke on Thursday wrote to CM Devendra Fadnis requesting to kickstart the process for Nagpur to be officially tagged as a 'metro city', something which will bring in multiple benefits for the area apart from boosting rights.

The power to reclassify any city as "X" category, or a metro city, lies with the central govt's Directorate of Census Operations.

While having a 30 lakh plus population is needed to be reclassified as "X" city, the central govt's Urban Agglomeration (UA) clause allows population of neighbouring urban areas to be included. This means that areas like Nandgaon etc can be included in census of Nagpur city, thus propelling it to metro city tag.

Fuke in his letter said, "Despite Nagpur being the second capital of Maharashtra, it has not yet received metro city status from the central govt."

VED Council Backs Initiative

VED Council has always maintained that if it times Nagpur gets to due by getting a metro tag as it fulfills all conditions of CA clause," said Shiba.

"We can easily achieve the 30 lakh population with the peripheral towns which are very much a part of Nagpur."

VED Council approves to further its application to the authorities making Nagpur the next metro city in the country. The premise of being called a metro city is due for us Nagpurians."

The Urban Agglomeration (UA) clause of the Census Department allows adjoining urban areas to be counted as part of a city's total population when determining eligibility for metro city status. For inclusion under UA, the growth must be contiguous, without rural gaps, and the adjoining areas must have urban infrastructure. This provision is used to account for suburban and peri urban regions that would be integrated with the main city. Once applied, the combined population of the core city and its adjoining urban areas can help meet the 30 lakh benchmark required for metro city classification. The Census Department assesses and certifies UA status.

An X category city is a classification used also for determining allowances like House Rent Allowance (HRA) and Transport Allowance for central government employees.

Cities with a population of 30 lakh and above, as per the Census Department, are categorised as X category. This status directly impacts employee benefits and service conditions.

Adv. Ashish Jaiswal, Minister of State for Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Justice, Labour, Government of Maharashtra, will be the chief guest of the function.

The summit aims to bring together key stakeholders, including industry leaders, legal experts, and policymakers, to deliberate on the evolving landscape of industrial relations and labour laws, says a press release issued here by VED.

Adv. Harish Thakur, Member of the VED Council, is the Project Director for this esteemed event.

CITY STARES AT WATER CUTS AS KANHAN RIVER CHOKES INTAKE WELLS

COMMODITY	PRICE	CHANGE
COFFEE	33.8	32.9
TEA	32.6	32
SHRIMP	32	31.4
WHEAT	31.2	31
SOYABEAN	30.8	30
WHEAT	30	28.2

WHEN WILL MY AIRPORT TAKE OFF?

Clear Hurdles For Nagpur's Growth, Urge Associations

Private Partner Was Always The Plan: Pratul Patel

Grounded by Red Tape

Why is Airport Lease Deed Pending Since 2011? Industry Fears City Losing Edge

₹1 Deal Delay: Nagpur Airport Revamp Wobbles

Million Dollar Question: Why is Airport Lease Deed Pending Since 2011? Industry Fears City Losing Edge

₹1 Deal Delay: Nagpur Airport Revamp Wobbles

WHEN WILL MY AIRPORT TAKE OFF?

Clear Hurdles For Nagpur's Growth, Urge Associations

Private Partner Was Always The Plan: Pratul Patel

Grounded by Red Tape

Why is Airport Lease Deed Pending Since 2011? Industry Fears City Losing Edge

₹1 Deal Delay: Nagpur Airport Revamp Wobbles

TheHitavada
Nagpur City Line | 2025-08-01 | Page-6
ehitavada.com

VED's IR&LL summit today at Chitnavis Centre

THE Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED) is organising summit on "Industrial Relations and Labour Laws (IR&LL), August 1 at 5:30 pm at Banyan Hall, Chitnavis Centre, Civil Lines in the city.

Adv. Ashish Jaiswal, Minister of State for Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Justice, Labour, Government of Maharashtra, will be the chief guest of the function.

The summit aims to bring together key stakeholders, including industry leaders, legal experts, and policymakers, to deliberate on the evolving landscape of industrial relations and labour laws, says a press release issued here by VED.

Adv. Harish Thakur, Member of the VED Council, is the Project Director for this esteemed event.

Powered by Bharati Web

PRESS

&

MEDIA

Jaiswal bats for reforms in land acquisition, fair wages

VED holds summit on 'Industrial Relations and Labour Laws'

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK
NAGPUR

A draft policy for land acquisition for industrial purposes is currently being prepared and will be introduced soon. Additionally, efforts are being made to classify mining as an industry to facilitate land acquisition in that sector as well, stated Adv. Ashish Jaiswal, Minister of State for Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Justice, Labour, Government of Maharashtra, and MLA from Ramtek.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the Summit on Industrial Relations and Labour Laws organized by the Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED) on Friday at the Chitnavis Centre. Jaiswal highlighted the existing challenges in industrial land acquisition. "Currently, individuals cannot purchase land for industries and must lease it. A draft to simplify this is being prepared and will be introduced soon," he said. He also proposed a provision to waive stamp duty



Minister of State for Finance Adv. Ashish Jaiswal speaking during programme organised by VED on Friday.

for buyers and income tax for sellers in cases of mutual land sale. Calling for just treatment of workers, Jaiswal emphasized the need for "fair wages" in addition to the existing Minimum Wages Act to avoid frequent strikes and ensure harmony. The summit focused on fostering healthy employer-employee relations to boost industrial growth and employment. Experts stressed balancing the interests of both

management and labour within the legal framework to maintain a peaceful work environment. VED president Rina Sinha stated that the objective of organizing such summits is to bring about a positive impact, with the goal of reforming labour laws in a way that attracts more industries to the region. The first session on Industrial Relations featured speakers like Dr. M.K. Sharma (CEO, Bajaj Steel), K.V. Dahiphalkar (Addl. Commissioner - Labour, Nag-

pur), Adv. Harish Thakur, Nitin Shrivastava (Raymond UCO Denim), and Nitin Sudame (Founder & MD Space-wood Office Solutions) and Amit Dhawan (VP-Operations, HNI Office India Ltd).

Session 2 featured a panel discussion with prominent HR and legal experts, including Sanjay Deo, CEO of Wise HR Managers; Deepak Mehanekar, General Manager - HR, Transrail, Nagpur; Adv. Ninad Almelkar, President of the Vidarbha Law Practitioners Association, Nagpur; and Adv. Feroz Khan, the association's Secretary.

Project director Adv. Harish Thakur said the summit aimed to raise awareness among regional industries about legal aspects and highlight the importance of strong employer-employee relations to minimize industrial disputes. Prominent attendees included VED President Rina Sinha, Secretary General Ashish Sharma, Project Director Adv. Harish Thakur, Devendra Parekh, Shivkumar Rao, Bhupesh Shukla, Pankaj Mahajan, Aliasger Wagh and others from Vidarbha's industrial and legal fraternity.

VED hosts summit on IR&LL



Business Reporter

THE Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED) hosted a comprehensive summit on "Industrial Relations and Labour Laws (IR&LL)" recently here in the city. Inaugural session was graced by the chief guest Adv. Ashish Jaiswal, Minister of State for Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Justice, labour, Maharashtra State.

On occasion Jaiswal addressed the audience, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts between industry and Government to strengthen industrial relations and ensure compliance with labour laws.

In her address, President

Rina Sinha said, "This conference is being held to attract investors to the region, dispel myths surrounding Labour Laws, and strengthen Industrial Relations."

Devendra Parekh, Immediate Past President; Shivkumar Rao, Past President; Bhupesh Shukla, Vice President; Pankaj Mahajan, Vice President; Nidhi Gandhi, Aatish Jindal, Mohammed Master, Manish Aurangabadkar, Premlata VED Members and representatives from various associations were also present.

Adv. Harish Thakur coordinated the event while Aliasger Wagh, Joint Secretary, proposed the vote of thanks. The Master of Ceremony was Ashish Sharma, Secretary General.

Jaiswal drafts policy to allow direct land purchase for Maha industries

Shishir Arya
@timesofindia.com

WHAT THE DRAFT SAYS

► Permit direct land purchases, instead of going by the Land Acquisition Act, which calls for paying a four-time rate

► Giving full ownership of the land to an industry

► Any company planning to buy land parcels to be allowed to buy through mutual negotiations with landholders

'Dispute-free environment can attract investments'

A cordial environment can attract investments, ultimately leading to the region's development, VED president Rina Sinha said. Harish Thakur, a labour lawyer and VED's project director on industrial relations, said the objective of the event was to stress on importance of having amicable relationship with the workforce.

Direct purchase would eliminate obligations such as job provision to displaced persons and resettlement or rehabilitation, which are mandatory under the Land Acquisition Act, he said.

Speaking at a Vidarbha Economic Development Council meeting on in-

dustrial relations, Jaiswal added existing tax benefits — exemption from stamp duty and capital gains tax — should extend to direct purchase deals. VED members supported the proposal.

He is also drafting a fair wages policy, allowing calculation of retirement wages at

joining, factoring inflation. Additionally, he is pursuing industry status for mining to extend sectoral benefits. Citing CM Devendra Fadnavis, Jaiswal assured that wrongful harassment of industries won't be tolerated, and inaction by officials will invite strict consequences.





PROGRESS PULSE

VED MAG

A NEW BEGINNING

EDITOR TEAM

EDITOR : ALIASGER WAGH

PRESIDENT : RINA SINHA

SECRETARY GENERAL : ASHISH SHARMA