



**from the desk of the
PRESIDENT**

Dear Member, 12 October, 2012

My heartiest greetings to you and your family for the festive season!

It has been a privilege for me to take over the Chamber Presidency for the current year at the 158th AGM of our Chamber held in September and it gives me great pleasure to address you for the first time this year. I would need your support, advice and guidance as we steer this historic institution through the complexities of the current economic and business order. I would, therefore, request your feedback on the Chamber's programmes and activities so that we can add more value to our services and bring to you programmes and activities that would create relevant fora for you to network, share best practices and learn about new strategies, technologies and business plans.

The Chamber is aligning its activities this year in sync with the global and local realities governing the world of economics and business. We are very well aware of the responsible and pragmatic role that we are expected to play and in this we shall always adhere to the principles, which we believe are in the best interests of the State and the Nation. There are a number of policies of critical importance, which can alter, for the better, the economic fortunes of our State. As the year progresses we shall, through our research, analysis and focused activities, delve deeper into such issues and policies such that we take that vital step towards realizing the ultimate goal of a prosperous and happy West Bengal.

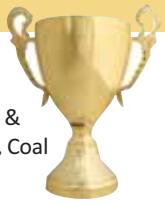
Sd/-
Kallol Datta
President

NEWS FLASH

CIL DIRECTOR WINS AWARD



Congratulations to Shri R Mohan Das, Director (Personnel & Industrial Relations), Coal India Limited and a Member of the Managing Committee of The Bengal Chamber, who was recently conferred the coveted "HR Leadership Award" jointly by the Institute of Public Enterprises (IPE) and Asia Pacific HRM congress in Bangalore at an official awards ceremony. Shri Mohan Das was also honoured with a citation on inclusion of his name as one of the "Most Powerful HR Professionals of India".



NEWS FLASH

In keeping with its commitment to CSR activities, the Chamber has donated one computer to Shri Debashis Dasgupta for his son's study. Mr. Dasgupta's son will appear for Madhyamik next year.



▲ Computer donation. Caption: Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber (Right) donating the PC.

MEMBERS' NEWS CORNER

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to mjunction services limited, The Institute of Cost Accountants of India and Tirumala Seven Hills Pvt. Ltd. whose applications for membership were tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on 12th September 2012.

NEWS FLASH

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRSE

**RAKSHAMANTRI'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR
BEST PERFORMING SHIPYARD**
05 October, 2012 - DRDO Auditorium, New Delhi



GARDEN REACH SHIPBUILDERS & ENGINEERS LTD



Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata has been selected as the "Best Performing Shipyard" in the country for the year 2010-11. Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, Shri A K Antony conferred the award to Rear Admiral (Retd) A.K.Verma, VSM, Chairman & Managing Director of GRSE at DRDO Auditorium, New Delhi on 5th October 2012 in the presence of



functional Directors, workers' representatives & other dignitaries.

The award has been bestowed on GRSE for its steadfast pursuit of excellence, total customer satisfaction and enhanced productivity through sustained research and development and quality conscious approach by maximizing employee participation and adopting appropriate HRD programmes.

GRSE today is one of the finest shipyards in the world producing quality ships for the Indian

Navy and Indian Coast Guard. The Shipyard has produced **80 warships** for our armed forces and **700 other vessels** for commercial use. Presently, GRSE has an **order book of 21 Ships** which includes an **export order for Govt of Mauritius**. The Shipyard is also undertaking **modernization programme to double its production capabilities**.

We are proud to have Rear Admiral Verma as a Member of the Managing Committee of the Bengal Chamber.



NEWS FLASH

CHANGE IN OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE REMAINING TERM OF 2011-13



We would like to inform you that the following gentlemen will be the new Office Bearers of IFAPA for the remaining term of 2011-13:

Mr. Rajeev Singhal – Chairman

Mr. S.K. Patni – Vice Chairman

We wish them all the very best. Both represent member companies and Mr. Patni is also the Patron of the Bengal Chamber.

PROGRAMMES

INTERACTIVE SESSION ON FIRE AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE - CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

11TH SEPTEMBER 2012, CHAMBER PREMISES



▲ Mr. Ashoke Ghosh of PAB Engineers.

The HR/IR Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with PAB Engineers organized an Interactive Session on Fire & Safety Compliance – Challenges & Solutions on 11th September 2012 at the Williamson Magor Hall in the Chamber premises.

The session discussed the responsibilities and liabilities of different stakeholders in recent incidents of devastating fires – the Owners / Promoters / the Occupiers, the Workers, the Civic bodies or the

Administration. The session talked about the aspects that have now acquired immense urgency in larger public interests.

The Director General, West Bengal Fire and Emergency Services, was the Chief Guest who enlightened the delegates on the present scenario of fire and emergency services in West Bengal.

Expert speakers like Mr. Ashoke Kumar Ghosh, Managing Partner, PAB

Engineers spoke about Electrical Power as a base of all operations. Mr. Manik Ghosh, Ex-Chief Engineer WBSEDCL focused on Electrical Power & Safety. Shri K Basu, General Manager Marketing, PAB Engineers discussed Routine Maintenance Electrical System for Safety in Buildings / High Rise Buildings & Complexes. Mr. T K Mozumdar, Ex DDG DGMS Dhanbad, Advisor PAB Engineers made a presentation on Health Safety Management Productivity and business effectiveness. Mr. Swapan Bose, Ex-General Manager EIL, Advisor, PAB Engineers spoke about Construction & Maintenance Safety.



(L-R) Mr. P. Roy, Director General; Shri D.P. Tarenia, IPS, Director General, West Bengal Fire & Emergency Services; Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson, HR/IR Committee; Mr. S.K. Ghosh, Member, HR/IR Committee. ▲

Shri Anindya Sen, Managing Director, Flexitech Services Pvt Ltd., discussed Fire Safety covering Hydrants / Clearances on all the sides of Buildings / Highrise Buildings. Apart from these several case studies were also discussed.

Around 60 delegates from industry actively participated in this Interactive Session and made it successful.



▲ Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson, HR/IR Committee.

▲ Shri D.P. Tarenia, IPS, Director General, West Bengal Fire & Emergency Services addressing the audience.



MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR OF MALTA IN INDIA

11TH SEPTEMBER 2012

Her Excellency Theresa Cutajar, Ambassador of Malta in India met Mr. P Roy, Director General of the Bengal Chamber to discuss possible areas of cooperation with India and West Bengal and in which the Bengal Chamber could play a proactive role. The meeting was hosted by The Palladian Lounge.

L-R: Her Excellency Theresa Cutajar, Ambassador of Malta in India; Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber



INTERACTION WITH U KYAW SWE TINT, CONSUL GENERAL OF MYANMAR IN KOLKATA

12TH SEPTEMBER 2012, CHAMBER PREMISES



Seated on the dais (L-R): Mr. P. Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Harsh K Jha, President, The Bengal Chamber; U. Kyaw Swe Tint, Consul General, Myanmar Consulate General in Kolkata; Mr. Partha S Bhattacharyya, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and Mr. Kallol Datta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber.



Mr. Harsh K Jha presenting memento to U. Kyaw Swe Tint. Mr. Partha S Bhattacharyya is seated on the dais.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session with U. Kyaw Swe Tint, Consul General, Myanmar Consulate General in Kolkata and the Chamber's Managing Committee on 12th September 2012 at the Chamber, as part of Chamber's Global Trade and Investment Series of interactions. U. Kyaw Swe Tint addressed the members on 'Business Opportunities with Myanmar from this part of the country'.

His address highlighted the following points:

Myanmar is a fast changing country. Myanmar is peaceful and diverse with 135 different ethnic nationals in the country with so much to offer in terms of natural resources and energetic manpower in building a modern industrialized nation through agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy in the sphere of democratization. Being rich in natural resources and having 11.379 million hectares of Net Area Sown, Myanmar grows not only perennial plants, but also crops, such as rice, pulses and beans, fruits and vegetable and exports those products to international markets. Apart from four main rivers within the country, Myanmar has sea territory in the Bay of Bengal and consequently it is able to export fishery products, including fresh water fish and sea water fish. Myanmar also exports varieties of forestry products, including world famous teak. More than half of the country's area is still covered with natural forest along with the permanent forest estate area of 72764.83 square miles. Myanmar also possesses vast resources of oil and gas. Jade and gems and other semi precious stones are auctioned at gems emporiums held twice a year. Currently, there are more than 70 Indian companies and 65 Myanmar companies actively engaged in various trade and investment categories, namely, construction materials, timber and logs, pharmaceuticals, small machineries,

agricultural and industrial developments, engineering, electrical equipments, transport facilities, motor vehicle production, energy sector, computer and software, information technology outsourcing, graphics arts, hospital equipments, gems and jewelry.

Since 18 industrial zones along with 9589 small and medium sized enterprises have been established in different parts of the country, Myanmar has lucrative potentials in trade and investment sectors. Myanmar encourages foreign investors to invest in various sectors of Myanmar's economy. While Myanmar government is encouraging the private investment and entrepreneurial activity, the economy is being opened for foreign trade and investment. In order to oversee and administer the Foreign Direct Investment, the Myanmar Investment Commission was formed and it acts as the initial approving authority for investment proposals. Foreign investors can set up their business in the form of a foreign owned or a joint venture with any partner, a private company, a cooperative society or a state owned enterprise. In all joint ventures the minimum share of the foreign party is 35 percent of the total equity capital. Fairly trained manpower and skilled labour are available in Myanmar. Myanmar people are industrious and quick learners, thus representing a strong labour force. The labour cost in Myanmar is comparatively lower than that of other neighbouring countries. The country's banking system and the physical and digital infrastructural systems are being improved. Currently, the Government has been reviewing all the trade, investments, export import regulations and existing economic policies in order to be in line with the prevailing global condition and making necessary amendments, enacting new laws and regulations to create friendly investment environment to attract more foreign investors to Myanmar.

FELICITATION OF OLYMPIANS, MR. JOYDEEP KARMAKAR AND MR. RAHUL BANERJEE

12TH SEPTEMBER 2012, CHAMBER PREMISES

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry felicitated Olympians Joydeep Karmakar and Rahul Banerjee on 12th September 2012 at the Chamber. The Chamber thought it would be befitting to felicitate these promising sports personalities and recognize their efforts in making the nation proud. Mr. Joydeep Karmakar's outstanding performance (4th in Prone event) enriched the glory of Indian Shooting in the international paradigm at the London Olympics 2012. Mr. Rahul Banerjee represented the country with distinction at International Archery Meets and the London Olympics 2012. The initiative was appreciated by the members and widely covered by media.

(L-R): Mr. P. Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; U. Kyaw Swe Tint, Consul General, Myanmar Consulate General in Kolkata; Mr. Harsh K Jha, President, The Bengal Chamber; Olympian Rahul Banerjee; Mr. Partha S Bhattacharyya, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Olympian Joydeep Karmakar and Mr. Kallol Datta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber.



PROGRAMMES

BUSINESS NETWORKING DINNER WITH LEMENOX

14TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry with Lemenox (a growing PR consulting firm) commenced the networking meet series of events with the first event being held on the evening of 14th September. The networking evenings are primarily for the MSMEs and also for professionals and executives from different

sectors with objective of providing an informal forum for business networking such that organizations can grow their contacts and reach utilizing the Chamber platform. The first meet had around 30 participants and the feedback was very encouraging. More such evenings would be organized.

THE CHAMBER FELICITATED (WITH OTHER CHAMBERS) SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE, HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

15TH SEPTEMBER 2012, ICC AUDITORIUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER

28TH SEPTEMBER 2012, CHAMBER PREMISES



▲ On the dais (L-R): Janab Ghulam Mohammed Quader, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of Bangladesh; Shri Partha Chatterjee, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce and Industries, Public Enterprises, Industrial Reconstruction, Information Technology, Parliamentary Affairs, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Kallol Datta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (Independent Charge), Government of India.



▲ Mr. Kallol Datta greeting Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar



▲ Mr. Kallol Datta greeting Shri Partha Chatterjee

The 158th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry was held on 28th September 2012 at the Williamson Magor Hall in the Chamber.

The Public Session of the AGM was graced by Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (Independent Charge), Government of India; Janab Ghulam Mohammed Quader, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of Bangladesh and Shri Partha Chatterjee, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce and Industries, Public Enterprises, Industrial Reconstruction, Information Technology and Parliamentary Affairs. Smt. Abida Islam, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata was also present. Shri Ghatowar spoke on the growth, development and opportunities in the North East and Janab Quader, while highlighting the increased level of cooperation between India and Bangladesh, also brought to board the infrastructure and procedural inadequacies hampering trade. Shri Partha Chatterjee focused on the overall industrial and economic environment in West Bengal and the efforts by the Government to improve the business climate. Procedural

simplifications and policy interventions by the Government of West Bengal were highlighted. The Chamber provided a most relevant platform by bringing the representatives of this unique TRIAD – West Bengal, the North East and Bangladesh – together.

The AGM was followed by a Media Interaction.

In the Business Session, Mr. Kallol Datta, Chairman & Managing Director, Andrew Yule & Company Ltd; Dr. Alok Roy, Chairman, Medica Hospitals Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Executive Director and Regional Managing Partner (Consulting Leader, National), PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd. were elected the President, Senior Vice President and Vice President respectively. The Meeting was followed by a Cultural Programme in the evening and the Annual Dinner and Cocktails. The Cultural Programme was on 'Indian Folklore – A Tapestry – Music of Soil, Soul and the River'. The Concept, Script and Direction were by Ms. Subha Pal and the Music and Dance were choreographed by Mr. Subhashish Majumdar. The programme was presented by Corporate Monitor.



▶ Mr. Kallol Datta greeting Janab Ghulam Mohammed Quader (L). Shri Partha Chatterjee is in the middle.



◀ In conversation (L-R): Shri Partha Chatterjee and Mr. Kallol Datta

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER

**28TH SEPTEMBER 2012,
CHAMBER PREMISES**



▲ In conversation (L-R): Mr. Kallol Datta and Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar



▲ Mr. P Roy commencing the AGM. Seated on the dais (L-R): Janab Ghulam Mohammed Quader, Shri Partha Chatterjee, Mr. Kallol Datta and Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar.



▲ Some of the distinguished audience comprising of the Chamber's Past Presidents, Chief Patron, Members of the Managing Committee, Chairpersons / Co-Chairpersons of Committees, Initiatives and Task Forces, representatives of the Consular Corps and senior members of the Chamber among others.

MEETING WITH INTERNET SOCIETY

**8TH OCTOBER, 2012,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

Internet Society met The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 8th October 2012 at 6 p.m. in the Chamber. The meeting was attended by Mr. Rajneesh D Singh, Regional Bureau Manager, Asia, Internet Society; Mr. Andrew Dvorshak, Director, Membership and Services, Internet Society and Mr. Anupam Agarwal, Chairperson, Internet Society, Kolkata Chapter. The Chamber was represented by Mr. K K Mahapatra, ABP Pvt Ltd; Mr N K Ghosal, NKG and Associates and Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Senior Programme Manager, The Bengal Chamber. Mr. Mahapatra and Mr. Ghosal are key resourcepersons of the Information Technology Committee of the Chamber.

Internet Society proposed to the Chamber to sign an MOU with them on joint initiatives and activities. The Internet Society engages in a wide spectrum of Internet issues worldwide. Their objective is ensuring a healthy, sustainable Internet is available to everyone – today and for the next billion users.



▲ Meeting in progress (L-R): Mr. N K Ghosal, Cyber Security Expert of the IT Committee of the Bengal Chamber and Auditor; Mr. K K Mahapatra, Associate Vice President, IT Infrastructure (Business) & Infocom, ABP Pvt. Ltd.; Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Senior Programme Manager, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Andrew Dvorshak, Director, Membership and Services, Internet Society; Mr. Anupam Agarwal, Chairperson, Internet Society, Kolkata Chapter and Mr. Rajneesh D Singh, Regional Bureau Manager, Asia, Internet Society.

MEETING WITH MR. MERIN RAJADURAI, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT, INDIA DESK,

**10TH OCTOBER 2012,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

Mr. Merin Rajadurai from the India Desk of the United States State Department, Washington, D.C. met Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Co-Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee and Managing Director, Ghosh, Bose and Associates Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh of the Bengal Chamber Secretariat to

discuss a wide spectrum of issues ranging from the business climate, economic reforms, energy and sustainability issues confronting the State and the Country. Ms. Sangita Dey Chanda, Economic Specialist, US Consulate General, Kolkata was also present at the meeting.

(L-R): Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Co-Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Managing Director, Ghosh Bose and Associates Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Merin Rajadurai, US State Department, India Desk.



UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

- ▶ A Summit on Future of Education, 13th October 2012, Science City
- ▶ B2B Meet with Chinese Enterprises, 17th October 2012, Chamber premises
- ▶ Press Conference on the Chamber activities in the year ahead, 31st October 2012, Chamber premises
- ▶ Half-day Seminar on Look East Policy: Wake up call for Ports and Logistics, 2nd November 2012, Chamber premises
- ▶ The Bengal Chamber Award for Excellence in Manufacturing Practices of MSMEs, 21st November 2012, Chamber premises
- ▶ Application of Technology in Healthcare - Business Session and Exposition for the best solutions, 23rd November 2012, Chamber premises
- ▶ The Bengal Chamber Trophy Golf Meet, 1st December 2012, The Tollygunge Club

EVENTS AT

10th September 2012

THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE

19th September 2012

Romance with Tagore – Music, Poetry & Fashion

In our endeavor to pay homage to Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore for his immense contribution to the lives and culture of the Bengali people and in broader sense to all Indians in the art, culture and literature organized a concert of Music, Poetry, Fashion & Romance with Tagore. Honourable Transport Minister Shri Madan Mitra graced the occasion as chief guest along with Shri Shuvaprasanna.



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Art Exhibition & Auction for Oral School of Deaf



Shuvaprasanna & Mitsuo Kawaguchi graced the

“Ode to Brush”, an art exhibition and musical evening in association with Gallery Katyun. The Concert was in aid of The Oral School for deaf children, who also presented a small performance before the piano recital and recitation by Miss Rajlaxhmi & Saira Shah Halim respectively. Her Excellency Smt. Padmini Narayanan, Shri Japanese Consul General Mr. occasion as Guest of Honours.

29th September 2012

Theatre by Ms. Dolly Basu : Fairy tale Evening by Little Thespians of Choopkatha under the guidance of Ms. Dolly Basu



Cultural evening of drama based on Fairy Tale Stories performed by Little Thespians (Children with Special Needs) of Choopkatha under guidance of Ms. Dolly Basu

on 29th September 2012. Shri Biswadip Gupta, Past President, The Bengal Chamber graced the occasion as chief guest along with his wife.