



Newsletter



Look East

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from the desk of the PRESIDENT

4th March 2011



Dear Member,

We have moved into the third month of 2011 and the final month of the current financial year. In our respective businesses, this is one of the busiest times of the year. It was no different for The Bengal Chamber.

While, our regular "Think..." interface with a leading personality continued with Shri Partha Bhattacharyya, Chairman, Coal India Limited being our invited speaker, we also forged a partnership with the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) by signing a MoU to further enhance collaboration opportunities between Europe and India, with special focus on the East. The main focus of this MoU was clean technology transfer and development in India. It gives me great pleasure to share with you the news that your Chamber is perceived by our partners and stakeholders as the leading forum in the Eastern Region for discussing and strategizing Climate Change mitigation action and the role of industry / business. The day the MoU was signed with EBTC, a curtain-raiser programme for the Chamber's signature Environment and Energy Conclave was also organized with EBTC. Addressed by the EU Ambassador, President, Eurochambres and Principal Secretary, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal, it was truly a very apt programme to launch the Chamber's work in the energy and environment realms this year.

We have partnered a number of other organizations, including The Economic Times, in holding events and in keeping with our commitment to include industry elsewhere in the State in our programmes and activities, we held a very relevant HR/IR workshop in Haldia. An eclectic 2010-2011 comes to an end. I am sure that 2011-2012 will be even more exciting and eventful.

Sd/-
SANDIPAN CHAKRAVORTY
President

NEWS FLASH

On 30th January 2011 at a programme held at the Taj Bengal, the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (Howrah Chapter) presented a special award to The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry recognizing our pioneering contribution to business, commerce and industry. Shri Dinesh Trivedi, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare was the Chief Guest.

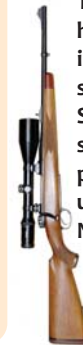


▲ Mr. P Roy, Director General of the Bengal Chamber receiving the award

▲ Mr. P. Roy addressing the conference of ICWAI

NEWS FLASH

Response Group, in association with The Bengal Chamber and Pailan Group, organized a **Musical programme** on 11th February, 2010 at Nazrul Mancha on the occasion of the 25th Death Anniversary of Gouri Prasanna Majumder. Leading artistes like Prosenjit Chatterjee, Saheb Chatterjee, Haimanti Shukla, Bappi Lahiri, Bickram Ghosh, and others graced the occasion.



The Bengal Chamber has played a lead role in arranging the sponsorship by Tata Steel for training in shooting for two promising underprivileged NCC girl cadets.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

The Bengal Chamber and KKN Group present, in association with The Telegraph, the Third Edition of Think Series of Lectures – Mr. Paranjay Guha Thakurta to speak on "Corruption in Indian Media", 9th March 2011, Palladian Lounge, Chamber premises

JIS Group Educational Initiatives to launch a Directory which would help students passing out of Schools / Colleges to plan their future course for Higher Studies in a comprehensive fashion. Book being launched in association with The Bengal Chamber, 11th March 2011, Chamber premises

NEWS FLASH

We are pleased to announce that this year at its 46th Annual Convocation on 2nd April 2011, a meritorious student of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Calcutta will be awarded the prestigious "Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry Medal", which the Chamber is sponsoring in keeping with the practice initiated in the previous year.

The Chamber has always come forward to recognize the achievements of young scholars and students. Knowing this, the Indian Institute of Management had written to us requesting us to repeat last year's contribution.



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

PROGRAMMES

BENGAL CHAMBER AND KKN PRESENT THINK SERIES IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE TELEGRAPH: "TRANSFORMATION OF COAL INDIA", ADDRESS BY SHRI P S BHATTACHARYYA, CHAIRMAN, COAL INDIA LIMITED

7TH FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES

The Bengal Chamber and KKN Group, in association with The Telegraph, organized the second of the "Think" series of lectures on 7th February 2011 in the Chamber premises.

Shri Partha S Bhattacharyya, Chairman, Coal India, addressed the august gathering. Shri Bhattacharyya spoke on "Transformation of Coal India". Speaking on the occasion, Shri Bhattacharyya elaborated, in details, how Coal

India transformed itself from a perennially loss making concern to a "Navratna" Company over a period of 20 years. Shri Bhattacharyya elaborated the role of the Government, the strict internal measures undertaken by the Company, as also how the organization managed its finances to create a positive financial situation for itself over a period of time. Speaking during an interaction with the members of the Chamber and the media later on, Shri Bhattacharyya observed that he felt

Coal India would not be in a position to grow "more than 2%" in the current fiscal as well as 2011-2012 due to a year-long ban imposed by the Environment Ministry on expansion of any projects in certain industrial clusters. This ban would continue to be in effect till March 2011.

On this occasion, the Chamber also felicitated Shri Bhattacharyya for his outstanding contribution to industry.



▲ Mr. Kausshik Kumar Nath, Director, KKN Group, presenting a bouquet to Shri Partha S Bhattacharyya, Chairman, Coal India Ltd.



▲ Mr. Harsh K. Jha, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber



▲ Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, President, The Bengal Chamber, drapes the traditional "Uttorio" on Shri Partha S Bhattacharyya, Chairman, Coal India Ltd. during the latter's felicitation

PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (WITH EBTC)

16TH FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES



▲ Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, second from right and Mr. Poul V Jensen (second from left) signing the MoU between The Bengal Chamber and EBTC as H.E. Danièle Smadja and Mr. Alessandro Barberis look on

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) presented a very relevant seminar, "Perspectives on Climate Negotiations and Clean Technology" on 16th February 2011 in the Chamber premises. The speakers included H.E. Danièle Smadja, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to India, Mr. Alessandro Barberis, President, EUROCHAMBRES, Mr. Poul V Jensen, Director, European Business and Technology Centre and Shri M K De, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal.

Earlier in the day, EBTC launched its centre in Kolkata, to promote business, research and technological cooperation in the Energy and Environmental fields. This was the third centre for EBTC in the country, after Delhi and Mumbai.

The Centre would build synergies among the Chambers of Commerce of EU Member States already established in the region and work together with the existing European business associations in India and Europe. It would also interface between public policy makers and private players, raising awareness about existing European programmes in the field of Science and Technology as well as business and industry cooperation. Speaking on the occasion H.E. Danièle Smadja said "We expect the new centre to further foster links between European and Indian businesses as well as between Science and Technology players with the view to promote the EU interests and respond to the demands of the Indian market. Through this centre we reiterate our commitment to promote sustainable clean

technologies in India, and in particular in this part of the country."

EBTC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Bengal Chamber to further enhance collaboration opportunities between Europe and India, with special focus on the East. The main focus of this MoU was clean technology transfer and development in India. Main beneficiaries would be organizations and firms located in Europe

and India willing to develop strategic business alliances and joint research projects, and interested in sourcing cutting-edge technologies and related competencies which were not available in their locality. Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, President, The Bengal Chamber, further adding to this collaboration, said "The Bengal Chamber has played a pioneering role and has assumed leadership position in addressing climate change mitigation efforts from industry in this part of the country. In this effort, we are working with industry, the Government, the Academia and Civil Society. Our partnership with EBTC will be instrumental in realizing our objective of addressing Climate Change mitigation efforts in business and industry as part of a business strategy of corporates, in which we look at becoming environmentally sound, energy efficient



▲ Mr. Poul V Jensen, Director, European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) addressing the seminar during the Opening Session

PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (WITH EBTC)

16TH FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES

and consuming less energy as a means of becoming more competitive, more profitable.”

The programme on 16th February was most relevant since it addressed the ramifications of the recently held UNFCCC conducted negotiations of the Conference of Parties (COP) at Cancun and its impact on the development of clean technology. It also served as the curtain-raiser for the Chamber's Environment and Energy Conclave to be held in August 2011.

The seminar included a technical session, following the signing of the MOU, which was chaired by Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Hon. Consul, Sweden, Chairman, Flakt (India) Ltd., and Past President, The Bengal Chamber. As part of the session, Shri S P Gon Chaudhuri, Advisor, Renewable Energy,

Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal made a detailed presentation on “Entrepreneurship Development in Green Energy”, while Mr. Prabir Chatteraj, Additional Director & Chief Coordinator (ER), Petroleum Conservation Research Association spoke on “Cleaner technology options for India in energy conservation – An overview”. Mr. Suman Lahiri, Regional Manager, EBTC made a presentation, “EU-India collaborations – A Technology Focus”.

The programme was attended by industry representatives, researchers and scientists from leading universities and research institutions and NGOs.



▲ At the lectern: Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber, Hon. Consul of Sweden and Chairman, Flakt (India) Limited making his theme presentation as the Session Chairperson at the start of the Technical Session



Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee of the Bengal Chamber delivering the Vote of Thanks at the conclusion of the Opening Session

Mr. Alessandro Barberis, President, EUROCHAMBRES ▼



◀ Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber moderating the Opening Session

Shri M K De, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal speaking about initiatives in power and energy in West Bengal

H.E. Danièle Smadja, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to India addressing the audience



Mr. Alope Mookherjea presenting a memento to Shri S P Gon Chaudhuri, Advisor, Renewable Energy, Department of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, GoWB (right) ▶



▶ The President of the Chamber and the Director of EBTC shaking hands after signing the MoU



◀ The audience

WORKSHOP ON “PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT – BEHAVIOURAL & ATTITUDINAL PERSPECTIVES”

22ND FEBRUARY 2011, DR MEGHNAD SAHA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HALDIA

In keeping with the Chamber's commitment to take its programmes to industrial zones in West Bengal outside Kolkata and its objective of focusing on excellence in HR/IR practices, the HR/IR Committee of the Bengal Chamber organized the workshop on “Productivity Improvement – Behavioural and Attitudinal Perspectives” in Haldia. The programme was targeted at workers and supervisors working mainly at the shop floor. The objective of

the workshop was to enlighten employees regarding their importance in the organization in improving the productivity through “behavioural and attitudinal perspectives”. Besides, the workshop made the participants aware of the use of 5s in the organization.

Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Co-Chairperson, HR/IR Committee of the Chamber and Senior Vice President, HR, Admin & PR, DPSC Limited inaugurated the

workshop and presided over the session. The speakers for the workshop were Dr. H N Gupta, Former HOD, Applied Psychology Department, University of Calcutta and Consultant, Industrial Psychology, who was the Keynote Speaker; Mr. Sukumar Mitra, Senior General Manager, Plant HR & Admin, Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd. and Mr A K Misra, Chief Operating Officer, Tata Steel Ltd, Hooghly Met Coke Division, Haldia. Mr.



Dr. H N Gupta during his session ▲

22ND FEBRUARY 2011, DR MEGHNA SAHA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HALDIA

WORKSHOP ON “PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT – BEHAVIOURAL & ATTITUDINAL PERSPECTIVES”



L-R: Mr. Sukumar Mitra, Senior General Manager, Plant HR & Admin, Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd.; Dr. H N Gupta, Former HOD, Applied Psychology Department, University of Calcutta and Consultant, Industrial Psychology; Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Co-Chairperson, HR / IR Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. A K Misra, Chief Operating Officer, Tata Steel Ltd, Hooghly Met Coke Division



The audience

Abhirup Sarkar, Manager, MCC PTA India Corp Private Limited, Haldia and Mr Debashis Dutta, HOD, Post Diploma in Petrochemical Engineering, Dr. Meghna Saha Institute of Technology, Haldia were the other

speakers. The Quality Circle Team of Electrosteel Castings Ltd. made a presentation. The total number of participants in the workshop was 80.

RAJIV GANDHI DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BENGAL CHAMBER & ECONOMIC TIMES, PRESENTED A SEMINAR ON “WEST BENGAL’S ECONOMY – PRESENT & FUTURE – NEED FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH”

23RD FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES

A symposium titled “West Bengal’s Economy, Present & Future – Need for Inclusive Growth” was organized on 23rd February by the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, in association with The Bengal Chamber and The Economic Times. Speakers of note like Dr. Manas Bhunia, President, West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee; Justice Shyamal Sen, Former Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court; Mr. Sanjay Budhia, CMD, Patton Group; Dr. Sugata Marjit, Director, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences; Dr. R P Banerjee, Director and Dean, EILM; Mr Harsh Jha, MD, Tata Metaliks and Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr.

Suparna Pathak, Economic Editor, Anandabazar Patrika and Mr. Ramendu Chattopadhyay, CMD, Tower Group spoke on the occasion, while Dr. Suman Mukherjee, eminent economist, moderated the session. At the end of the deliberations, everyone was of the opinion that the present political situation in West Bengal would be more ideal for inclusive growth, if enmity, hatred, mistrust and violence could be ruled out. The general view amongst the panelists was that given the intrinsic potential of the state, the culture of growth could be made positive in the state.



The programme in progress. At the podium: Justice Shyamal Sen. Seated (L-R): Mr. Sanjay Budhia, Dr. R P Banerjee, Dr. Manas Bhunia, Dr. Suman Mukherjee, Dr. Sugata Marjit, Mr Harsh Jha

25TH FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES

THE BENGAL CHAMBER SUPPORTED CMA MANAGEMENT DAY CELEBRATIONS: PANEL DISCUSSION ON “BUILDING SUSTAINABLE INDIAN MULTINATIONALS”



Calcutta Management Association, which is the oldest local management association in the country, celebrated this year’s Management Day by organizing a Panel Discussion on the theme -“BUILDING SUSTAINABLE INDIAN MULTINATIONALS”. The Bengal Chamber supported the programme. The speakers in the programme were Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Chairman,

The panel of speakers

Flakt India Ltd; Mr. Ajay Kr Mishra, Head – Exports, Tata Steel Ltd; Mr. Subimal Mondal, DGM – HR, Indian Oil Corp; Mr. Rajarshi Sengupta, Executive Director, Deloitte & Touche Consulting and Mr. Alokesh Banerjee, Sr General Manager, United Spirits Ltd. The discussions were moderated by Mr Sumit Ray, COO of Embee Software Ltd.



28TH FEBRUARY 2011, CHAMBER PREMISES

UNION BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

Viewing the live telecast of the Union Budget (L-R): Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. S Radhakrishnan, Past President; Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, President; Mr. Harsh K Jha, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber

The session in progress



Members of the Bengal Chamber viewed the live telecast of the Union Budget as it was being presented by the Finance Minister in Delhi. This was followed by a Media Conference at which the Chamber shared its views on the Budget with members of the media.

EVENT AT THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE

10th February 2011

An evening of 'Neo Folk Art of Bengal' & Jazz Rock Indian Classical Fusion Music by Tejas Art Gallery & KENDRAKA



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