



INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Press Release**

**Interactive Session**  
with  
**Ms. Shikha Mehra**  
on  
**“Future of Cryptocurrency”**

**Kolkata, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2018: “How Government defines Bitcoin will have a large impact on the future of P2P money in India”**

**“Bitcoin is the internet of value. It is democratizing money, the same way internet has democratized information.”**

**– Ms. Shikha Mehra, Certified Bitcoin Professional & co-founder of MainChain**

At the Interactive Session on “Future of Cryptocurrency”, organized by the **Young Leaders Forum, Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC)** in Kolkata today, **Ms. Shikha Mehra**, Certified Bitcoin Professional & co-founder of MainChain mentioned that Bitcoin is decentralized, unregulated digital currency, backed by the strength of Internet, cryptography and faith of the community, which can be used as a medium of exchange. Ms. Mehra talked about the underlying technology of Bitcoin blockchain and briefly discussed about the evolution of money and value, from bullion to the present fiat currency. She opined that money has now taken the form of data, which is a big leap in terms of efficiency due to a host of factors like lower transaction costs, transparency and absence of third-party Interruptions, to name a few.

Addressing the concerns of the industry about the security of Bitcoin, she informed that cryptocurrency is collaboratively managed by people across the world and the Bitcoin transaction is recorded through distributed ledger technology. Touching upon Satoshi Nakamoto’s paper, she informed the audience that Bitcoin follows a cryptographic protocol that allows micro payments but prevents identity theft. Stressing the fact that value of money has always depended on the faith of the community, she categorically stated that Bitcoin increases transparency through decentralization. Talking about the adoptability of Bitcoins, Ms. Mehra informed that Japan has officially legalized the cryptocurrency, while the United States, countries of European Union, Canada, Singapore and Australia is supportive of the cryptocurrency movement.

**Mr. Keshav Bhajanka, Chairman—Young Leaders Forum and Executive Director, Century Ply** introduced and welcomed the speaker. In his welcome address, Mr. Bhajanka shared some of the interesting facts associated with Bitcoin transaction, the risks and rewards associated with it. He

mentioned that there are over 1000 cryptocurrencies in operation at the moment, and briefly discussed about the effect of blockchain technology on the current and new business models in the payments industry in the world.

**Mr. Mudit Beriwal, Core Group Member, Young Leaders Forum, ICC** offered the formal Vote of Thanks.

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