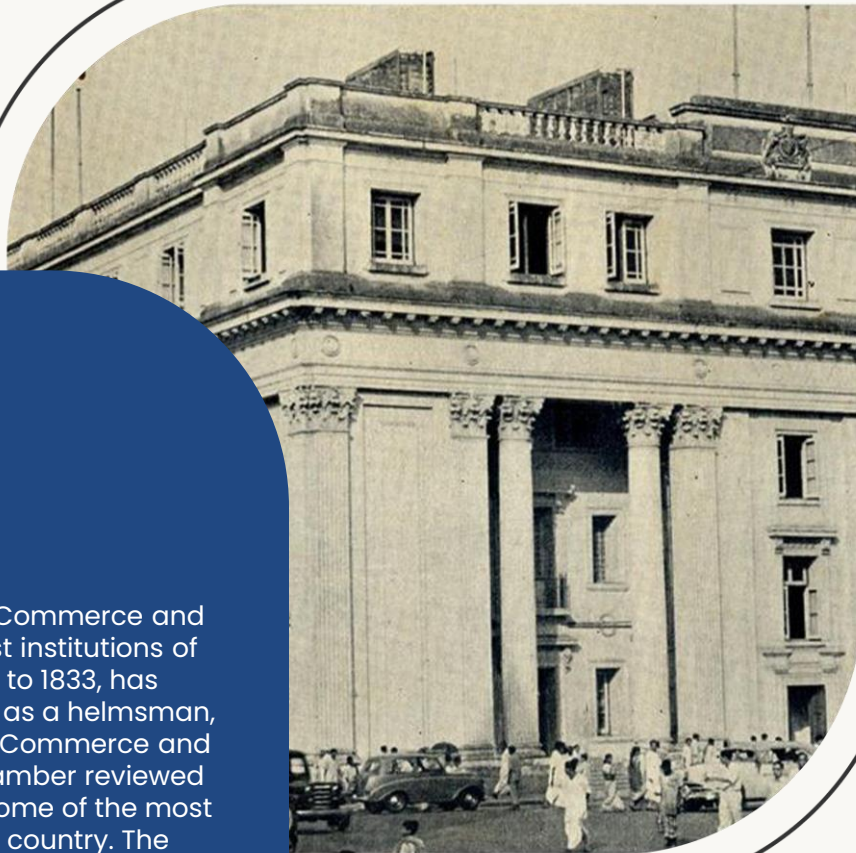


The Bengal Chamber

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, one of the oldest institutions of its kind tracing its origins to 1833, has played a pioneering role as a helmsman, steering the evolution of Commerce and Industry in India. The Chamber reviewed and commented upon some of the most critical legislations in the country. The Chamber has stayed relevant close to 200 years by adapting to the changes and delivering to the need of the Industry.

Today, The Chamber is deeply involved in areas like Manufacturing & MSME, Agriculture and Rural Development, Infrastructure, Shipping & Logistics, Trade Fairs & Trade Promotions, Healthcare, Information Technology, Technology Incubation Center, Education, Energy and Environment, Finance and Banking, Economic Affairs, Corporate Governance, Marketing, Brand & Media, People Management, Entrepreneurship, Skills, Legal, International Trade, Next Gen Packaging, Tourism, Hospitality, Heritage, Lifestyle, Films, Music & Entertainment to name a few and has now assumed a multi-faceted role. The Bengal Chamber, also, has been playing an increasingly active role in the realm of its ever expanding overseas engagements.



Close to 200 Years of Service to the Business Community



30+ Expert Committees for all sectors of business



More than 100 events across a calendar year



Deepening overseas connect with Embassies, Governments, Chambers



Extensively covered in print and digital media formats

Quick References (visit www.bengalchamber.com)



Annual Activity Report 21-22

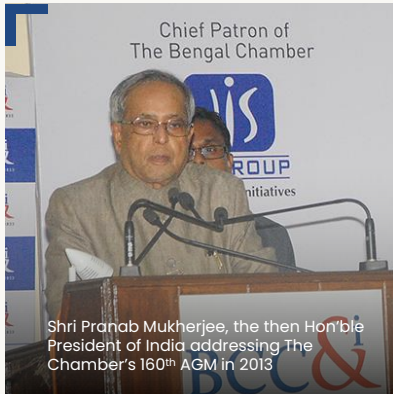


Annual AV 21-22



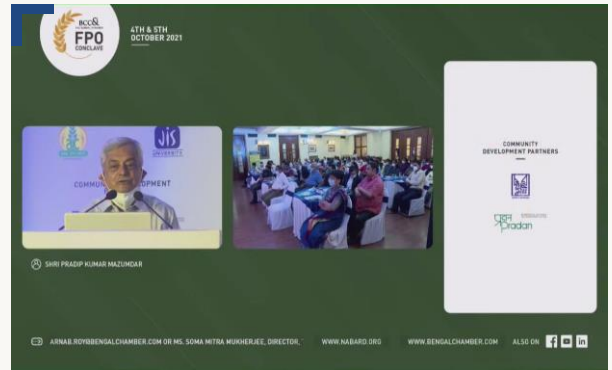
The Chamber In Service

Down The Chamber's Memory Lane



Agriculture and Rural Development

Enhancing rural livelihood is the sole objective of the vertical. This is facilitated through year-long activities which focus on promoting Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs), Agri Marketing and Export, Credit Linkages and Knowledge Sharing.



Agriculture and Rural Development continued...



(At the podium) Mr. Jayanta Chakraborty, Chairperson – Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, BCC&i; Consultant, Indofil Industries Limited (L-R) Mr. T Narayan Reddy, President, Association of Pesticides Manufacturers (APMA); Mr. Ram Kaundinya, Director General Federation of Seed Industry on India; Shri Ashok Dalwai, IAS, CEO, NRAA, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, GoI & Chairman, Commission of Doubling Farmers' Income; Shri Singireddy Niranjan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation & Marketing, Telangana Govt; Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i. MD & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd.; Ms. Susheela Chintala, CGM, NABARD, Hyderabad; Mr. Sachin Sharma, Vice President & Head – Channel & Dairy Operations, ITC Ltd.; Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE); The Bengal Chamber SmartAgri Summit 2022 in Hyderabad



The Bengal Chamber SmartAgri Summit 2022 in Hyderabad



Address by the Chief Guest - Shri Singireddy Niranjan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation & Marketing, Telangana Govt. At SmartAgri Summit 2022, Hyderabad



Stalls at the venue

CSR Committee

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee of The Chamber works towards inclusive development by enabling effective and impactful collaborations between Corporates, Government, Experts from Civil Society and Communities. "Apish Parar Khabar" is one such unique CSR initiative of The Bengal Chamber, empowering the livelihood development of hundreds of street food vendors of Kolkata (in the CBD) introducing the concepts of sanitation, food safety, health, hygiene, culinary skills, branding and marketing skills, encouraging entrepreneurship and women empowerment. Another newly curated CSR Initiative of the Chamber named "BCC&i Wellness Warriors", created a platform where the Corporates got an opportunity to participate in assisting the Armed Forces Personnel through their long-term CSR endeavours and announced their targeted CSR projects for a continued period.



Sit n Draw for children raising environmental awareness



Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i. MD & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd. presenting the plaque to Admiral R Hari Kumar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff, Indian Navy at The Bengal Chamber Wellness Warrior at Delhi



(From L-R) Mr. Jitendra Kumar, Chairperson, CSR and Corporate Governance Committee, BCC&i and Company Secretary & President (Legal & Corporate Affairs), Exide Industries Limited, Mr. Amitabh Shah, Founder and Chief Inspiration Officer, Yuva Unstoppable; Mr. Rohit Nayyar, CFO, CARE India, Mr. Mohammed Asif, CEO, Plan India, Ms. Namita Gautam, Managing Trustee, Sleepwell Foundation and Mr. Raju Sharma, CSR Head, Indigo Airlines

Economic Affairs

Deals in policy advocacy with both the Central as well as the State Governments on economic matters along with organizing Budget viewing sessions, and providing Pre-Budget and Post-Budget notes including recommendations. It acts as The Chamber's Think Tank on economic issues of relevance concerning the State and National economy for which The Chamber submits its views from time to time. The "India Economic Conclave" is an annual forum which focuses on pertinent economic issues by bringing together thought leaders, policymakers, economists, business leaders to discuss the roadmap for transforming India's economic Aspirations to Action.



India Economic Conclave 2018



Featuring Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Member, Fifteenth Finance Commission, India at India Economic Conclave 2020



Shri Tarun Bajaj, Secretary, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India at India Economic Conclave 2022



L-R- Mr. Abhijit Roy, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Berger Paints India Ltd.; Mr. Shashank Srivastava, Sr. Executive Officer – Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.; Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President Designate, BCC&i and Managing Director & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd. ; Mr. Abraham Stephanos, President, BCC&i and Managing Director, Tata Steel Downstream Products Ltd; Mr. Sudip Mazumder, Head – Digital Manufacturing & Special Projects, LNTCEC; Mr. Nitin Jain, Managing Director & Vice President- India and South East Asia, Vesuvius India Ltd. at the Inaugural Panel at India Economic Conclave on the occasion of AGM 2022

Education

Helps in bringing Academia and Industry together, and works towards Policy Recommendations on Public-Private-Partnerships in School & Higher Education across borders



Felicitation of The Legendary Ruskin Bond



Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Chairperson, Drafting Panel, National Education Policy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. and Chancellor, Central University of Rajasthan



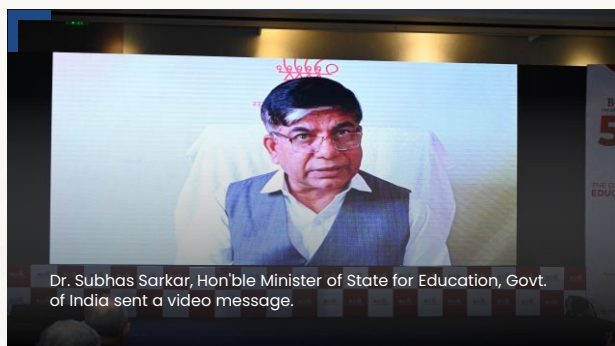
The then Governor of West Bengal inaugurating The Chamber's Education Conclave



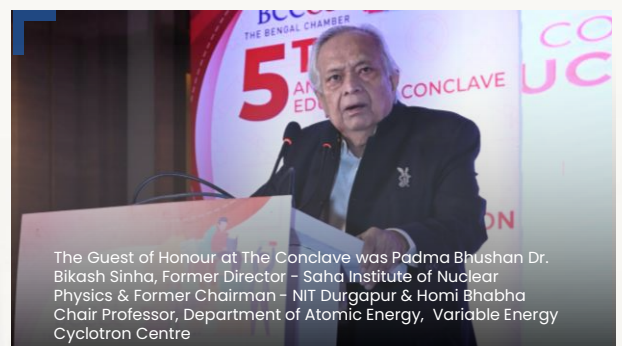
Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i and MD & CEO - Exide Industries Ltd, delivering the Welcome Address



Mr. Shekhar Mehta, President, Rotary International 21-22, was the Opening Keynote speaker



Dr. Subhas Sarkar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Govt. of India sent a video message.



The Guest of Honour at The Conclave was Padma Bhushan Dr. Bikash Sinha, Former Director - Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics & Former Chairman - NIT Durgapur & Homi Bhabha Chair Professor, Department of Atomic Energy, Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre

Energy and Environment

A continuous endeavour has been to focus on sustainable development and to disseminate information and educate business, industry and society about the need for balancing industrial growth with ecological stability at district, state, national and international levels.

COP 26

The Bengal Chamber was selected to present a 90 min Session on "Accelerating Electric Mobility with Green Jobs and Gender Parity" at the Green Zone of COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021.



Some glimpses of our Environment and Energy Conclave



Some glimpses of our Environment and Energy Conclave



Energy and Environment continued...

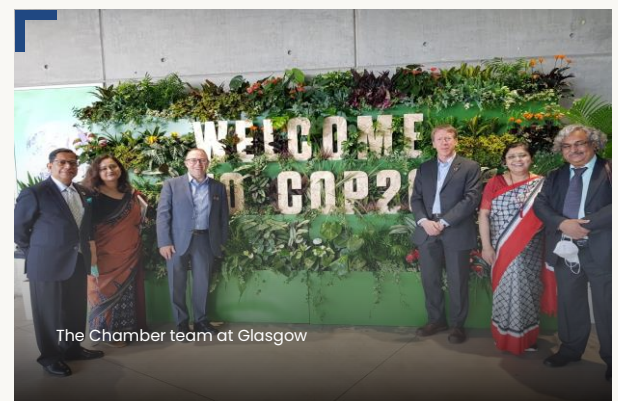
COP 26



Dr. Ajay Mathur
Director General of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)



Janab Firhad Hakim, Mayor of Kolkata addressing the
COP 26 session from The Chamber office



The Chamber team at Glasgow

Finance

Finance For All: Towards a stronger, resilient and transparent Indian Financial Market Sector involving both the National and Private BFSI sector, Industry, Government, Regulators and other stakeholders & being an effective industry voice.



Shri Sanjiv Bajaj, Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Limited
addressing the audience at Financial Market Conclave



Mr. Rajnish Kumar, former Chairman of the State Bank of
India



Audience in Mumbai



Mr. Siddhant Mehta, Partner, Boston Consulting Group (BCG) moderating the Experts' Roundtable – "The Stock Market Story: Learning from The Big Bull and Scam: 1992" with Mr. Ramdeo Agrawal, Chairman, Motilal Oswal Financial Services & Mr. Dhiraj Relli, MD & CEO, HDFC securities Limited at the Financial Market e-Conclave held in September 2021.



Health

The Bengal Chamber's Health Committee has been playing an important role in addressing the critical aspects in the field of healthcare in the State and has been catalytic in bringing about significant corporate consciousness in healthcare management.

With the outbreak of the pandemic, the Health Committee of The Chamber, as a proactive measure, had shared useful information on history, symptoms, treatment and prevention of COVID-19 with all the members and stakeholders of The Chamber.

BCC&i has also immersed itself in Covid-related sanitization work (sanitizing markets in Kolkata), facilitated the members in donation of Masks and Sanitizers, vaccination work, organized vaccination camp for the stakeholders in the Chamber premises, initiated Corporate tie up of vaccination.

The Chamber organizes annual Health Quiz with Doctors, Nurses, Paramedical Staffs and Medical Students as a tribute to their services to the Society.

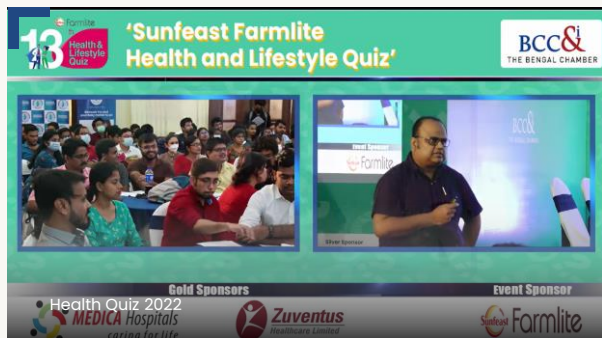
The Health Committee and IT Committee together organize the annual flagship event HealthTech focusing on the technology advancements Healthcare sector along with the latest offerings relevant to the healthcare sector.

The activities of the Health Committee has now crossed national borders and has organized an International Health and Wellness Expo in Chittagong. Healthcare and Wellness Stakeholders from India, Bangladesh and Malaysia participated in the Expo with exhibition stalls and talk shows by doctors and healthcare experts.

Covid vaccination camp



Health continued...



Heritage

The Heritage Committee organizes interactive meets with the Ambassadors of different countries like Brazil, Italy etc. emphasizing the need of preserving and restoring heritage. It also engages with young minds by organising a pan India Heritage Quiz, Heritage E-Cycling tour in order to project the importance of preservation of Heritage. It has recently launched a unique film heritage tour celebrating Shri Satyajit Ray, named, "Feluda – The Nostalgia" to create awareness on the cultural and built heritage of Kolkata.



Shri Sandip Ray, Eminent Director and Music Director, Indian Cinema posing for a picture with BCC&I secretariat at his own residence, at Bishop Lefroy Rd.



Mr. G M Kapur, Chairperson, Heritage Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Ms. Joeete Basu, Educationist, Feluda Enthusiast; Ayon Mandal, IT Professional, Feluda Enthusiast, Member of Walk Calcutta Walk; Ms Soman Sood, Director, B. D. Memorial Jr. School; Ms. Sukanya Bose, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber and all the participants of Feluda – The Nostalgia Tour, starting off the tour from the Bengal Chamber.

Incubation

The WEBEL-BCC&i Tech Incubation Centre is a joint initiative of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry and West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation (WEBEL) supported by Bandhan Bank. The Chamber started the journey of incubation of technology startups in 2019. Eventually other corporates like Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Crow's Nest, Google Cloud, Amazon Web Services, 100X.VC and Seven Boats have also joined this initiative with varied offerings. The main objective of the incubation centre is to create an ecosystem that will foster, support innovation and knowledge-based entrepreneurship in leading to the creation of wealth, employment and social value through successful ventures. From the inauguration of this incubation centre on 1st June 2019, till date we have incubated a total of 59 Start-ups. The Incubation Centre has a total capacity of 20 seats. At present there are 17 Incubatees associated with the centre.

The Chamber Incubated Start Up Schoppen Solutions Pvt Ltd. during the launch of its AI enabled Bee Corridor at Eco park Kolkata.

The Chamber Incubated Start Up Solaire Initiatives Pvt Ltd. product "OM REDOX, Your Oxygen Box" has been selected and featured in "75 innovations under 75" years of Independence by DBT-BIRAC.



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, the then President of The Bengal Chamber and MD and CEO of Bandhan Bank exchanging the MoU with Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, The then Additional Chief Secretary, Department of IT&E, Government of West Bengal and Chairman & MD, HIDCO, Government of West Bengal and Chairman, Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority in presence of Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of West Bengal



Information Technology

The Chamber in Technology Space brings together technology providers, users, academia, startups, incubators, policy makers and the other stakeholders of technology to share applications, disseminate knowledge on cutting edge technologies, network and exchange dialogues for collaborations. Our annual Business IT Conclave focuses to connect with national and international players showcasing the potential of Bengal in emerging technologies with availability of intellectual resources and promising start ups.



Mr. Bhaskar Pramanik, The then Chairman, Microsoft Corporation India Pvt. Ltd; Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, The then President, The Bengal Chamber,



Leadership Lecture

Objective of The Leadership Lecture Series is to learn from visionaries and thought leaders about their perspectives on excelling in the midst of exceeding challenges

Speakers – eminent luminaries like celebrated business leaders, corporate leaders or icons across different fields who have had glittering careers – are requested to speak on a pre-selected topic of their choice and convenience.



Marketing

The Chamber's Marketing Committee has been a forerunner in presenting fresh ideas and thoughts in the domain of marketing, highlighting the defining elements of tomorrow through path breaking conclaves on "India as a Market in 2020", "Changing Faces of Communication", "Changing faces of Brands", "Influencer Marketing", "Millennial Consumers", "Brandemic" and "The Business of Sports".



Manufacturing and MSME

Facilitating business mainly for the manufacturing sector which covers both large business and SME units. Facilitation is mainly done by B2B, B2G, Conclaves, Connects and Handholding Workshops. The focus areas of work include Exploring Global and National Market, Automation & Digitization, Credit Linkages and Knowledge Sharing.

Two most prestigious awards for MSMEs constituted by BCC&i

- BCC&i-Tata Steel MSME Excellence Awards
- BCC&i-Vikram Solar MSME Sustainability Awards



Minerals and Mining

Minerals, Mining & Metals Sector : Policy Level intervention for sustainable mining development & addressing key issues pertaining to the sectors involving the Navaratna companies of India & private mining sector leaders of India & abroad.



Minerals Mining and Metals e-Conclave Day 2



Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India addressing at Minerals Mining and Metals Conclave at Delhi



Coal India Chairman addressing Minerals Mining and Metals Conclave at Delhi



Guest of Honour Shri Vivek Bhadraraj, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India at Minerals Mining and Metals Conclave at Bhubaneswar



Speakers of the Opening Session on the dais listening to the deliberations of the Chief Guest Shri Prafulla Kumar Mallik, Hon'ble Minister in Charge, Department of Steel and Mines and Department of Works, Government of Odisha at Minerals Mining and Metals Conclave at Bhubaneswar



Shri Sridhar Patra, Chairman & MD, NALCO speaking at the Opening Session, at Minerals Mining and Metals Conclave at Bhubaneswar

Overseas

The Chamber's Overseas Activities focuses on International Connect (APAC, Europe, Americas) in over 18+ Countries. The Chamber maintains excellent working relationship with Embassies, High Commissions, Consulates – Abroad and other Chambers of Commerce and working closely with Overseas Missions, Commercial, Trade and Liaison Offices in India (USA, UK, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand etc.)

As on date The Chamber has conducted more than 100+ B2B Meetings, organized 10+ Outward Delegations and hosted 50+ Inward Delegations.

The Chamber delegation to Bangladesh



The Chamber delegation to Australia



The Chamber delegation to Germany



The Chamber delegation to Myanmar



The Chamber delegation to Bhutan



The Chamber delegation to Russia



The Chamber delegation to Italy



The Chamber delegation to United Kingdom

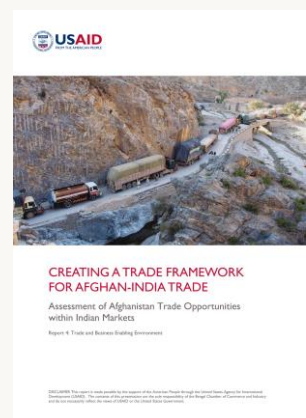
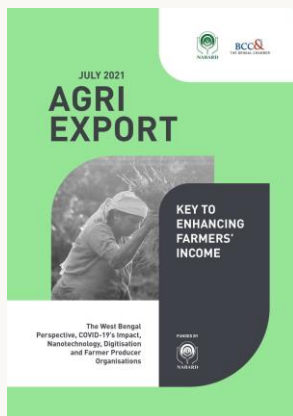


The Chamber delegation to Singapore



Projects

The Research and Projects Division of The Chamber has been working in the areas of Logistics & Connectivity, Regional Integration, Infrastructure Development, International Trade, Economic and Policy research. The Division has been working for international agencies like USAID, World Bank, UKERI and also for Governments.



Ratnagarbha

On the occasion of the International Women's Day, The Chamber has been conferring Ratnagarbha Award over last nine years. The Chamber, through this initiative, pays a special tribute to the Mothers of our "Leading Lights" from the sectors of Business, Sports, Film, Music, Literature, Education, Healthcare & Social Service – besides conferring The Chamber's Lifetime Achievement Award the same day.



Ratnagarbha 2020 (Business category) – Smt. Sandhya Mukherjee, Mother of Shri Sabyasachi Mukherjee



Mr. Kallol Datta, President The Bengal Chamber, welcoming Shri Sourav Ganguly



Mr. Kallol Datta, President The Bengal Chamber, presenting a memento to Smt. Arundhuti Bhattacharya, Chairman and Managing Director, State Bank of India



Lifetime Achievement Award being handed over to Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty by Mr. Gautam Ray, Sr. Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and Executive Director (HR & Admin.) – CESC Limited & President (HR) – Power Group, RPG & Mr. BB Chatterjee, Past President, The Bengal Chamber



Smt. Jhulan Goswami with her Mother.

Shipping and Logistics

The Committee is engaged in organizing one of the largest Shipping and Logistics Conclaves and MDP's of Eastern India for the last twelve years with participation from Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and MSME, Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and senior Shipping sector players from countries like Norway, Singapore, Netherlands, USA, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar.



Capt S.B Mazumder, Mentor, Shipping and Logistics Committee, BCC&i; Mr S Hajara, Chairperson, Shipping & Logistics Committee, BCC&i; Smt. Vandana Aggarwal (IES), Chairperson, IFSCA Committee on Ship Acquisition, Financing and Leasing, & Former Senior Economic Adviser, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India; Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i and MD & CEO – Exide Industries Ltd.; Shri A K Mehera, Dy. Chairman, HDC, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port; Mr. Adhika Ratna Sekhar, Chairman and Managing Director, Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. at the Inaugural Session of "12th edition of Annual Shipping and Logistics Conclave 2023"

Skill Development

The Chamber has initiated more than 7467 jobs since 2018 for the Polytechnic, ITI, PBSSD trained students of Bengal, enabling a greater Industry alignment with the State's skill ecosystem through Mega Job Fairs, CXO Meets in collaboration with the Department of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development, Govt of West Bengal. The Chamber under its BCC&i Wellness Warriors initiative in association with Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) organized a Job Meet for ex-servicemen for the first time in Eastern India, "Wellness Warriors Job Meet 2022". The total job demand collected by The Chamber from corporates like Exide Industries Ltd, Senco Gold & Diamonds, Infinity Group, S&B Services Pvt. Ltd., Jai Balaji Industries Ltd, R. T Network etc was 638 out of this demand 525 Service Personnel appeared and 126 got shortlisted.



BCC&i Wellness Warriors Job meet 2022 was held on 9th December, the first time ever in Eastern India dedicated to the Ex-Servicemen – A specially curated initiative to salute the Guardians of our Nation, the "Armed Forces"

Applicants during the Job Meet 2022 curated by BCC&i in association with Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) was held on 9th December, the first time ever in Eastern India dedicated to the Ex-Servicemen – A specially curated initiative to salute the Guardians of our Nation, the "Armed Forces"

Taxation – Direct & Indirect Taxes

The Taxation Committee (Direct & Indirect Taxes) organizes seminars, workshops, certificate courses and interactive programmes independently and also along with trade and industry to enhance the awareness / knowledge of its stakeholders. The Chamber also sends Pre-Budget and Post Budget representations / recommendations to Central & State Governments.



The Entrepreneurs'

The Chamber has created a platform to recognize and felicitate Startup-Entrepreneurs in Food & Beverage Industry and help the budding talents to create a name in the industry. The objective was to encourage dynamic, sustainable and forward thinking Startup-Entrepreneurs in Food & Beverage industry. The initiative was named 'The Rising Foodpreneurs'. The initiative has felicitated some of the Iconic Foodpreneurs and Iconic Food Brands from Food & Hospitality Sectors. The initiative also recognized budding talents from segments like Home Baker, Bakery Unit, Home Chef, Catering, Cloud Kitchen, Newly Opened Café and many more. The Entrepreneurs' Committee is also trying to facilitate Entrepreneurship at grass roots levels and also connect Entrepreneurs with proper market and funding agencies.



Bhutan

Think Series

“Think” is a platform of The Chamber which commenced in January 2011 with Mr Harish Manwani, the then Chairman & CEO of Hindustan Unilever, addressing the members on “Brands at the forefront of social change”. “Think” as a property was designed to create a platform for disseminating knowledge, promulgate contemporary ideas to the society, and facilitate networking amongst different sections of people and have had distinguished speakers from across different walks of life addressing us.



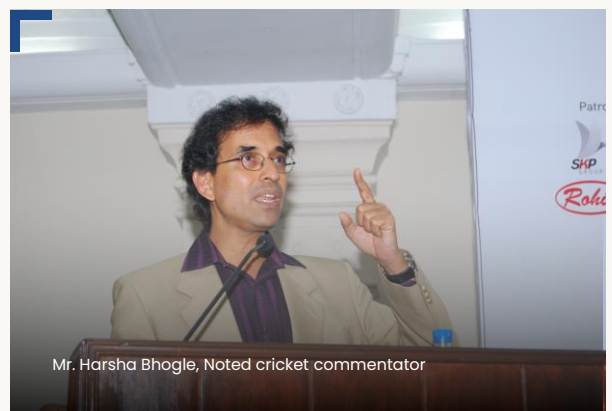
Air Chief Marshal Shri Arup Raha



Mr. Sunil Alagh, former MD and CEO of Britannia Industries Ltd.



Mr. Amit Chaudhuri - renowned author



Mr. Harsha Bhogle, Noted cricket commentator

Trade Fair

The Chamber appreciates and understands the importance of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions in promoting consumerism and demand creation in the economy. The Chamber has been laying special emphasis in reaching out to consumers across India through different Trade Fairs that it organizes across the Country with its partners. Trade Fairs like these help improve B2B as well as B2C synergies, besides helping the Brands reach out to the Consumers. The Chamber feels proud that nearly 1200 exhibitors from across India and more than 15 Foreign Countries come together at India International Mega Trade Fair at Kolkata, which is the largest B2C meet of its kind in Eastern India.



Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal with Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber and Managing Director, Exide Industries Limited during the inauguration of IIMTF 2021



Inauguration of The 21st edition of India International Mega Trade Fair by (L-R)- Janab Andalib Elias, Deputy High Commissioner, Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh in India; Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I); Shri. Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS (Retd), Chief Advisor to Hon'ble Chief Minister Govt. of West Bengal; Mr. Qadir Shah, Counsellor, Embassy of Republic of Afghanistan; Shri Prakash Shah & Mrs. Suparna DattaGupta.



director_general@bengalchamber.com