

## Inaugural Session



Ashesh Amin, Director, Apparel & Retail, SKNL

**“In another 40 years from now, we would hopefully have come full circle and our GDP would probably be 30 per cent of the world's GDP.”**

About 200 years back India's GDP was 33 per cent of the world's GDP. In another 40 years from now, we would hopefully have come full circle and our GDP would probably be 30 per cent of the world's GDP.

This is the opportunity the textile and apparel industry has. India today has the opportunity to grow exponentially. The challenge is how do we go out there and fill in the vacuum for high end products. Top quality factories or mills are dying out in the west because their costs have gone very high.

Now jobs are going where the people are. Money is going where the markets are. As an industry we should evaluate what the market is, and what is the potential of various products within the industry that we have.

We should ramp up in the area of technical textiles as fast as the other countries have. Another area is organized retail and how this industry supports organized retail. The key to that is supply chain, logistics, speed to the market and the ability to understand what will sell and what won't sell.

As you go along the conference you will find various topics selected by the TAI team. The theme of the conference could not have been more apt than what it is today.