

## 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](http://www.bengalchamber.com))

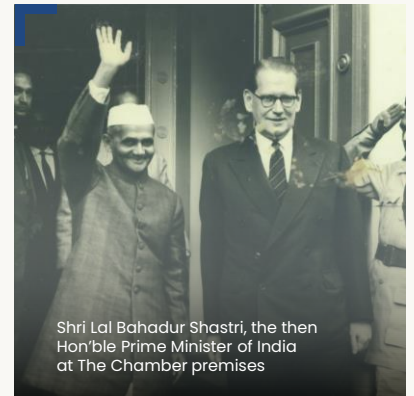


Annual Activity Report 22-23



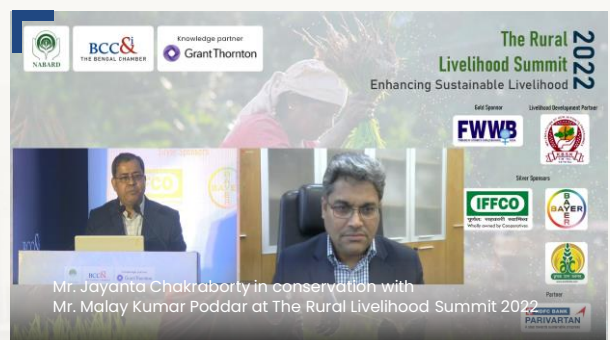
Annual AV 22-23

## 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



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



The Bengal Chamber 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of Rural Connect 2023



The Bengal Chamber FPO Awards



The Bengal Chamber 2<sup>nd</sup> Rural Livelihood Summit FPO & SHG Gram Udyog



The Bengal Chamber and State Bank of India Mega FPO Outreach

Agriculture and Rural Development continued...



One of the stalls at the Horticulture Food Festival 2024 organised by BCC&i at Netaji Indoor Stadium



One of the FPOs being presented with their in-principle loan sanction letter at Rural Connect 2024

## CSR Committee

The CSR National committee recently very successfully organized the second edition of Social Leadership Conclave and Awards to commemorate the most admired and outstanding development initiatives in India. For the first time the initiative had Pan India participation from over 100 renowned Corporates and NGOs, to showcase their exemplary developmental projects. The Award was judged by senior distinguished Pan-India based Judges - Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Former Director General & CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs; CS Manish Gupta, President, The Institute of Company Secretaries of India; Mr. P S Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Limited; Ms Sujata Sen, Chief Executive Officer, Future Hope and Mr Sumit Dasgupta, Founder and Director, Allcap Communications Pvt Ltd along with Yuva Unstoppable as Knowledge Partner.

The recently launched CSR portal named - "BCC&i CSR Foundation Portal", which aims to provide a single digital platform connecting NGOs and Corporations for the purpose of disseminating information in the field of CSR. BCC&i has also started working as Implementing partner for the CSR projects. Till now five projects on Livelihood Development with South Gurukul Society, Sports Development for the Underprivileged Children with Jaidip Mukerjea Tennis Academy, Inclusive Education with Tagore Foundation, Sanitation with Rural Development Society, Capacity Building of the teachers towards developing an ecosystem where children with special needs can be included in regular schools have been successfully implemented.



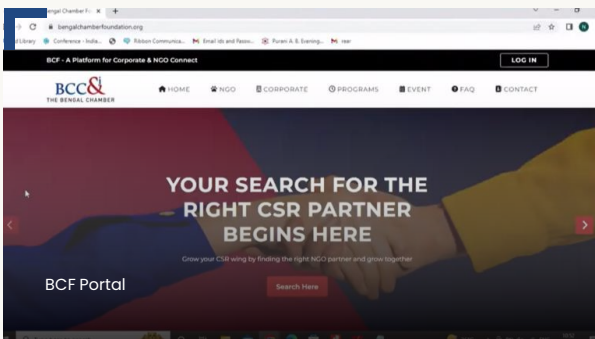
Panel discussion at the 2nd Edition of Social Leadership Conclave and Awards



The Bengal Chamber Social Leadership Award received by Corporate



The Bengal Chamber Social Leadership Award received by NGO



Workshop on Innovation in Education



Sports kit distribution to underprivileged children at Jaidip Mukerjea Tennis Academy

## 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 committees' signature annual conclave- "India Economic Conclave" rechristened into "Indo-Pacific Economic Conclave" on September 2023 marking the remarkable pivot of affairs of the committee wherein the aim was to initiate dialogue in the Indo-Pacific region through "Collaboration and Regional Cooperation towards common goals in the Indo-Pacific".



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India delivering the Keynote Address as Chief Guest at India Economic Conclave on the occasion of AGM 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, LNTTECC; 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

Economic Affairs continued...



Release of Position Paper on Indo-Pacific Economic Unity by Intueri Global LLP on Day 1, 28th September 2023 (L-R: Smt. Neelam Rani, IFS, Director, Branch Secretariat, Kolkata, Ministry, Ms. Mikiko Tanaka, Head, Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia, United Nations ESCAP, Mr. Subir Chakraborty, Immediate Past President, BCC&i and Managing Director & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd., Ms. Melinda Pavak, Consul General, U.S. Consulate General, Kolkata, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Former President, BCC&i and Senior Partner, Intueri Consulting LLP, Mr. Sanjeev Nandwani, East India Chapter Chairperson and Vice President, Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce (IACC), Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Prof. Dr. Ajjtava Ray Chaudhuri, Ph.D, Professor Emeritus and Head, Department of Economics, Adamas University and Chairperson, Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&i)



Signing of MOU between Nepal-India Chamber of Commerce & Industry and The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry



Glimpses from the special session on "The East India's Act East & Common Charter Development" on Day 1 of the Conclave, 28th September 2023



A glimpse from keynote address by Shri T Rabi Sankar on Day 2 of the Indo-Pacific Economic Conclave, 29th September 2023



Shri Sanjeev Sanyal during his Day 2 conclave address on 29th September 2023



Shri Ajay Seth during his virtual special address on "India leads towards 3rd largest economy" on Day 2 of the Indo-Pacific Economic Conclave, 29th September 2023



Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran speaking about "India's growth story" on the 2nd Day of the conclave



Inaugural Address on 2nd Day of the Conclave by Chief Guest, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekar, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India (virtual)



## Education

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



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



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



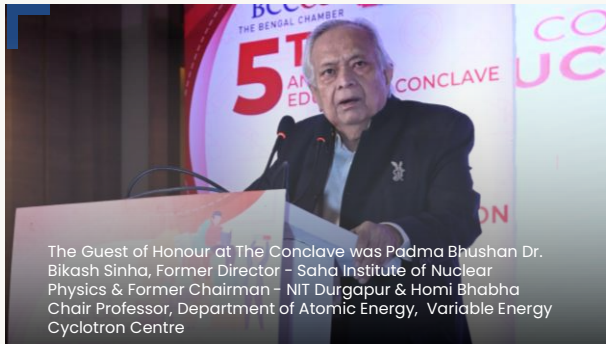
Felicitation of The Legendary Ruskin Bond



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



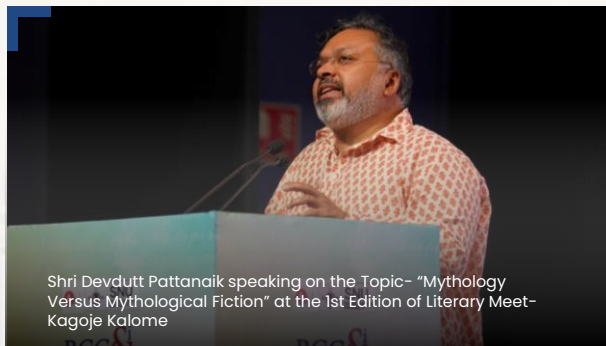
Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i and MD & CEO - Exide Industries Ltd, delivering the Welcome Address



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



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



Shri Devdutt Pattanaik speaking on the Topic- "Mythology Versus Mythological Fiction" at the 1st Edition of Literary Meet-Kagoje Kalome



Felicitating Shri Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay

Education Continued...



Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Co- Chairperson, Education Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Director, JIS Group welcoming Shri Manish Jain, IAS, Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal



Mr. Satyam Roy Chowdhury, Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University, Founder & Managing Director, Techno India Group, Chairperson- Education Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry welcoming the Chief Guest Shri Bratya Basu, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Education, Govt. of West Bengal



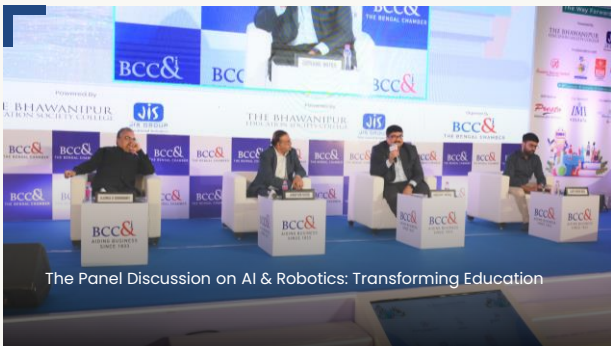
Shri Bratya Basu, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Education, Govt. of West Bengal during his inaugural speech



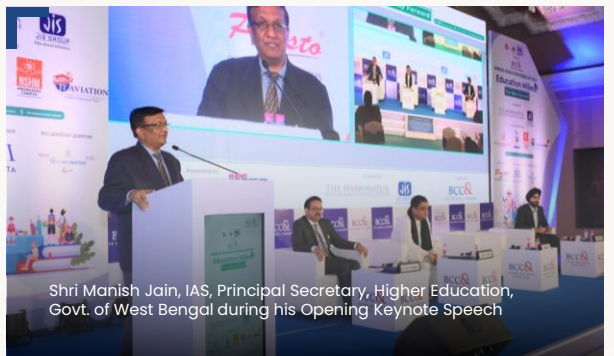
The Panel Discussion on Innovations in Academia: The Unconventional Study Subjects



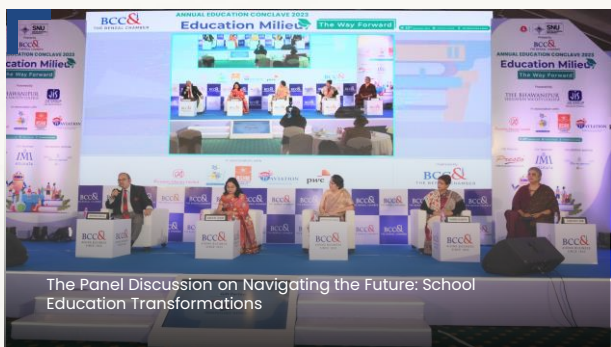
Ms. Swarnali Dhar, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber emceeding the The Bengal Chamber Annual Education Conclave 2023



The Panel Discussion on AI & Robotics: Transforming Education



Shri Manish Jain, IAS, Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal during his Opening Keynote Speech



The Panel Discussion on Navigating the Future: School Education Transformations



Expert Speaker Er Ramesh Kumar, F.I.E., Chartered Engineer (India), Senior Advisor, World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (An International Organization) spoke on the Role of MSME – Entrepreneurship

Education Continued...



Expert Speaker Dr. Biswajit Saha, Director, CBSE, Ministry of Education, Government of India conducted his session online and spoke about School Education



Prof. Prafulla C Sarker, Vice Chancellor (Designate), Sheikh Hasina University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh spoke on the International Perspectives: The Future of Education



Expert Speaker Dr. Vinay Swarup Mehrotra, Professor and Head of Curriculum Development and Evaluation Centre at PSS Central Institute joined online and spoke on Vocational Education.



Expert Speaker Dr. Mohua Banerjee Director & and Professor of Marketing, International Management Institute (IMI Kolkata) speaking on Marketing Management



Mr. Satyam Roy Chowdhury, Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University, Founder & Managing Director, Techno India Group, Chairperson- Education Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry handing over a memento to Dr. Mohua Banerjee Director & and Professor of Marketing, International Management Institute (IMI Kolkata)

## Energy and Environment

A continuous endeavour of BCC&i 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.

BCC&i is taking up emerging relevant issues like decarbonization, Environment Social Governance (ESG), efficient water management and others with befitting focus.

The objectives of the Initiatives of BCC&i in energy, environment and resource efficiency space are:

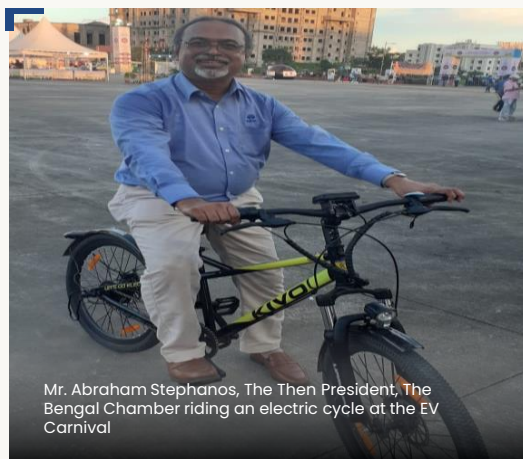
- Promoting energy efficiency through training, auditing and advocacy and to be the preferred forum for discussing environmental and climate challenges and mitigation actions and act as a think tank for policy advocacy at national & international levels
- Organizing outreach programmes on ecological sustainability in the industrial regions bringing together the stakeholders including policy makers and industry leaders to brainstorm and share the best practices and cutting edge technologies to take forward the industrial development with adequate fortification towards vulnerability of ecology
- Connecting with the young minds through state level and national level competitions

BCC&i works extensively with stakeholders and also overseas partners including embassies, overseas chambers of commerce, academic institutions and others.



Shri Piyush Goyal, the then Minister of State for Coal, Power, New and Renewable Energy

### Some glimpses of our EV Carnival



Mr. Abraham Stephanos, The Then President, The Bengal Chamber riding an electric cycle at the EV Carnival



Other visitors at the EV Carnival

### COP 26

BCC&i, for close to two decades, is a leading forum towards Climate Change mitigation actions. The Chamber was also selected by the COP 26 authorities for presenting a Panel Discussion on “Accelerating Electric Mobility with green jobs and gender parity” on 10th November 2021 at the Green Zone of COP26 in Glasgow, UK.

### 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

Energy and Environment continued...



The Chamber team at Glasgow



BCC&I with Meensou India organized an 'Experience Workshop' on Decarbonization and Carbon Credit on 24th February 2024 at The Bengal Chamber premises followed by a live site visit of Carbon Sink and demonstration of the Blue Carbon Credit Project at Gangasagar, Sunderbans on 26th February 2024. BCC&I, with Meensou India and EcoAct, has commenced a major Blue Carbon Credit project in the Sunderbans Island. The project aims to plant 1,40,00,000 mangrove plants in 4000 ha of land which is 3500 plants/ha.



Live demonstration of the plantation project



Around 20 participants were nominated by PSU's, SOE's and large scale corporates like ITC, Tata Steel, NTPC, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Infinity, L & T, WBPCL among others. Participants joined from different parts of the country.

## 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

Finance continued...



Guest of Honour, Mr. Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India addressing the Valedictory Session-“Indian Financial Market: Preparedness”



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. Raamdeo Agrawal, Chairman, Motilal Oswal Financial Services & Mr. Dhiraj Relli, MD & CEO, HDFC securities Limited at the Financial Market e-Conclave held in September 2021.



Mr. Hitendra Dave, CEO, HSBC India, in conversation with Mr. Tamal Bandyopadhyay, Author & Columnist and Mentor, Banking and Finance Committee, BCC&i at the Financial Market Conc,ave held in Mumbai in September, 2022

## 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. It has organized Panel Discussions, Lectures on Health issues by leading and iconic personalities in Health from the fraternities of doctors, entrepreneurs and policymakers.

The Chamber facilitates healthcare service providers with international markets by organizing B2B Meetings and also an annual International Health and Wellness Expo in Bangladesh. The Exhibitors; from India, Bangladesh, Thailand and Malaysia; included mostly hospitals and also medical equipment start up, air ambulance, medical tourism agency, wellness resort, beauty products, digital marketing agency, digital payment platform, health insurance company. B2B Meetings took place and some collaborations on medical tourism and medical equipment were initiated.

To promote the empowerment of Nurses, as they are the foundation of healthcare and play a vital role in providing care, comfort and compassion for their patients and patients’ families, The Chamber has started organizing Nursing Conclave.

The Chamber organizes a Quiz on Health & Lifestyle to create awareness on healthy living. For the last few years the annual Health Quiz has been organized with Doctors, Nurses, Paramedical Staffs and Medical Students as a tribute to their services to the Society.



6th edition of Health Tech Summit 2023



5th Edition of Health Tech Summit 2021



2nd Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2023 in Chittagong, Bangladesh

Health continued...

The Health Committee and IT Committee together organize the annual flagship event, HealthTech focusing on the technology advancements in Healthcare sector along with the latest offerings with PwC as Knowledge Partner.

The Committee also engages in Policy Advocacy.



2nd Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2023 in Chittagong, Bangladesh



1st Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2022 in Chittagong, Bangladesh



2nd Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2023 in Chittagong, Bangladesh



1st Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2022 in Chittagong, Bangladesh



2nd Edition of Health And Wellness Expo 2023 in Chittagong, Bangladesh



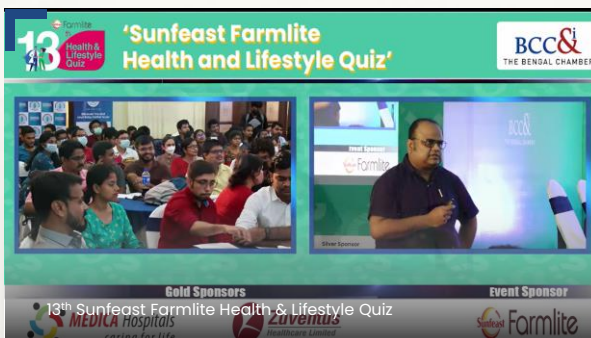
1st Edition of Nursing Conclave 2023



14th Sunfeast Farmilite Health & Lifestyle Quiz



1st Edition of Nursing Conclave 2023



## 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. The committee organizes Heritage Walks to promote Heritage Awareness. 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.



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.



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.



4th Edition of Heritage Walk – "Heritage Trail : The Bengal Chamber to Mohunbagan Club



## 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 Konnagar (a CSR implementing organization of Bandhan Bank Ltd.). The Chamber started the journey of incubation of technology startups in 2019. Eventually other corporates like Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Web Prism IT Solution, 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 82 Start-ups. The Incubation Centre has a total capacity of 16 seats. The center also provides virtual incubation. At present there are 18 incubatees associated with the centre.

One of the primary offerings of the Webel-BCC&i Tech Incubation Centre to the associated Startups is providing them with platform in the national level seminars/conclaves organized by The Bengal Chamber to showcase the Startups in a larger forum so that they get the exposure and opportunity to network with marquee speakers and eminent leaders of the industry and also a larger network.

The Bengal Chamber organized a special Pitching Session for its Startups in presence of Shri Babul Supriyo, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Information Technology and Electronics Department, Government of West Bengal and a dynamic assembly of VCs and Angel Investors during the Inaugural Edition of "Tech-E Summit" 2023, on 3rd and 4th August 2023 in Bengaluru.



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



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

Bottom: 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.



Shri Babul Supriyo, Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge, Information Technology and Electronics Department, Government of West Bengal interacting with the startups during the pitching session during 1st edition of BCC&i Tech-e Summit in Bengaluru



Potential Startups from Bengal showcased their innovations in presence Shri Babul Supriyo, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Information Technology and Electronics Department, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i and Managing Director & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd. and a dynamic assembly of VCs and Angel Investors.

## IT and IT Entrepreneurs & eCommerce

The Chamber is deeply connected with Tech Industry. The Chamber has a dedicated IT Committee under the aegis of which vibrant initiatives are taken up, which over the years, bring 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 under the aegis of BCC&i IT Committee focuses to connect with national and international Technology leaders showcasing the potential of Bengal in emerging technologies with availability of intellectual resources and promising Startups.

The Chamber also has a newly curated IT Entrepreneurs and eCommerce National Committee, which is aimed to promote regional ecosystem of IT Entrepreneurship and eCommerce, facilitating appropriate connect of the stakeholders with potential market, collaborators, funding and other catalyzers for growth. The scope of engagements of the Committee is pan India, to begin with, and may also be internationally for creating appropriate interface.

The first edition of our annual "Tech-E-Summit" was held in Bengaluru in 2023, wherein prominent investors from Kolkata, Bengaluru and Mumbai were connected with promising startups from West Bengal. It also created a platform for Startups and Entrepreneurs from Bengal and Karnataka to discuss possible areas of collaborations, after which the Chamber received collaboration offers from various entities including banks and legal firms for supporting technology Startup Ecosystem. A sizeable delegation of Technology Entrepreneurs, Startups, VCs and Investors notably with the IT Minister of West Bengal travelled to Bengaluru to be a part of the Summit.

Continuing the spirit of the great success of connecting with the Startup community at 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of Tec-E Summit, BCC&i organized the first edition of Biz Tech Startup Quiz, in association with Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) Bengaluru in March 2024. This was a unique platform, which offered Startups to network with each other and helped to connect with Investors and successful entrepreneurs. 40 teams consisting of Startups and Startup enthusiasts participated from Hyderabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Cochin and Bengaluru.



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



Mr. Jagathpathy Subramaniam, VP- Experience, Engineering and Data Zensar Technologies Ltd. (L) and Mr. Kaushik Chatterjee, SVP-BFSI Global Delivery Head, Zensar Technologies Ltd. (R) during a masterclass on AI at 14th edition of BITC 2023

IT and IT Entrepreneurs & eCommerce continued...



**Mr. Sudeep Kumar Das** - Head Sales Engineer, India & SAARC, Tenable demonstrating offerings at 14<sup>th</sup> edition of BITC 2023



**Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta**, CEO, Karnataka Digital Economy Mission during the inaugural session of 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Tech E Summit in Bengaluru



The Biz Tech Startup Quiz in progress. Quiz Master- Mr. Thash Banerjee



**Mr. Mohit Gulati**, Founder, ITI Growth Opportunities Fund; **Mr. Harinarayan Sharma**, CEO, Manipal Foundation/ Sr. VP, MEMG, Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG); **Mr. Deepak Daftari**, Mentor, IT Entrepreneurs and eCommerce Committee, BCC&i; Mentor, WEBEL-BCC&i Tech Incubation Centre and Director & CEO, DD Web Vision Pvt Ltd; **Mr. C N Raghupathi**, Founder Director, Manipal Innovation Leadership and Entrepreneurship School; **Shri Babul Supriyo**, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Information Technology and Electronics Department, Government of West Bengal; **Mr. Subir Chakraborty**, President, BCC&i and Managing Director & CEO, Exide Industries Ltd.; **Mr. Anirudh A Damani**, Managing Partner, Artha Venture Fund; **Mr. Anil Joshi**, Managing Partner, Unicorn India Ventures constituting the opening panel of 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Tech E Summit in Bengaluru



**Dr. E.V. Ramana Reddy**, IAS - Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Electronics Information Technology Biotechnology and Science & Technology, Government of Karnataka gracing the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Tech E Summit in Bengaluru.



Shri Rajeev Kumar, IPS, Principal Secretary, Department of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal (L) with Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, The Bengal Chamber and MD & CEO, Exide Industries Limited (R) during 14<sup>th</sup> edition of BITC 2023



One for the frame! The winners of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Biz Tech Startup Quiz along with the esteemed dignitaries.

## 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.



Mr. Sourav Ganguly, Former Captain, Indian Cricket Team and Present BCCI President



Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament



Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia - Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of India



Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Member Economic Advisory Council to The Prime Minister



Dr. R S Sodhi, Chairman AMUL



Dr. Purnendu Chatterjee, Founder Chairman The Chatterjee Group



BCC&i Sardar Joth Singh Award for Igniting Minds-2023 being handed over to Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chairperson & CEO, Salesforce India and Former Chairperson, State Bank of India by (from L to R) Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i; Mr. Taranjit Singh, Managing Director, JIS Group and Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Director, JIS Group

Leadership Lecture continued...



A portrait of Smt. Arunmati Bhattacharya - A gift from the JIS group being handed over to her by (from L to R) Mr. Subir Chakraborty, President, BCC&i; Mr. Taranjit Singh, Managing Director, JIS Group and Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Director, JIS Group

## 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", "The Business of Sports" and D2C, "D2C- Connected Closer and Cozier".



Mr. Sanjiv Mehta, Chairman, HUL; Mr. Bharat Puri, MD, Pidilite Industries and Mr. Piyush Pandey, Executive Chairman, Ogilvy India seated (L to R)



Mr. Sundar Raman, former COO IPL, in conversation with Mr. Joy Bhattacharjya, CEO, Prime Volleyball League



The panel discussion session moderated by Mr. C.D. Mitra in progress

Marketing continued...



Mr. Abhijit Roy, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and Managing Director & CEO, Berger Paints India Ltd. giving the opening keynote speech



The first Panel discussion was on Startups. From left Ms. Resha Jain, Chief Brand Officer, GIVA; Mr. Samiran Sengupta, Founder & CEO, JustMyRoots; Ms. Kavita Mahto, Business Head, Tata Steel Aashiyana (right) moderated the session



The second Panel discussion was on Established Brands. From left Mr. Sairam Subramanian, General Manager, Hindustan Unilever Limited; Mr. Debaditya Chaudhuri, Founder and Managing Director Chowman, Oudh 1590 & Chapter 2, The session being moderated by Ms. Kavita Mahto Business Head, Tata Steel Aashiyana (right)



Mr. Rohit Ohri, Executive Chairman & CEO, FCB Group India, giving his closing keynote address



Mr. Prashant Singh, Co-Founder & Managing Director, giving the theme address at the 13th Edition of Marketing and Brand Conclave



Mr. Lloyd Mathias, Investor & Business expert, giving his expertise on the topic Direct – To Customers



Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Department of Women & Child Development & Social Welfare, Govt of West Bengal, delivering the opening keynote address at BCC&i Unleash Women's Potential – To Accelerate Economic Growth



Mr. Ranjan Banerjee, CHRO, Berger Paints Ltd. moderating the panel discussion. The Panelists (L to R) Ms. Swati Bhattacharya, Senior Assistant Editor, Ananda Bazar Patrika; Capt. Mahasweta Chakraborty, Commercial Pilot and Ms. Sujata Guin, Senior Vice President – Human Resources & Chief Human Resources Officer, Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels Limited



Ms. Rowan Ainsworth, Australian Consul-General sharing the International Perspectives on "Unleash Women's Potential – To Accelerate Economic Growth"

# 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



Manufacturing and MSME Conclave 2022



Manufacturing and MSME Conclave 2019



Manufacturing and MSME Conclave 2022



Manufacturing and MSME Conclave 2022



Shri Rajesh Pandey, IAS  
Principal Secretary, MSME&T Government of West Bengal at  
MSME DAY 2022



FinTech and Credit Expo 2022

Manufacturing and MSME continued...



Shri Manas Bhunia, Minister in-Charge, Water Resources Investigation and Development, Government of West Bengal at the Kharagpur Trade Fair 2023



Twenty MSME Award Winners at the 14th National Manufacturing Conclave and MSME Excellence Awards 2024

Stalls at Kharagpur Trade Fair





# 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 Bhargava, 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

## North Bengal

The North Bengal Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the 2nd edition of Uttar Banga Ratna held on 10th June 2023, Siliguri, and 5- A -Side Football tournament for schools, colleges, and universities on the 19th and 20th of December 2023 at the Techno World School ground, Siliguri.



Mr. Satyam Roychowdhury, Chairperson Education Committee of The Bengal Chamber, Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University and Founder and Managing Director, Techno India Group delivering the Welcome Address.



The Uttarer Nakshatra Award was posthumously given to the Northern Star of The Bengali Literature, The Legendary Samares Mazumdar. The Award was handed over to his daughter Ms. Doyel Majumdar Pandey by Mr. Satyam Roychowdhury, Chairperson of the Education Committee of The Bengal Chamber & Dr. Abhijit Shevale, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority.



From left to Right Mr. Nirmalya Acharya, School Operation, North Bengal, Techno India Group, Ms. Mira Acharya, Director Techno India Group World School, Mr. Bikramjit Saha, Sr. Executive, BCC&i, Ms. Swarnali Dhar, Deputy Director, BCC&i, Ms. G Jayashree, Headmistress Techno India Group World School and Mr. Bhaskar Roy, Vice President Techno India Group during the inauguration ceremony



Winning Team – Lime Light Senior Secondary School from 5- A-Side football tournament-Group-A – Schools



Awardees of the 2nd Edition of Uttar Banga Ratna



A match in progress on Day 1



From left to right Hon'ble Deputy Mayor of Siliguri, Shri Ranjan Sarkar, Mr. Bhaskar Roy, Vice President Techno India Group and Mr. Arun Ray, Project Director during the 5 – A side football tournament



Winning Team – Inspira Knowledge Campus from 5 – A – Side Football Tournament – Group B – Colleges / Universities



A match in progress on Day 2

## 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 - 2017, 2018, 2023



The Chamber delegation to Australia - 2018



The Chamber delegation to Germany - 2019



The Chamber delegation to Myanmar - 2016



The Chamber delegation to Bhutan - 2015

Meeting with His Excellency Tshering Tobgay  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan

The Chamber delegation to Russia - 2017, 2018



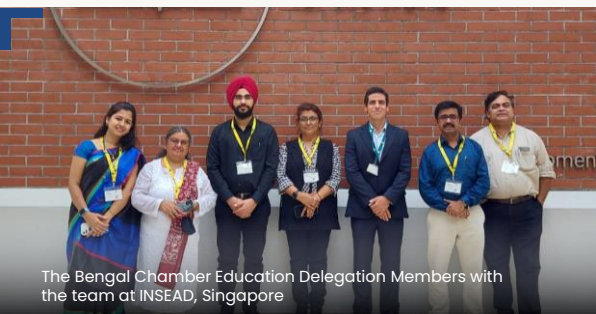
The Chamber delegation to Italy - 2016



The Chamber delegation to United Kingdom - 2017

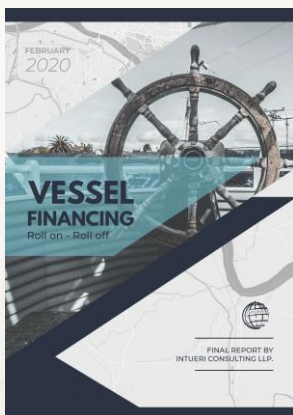
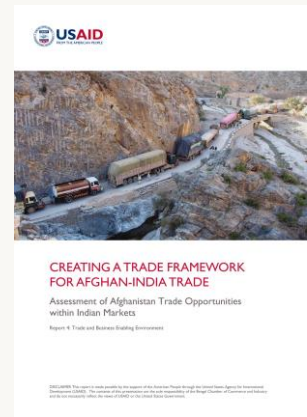
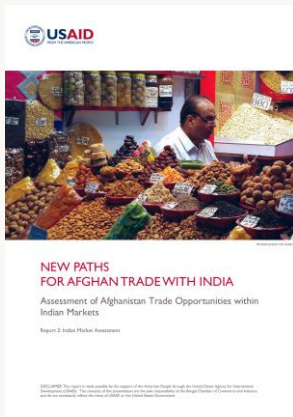
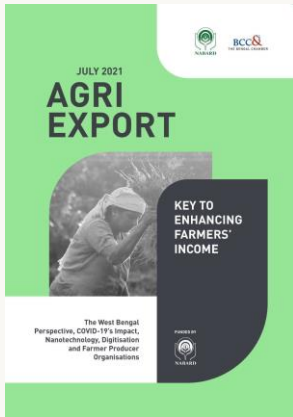


The Chamber delegation to Singapore - 2022



## 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, RPSG & Mr. BB Chatterjee, Past President, The Bengal Chamber



Smt. Jhulan Goswami with her Mother.



Lifetime Achievement Award handed over by Mr. Gautam Ray, President, The Bengal Chamber to Ms. Ms. Haimanta Saha



Education Category Award handed over by Mr. Tanmoy Banerjee, to Mr. Satyam Roychowdhury – Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University, Founder & Managing Director, Techno India Group, Chairperson

# 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 thirteen 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,9 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"



Shipping and Logistics continued...

### The Sectoral Workshop

BCC&i as an Empaneled Knowledge Partner (EKP) with the Technical Education, Training & Skill Development (TET&SD) Department, Government of West Bengal, organized the first-ever Sectoral Workshop on Logistics and Supply Chain, leading to the formation of the Sectoral Advisory Committee. The purpose of this session were – To customize a vocational curriculum for logistics & supply chain based on industry input, To align education with industry needs, To emphasize Knowledge and Technology Transfer, To focus on sustainable technologies and industry-led R&D and To enhance employability skills and on-campus recruitment.

The session commenced in the presence of Sri Anoop Kumar Agrawal, Principal Secretary, TETSD, Govt. of WB, Dr. Hari Krishna Dwivedi, Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, Sri Rajesh Pandey, Principal Secretary MSME & T Department, Govt. of WB; Smt. Vandana Yadav, Pr. Secretary, IC&E Department, Govt. of WB and Sri Saumitra Mohan, Secretary, Transport Department, Govt. of WB Department along with Mr Debasis Dutta, Chairman, Shipping and Logistics Committee, BCC&i and Director, BGS Group (B G Somadder & Sons Private Limited) and Mr. Gautam Ray, President, BCC&i & Executive Director- CESC Limited & President (HR)- Power Group, RPSG.



Address by Dr. Hari Krishna Dwivedi, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal



Inaugural Session (From L\_R) : Mr Debasis Dutta, Chairman, Shipping and Logistics Committee, BCC&i and Director, BGS GROUP (B G Somadder & Sons Private Limited); Mr Gautam Ray, President, BCC&i & Executive Director (HR & Admin.) – CESC Limited & President (HR) – Power Group, RPSG; Shri P. Uday Kumar Reddy , General Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata; Sri Anoop Kumar Agrawal, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Technical Education, Training & Skill Development, Government of West Bengal; Dr. Hari Krishna Dwivedi, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal; Sri Rajesh Pandey, Principal Secretary MSME & T Department, Government of West Bengal and Smt. Vandana Yadav, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Government of West Bengal.

## 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"

## Sports

The Sports Development Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&i) organized the following in 2023-24

1. BCC&i Corporate Futsal Gold Cup Tournament
2. BCC&i Corporate Badminton Gold Cup Tournament



Team Tata Consultancy Services -1 (Winner)



Team Tata Consultancy Services -2 (Runner Up)



Mr. Tanmay Banerjee, Director, RT Network Solutions Pvt Ltd. Handing over the Top Scorer award to Mr. Subhau Ghosh, Chairman of L1Mindtree



Mr. Tanmay Banerjee, Director, RT Network Solutions Pvt Ltd Handing over the Best Player award to Mr. Belawal Muntaz, Captain of Tata Consultancy Services



Mr. Sudip Roy Chowdhury handing over the Best Referee award to Mr. Soumen Das, Calcutta Referee Association.



Mr. Tanmay Banerjee, Director, RT Network Solutions Pvt Ltd. Handing over the Best Goalkeeper award to Mr. Monojit Dey of Team 1 from Tata Consultancy Services



Inaugural Session - Mr. Subrata Dutta, Chairperson, Sports Committee, BCC&i, Chairman, The Indian Football Association & MD, The George Telegraph inaugurating the BCC&i Corporate Futsal Gold Cup, 2023

Sports Continued...



Mr. Subrata Dutta, Sports Development Committee, BCC&i, Managing Director, The George Telegraph Group inaugurating the BCC&i Corporate Badminton Gold Cup 2024



A match in progress



Mr. Sekhar Biswas, Hony General Secy, West Bengal Badminton Association, Vice President and Chairman-Tournament Committee, Badminton Association of India during the inaugural ceremony



2nd Runner-Up Team - Linde India



1st Runner-Up Team - Nicso Engineering Services Limited



2nd Runner-Up Team - PwC India



Winning Team - Savourites Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. (6 Ballygunge Place)



From left to right Mr. Bikramjit Saha, Sr. Executive, BCC&i, Mr. Sekhar Biswas, Hony General Secy, West Bengal Badminton Association, Vice President and Chairman-Tournament Committee, Badminton Association of India, Mr. Subrata Dutta, Sports Development Committee, BCC&i, Managing Director, The George Telegraph Group, Ms. Swarnali Dhar, Deputy Director, BCC&i and Ms. Waindrilla Saha, Manager, BCC&i

Mr. Subrata Dutta, Chairman, The Indian Football Association & MD, The George Telegraph inaugurating the BCC&i Corporate Badminton Gold Cup 2024

## 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.

The committee also organizes summits that bring together visionaries, thought leaders, and entrepreneurs from across the globe. This year the committee organized Entrepreneurs' Business Summit at Bangkok, Thailand, to create Market Linkage between India and Thailand. The summit aimed to explore strategies, insights, and opportunities for entrepreneurs of India and Thailand to establish strong and sustainable market linkage of both the countries.



Recognition of one of the winners at The Rising Foodpreneurs



Inaugural Session of The Entrepreneurs' Business Summit – 6th Edition held at Hotel Holiday Inn, Silom, Bangkok



A section of Delegates from The Entrepreneurs' Business Summit 6th Edition held at Hotel Holiday Inn, Silom, Bangkok



Group Photo from The Entrepreneurs' Business Summit 6th Edition at Holiday Inn, Silom, Bangkok

# 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.



## 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.



Trade Fair continued...



Inauguration of The 22nd edition of India International Mega Trade Fair by (L-R)- Mr. Gautam Ray, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge , Department of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Government of West Bengal, Shri Sujit Bose, Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Fire and Emergency Services ( Independent Charge), Government of West Bengal, Shri Gautam Ray, President, BCC&I Mr. Tin Moe, Consul General , Consulate-General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mrs. Suparna Datta Gupta – CEO, GS Marketing Associates.

## National Tourism

The BCC&i National Tourism Committee aims to introduce the concept of 'Give Back Tourism,' an initiative to encourage responsible tourism. Through the National Tourism Committee the focus will extend to areas such as ocean tourism, niche tourism, border tourism, promoting destinations, promoting India as a responsible tourism country, and promoting Bengal as a responsible tourism state, fostering a better world.

The broad mission and vision of the committee are to dedicate and prioritize the growth of both domestic and international tourism, providing policymakers with insightful analyses of impending challenges. The strategy involves global expansion through strategic partnerships, sharing of knowledge, and adopting best practices from around the world. The committee is committed to the promotion of niche tourism areas and the effective utilization of digital strategies for destination promotion.

The National Committee comprises of approximately 40 industry leaders and stakeholders encompassing various sectors of hospitality and tourism, ranging from the Aviation sector, Hotels, Tours and Travel companies, MICE organizers, and innovative travel startups to Tourism Researchers, and so forth.

The Committee initiated its activities through a week-long celebration starting with an Inter-College Meet and Debate on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Scottish Church College Kolkata, which was the college of Swami Vivekananda and a Discussion session on Swami Vivekananda: A Herald for Sustainable Tourism followed by a Cultural presentation titled "Amritasya Putra", on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at The Bengal Chamber premises to commemorate the 161<sup>st</sup> Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.



Dr Madhmanjari Mandal, Principal, Scottish Church College; Mr Adhip Nath Pal Chaudhuri, Co-Chairperson, National Tourism Committee, BCC&i, Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber, Swami Jnanalokananda Maharaj, Secretary, Swami Vivekananda Ancestral House, Mr Pinaki Bhattacharya, Tourism Researcher, Author, and Member of the BCC&i National Tourism Committee, Ms Sukanya Bose, Director, The Bengal Chamber, Ms Mohar Mukhopadhyay, Head Corporate Communication, Balmer Lawrie Company Limited were present at the lamp lighting session at the Inter-College Meet and Debate on "Swami Vivekananda- A Herald for Sustainable Tourism" on 9th January 2024 at Scottish Church College.(L-R)



Ms. Sukanya Bose, Director, The Bengal Chamber, Dr Madhmanjari Mandal, Principal, Scottish Church College, Swami Jnanalokananda Maharaj, Secretary, Swami Vivekananda Ancestral House, Mr Adhip Nath Pal Chaudhuri, Co-Chairperson, National Tourism Committee, BCC&i were present at the Inaugural session at the Inter-College Meet and Debate on "Swami Vivekananda- A Herald for Sustainable Tourism" on 9th January 2024 at Scottish Church College.( L-R)



Mr Arijit Dutta, Managing Director, Priya Entertainments Pvt. Ltd ; Mr Adhip Nath Pal Chaudhuri, Co-Chairperson, National Tourism Committee, BCC&i; Swami Mahaprajnananda, Principal, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira; Mananeeya Shri Pravin Dabholkar, All India Treasurer, Vivekananda Kendra; Mr Pinaki Bhattacharya, Tourism Researcher, Author, and Member of the BCC&i National Tourism Committee were present at the discussion session on Swami Vivekananda: A Herald for Sustainable Tourism on 17th January 2024 at The Bengal Chamber Premises. (L to R)



Mr Adhip Nath Pal Chaudhuri, Co-Chairperson, National Tourism Committee, BCC&i delivering his speech at the discussion session on Swami Vivekananda: A Herald for Sustainable Tourism on 17th January 2024 at The Bengal Chamber Premises.

National Tourism continued...



A Cultural Presentation: "Amritasya Putra", a tribute to Swami Vivekananda was presented by Smt Soumil Ghosh Biswas, Bengali Film and Television Actress, and Classical dancer; Sri. Satyam Roychowdhury, Founder and Managing Director, Techno India Group, & Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University; Sri Saheb Chattopadhyay, Actor and Singer, Bengal Film Industry; and Smt Sudeshna Ganguly, Singer on 17th January 2024 at The Bengal Chamber Premises.



Winners of the Inter College debate competition and paper presentation on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were awarded on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at The Bengal Chamber Premises at the Swami Vivekananda: A Herald for Sustainable Tourism programme.



Recently the committee organized "Cycling for Sustainability" initiative to promote sustainability and environmental awareness through cycling, aligning with the global push towards sustainable tourism practices. 15 cyclists participated in the tour from The Bengal Chamber to Gangasagar.



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BCC&<sup>i</sup>  
THE BENGAL CHAMBER

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