



Press Release

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CAIT launched National Digital Nagrik Forum to digitalise traders and consumers

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) today announced the creation of a National Digital Nagrik Forum, an online platform that aims to advance the rights of traders and consumers and other sections of the society and shape policy discourse around digital economy trade in India with a view to contribute to the Government of India's vision of creating a trillion-dollar digital economy while maintaining an open, safe, trusted and accountable internet ecosystem.

The forum aims to raise awareness about digital regulations and help build capacities of citizens to engage with innovation via expert sessions and instructional materials. To make strategy on this issue and other critical trade issues, the CAIT has convened a two days National Traders Conference at Raipur on 24-25 August which will be attended by trade leaders from all States

CAIT National President Shri B C Bhartia & Secretary General Shri Praveen Khandelwal said that the National Digital Nagrik Forum will focus on five core themes. First, consumer protection and online safety which with a core focus on efficient grievance redressal. Second, the pitfalls of digital cartelisation and how a level-playing field is necessary to discourage discriminatory and anti-competitive practices in the online world.

Third, the potential of Indian digital technologies to not only transform retail and industrial trade, but also boost employment and expand the investment footprint. Fourth, a first principles-based taxation policy that encourages certainty and productivity especially for sectors with high growth potential while preventing illegal activities such as tax evasion and money laundering.

Finally, the Digital Nagrik Forum will study emerging technologies such as blockchain and artificial intelligence, to assess their impact on retail trade and, at the same time safeguard consumers' interests.

"The National Digital Nagrik Forum will work assiduously to help realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of 'Digital India' vision. It will also play a pivotal role to help the government fulfill its agenda to making an Atmanirbhar Bharat in its journey to becoming \$1 trillion digital economy over the next few years.", said both trade leaders.

"CAIT will involve stakeholders from the corporate and non-corporate sectors, MSMEs, farmers, consumer, experts and technocrats, among other relevant groups within the Forum," Shri Khandelwal added.

The National Digital Nagrik Forum will conduct awareness camps, digital and physical dialogues and trainings, as well as targeted outreach to stakeholders from government, private sector and civil society, including policymakers and other relevant stakeholders at the state-level towards realising its objectives.

For more details, please contact CAIT Secretary General Mr. Praveen Khandelwal at +91-9891015165