



from the desk of the
PRESIDENT

Dear Member,



12th April, 2016

As we begin the new fiscal, the global macroeconomic landscape is currently charting a rough and uncertain terrain characterized by weak growth of world output. The situation has been exacerbated by :

1. Declining prices of a number of commodities, with reduction in crude oil prices being the most visible of them;
2. Turbulent financial markets (more so equity markets), and
3. Volatile exchange rates.

Even in these trying and uncertain circumstances, India's growth story has largely remained positive on the strength of domestic absorption, and the country has registered a robust and steady pace of economic growth in 2015-16 as it did in 2014-15.

Despite the distress signals, Budget 2016-17 is an incremental move in the backdrop of global uncertainty as The Hon'ble Finance Minister, Mr. Arun Jaitley has chosen to strictly adhere to a conservative fiscal stance in his successive budgets, prioritising deficit reduction over everything else. On February 29, 2016 Mr. Jaitley has presented a pro agriculture and socially tempered budget, with robust outlays for infrastructure, agriculture, rural and socio-economic schemes. It may propel an agri based domestic growth and is an attempt to insulate the Indian economy against global economic fluctuations.

Going by official statistics, the Indian economy appears to have already achieved what is globally considered an enviable position – a virtuous combination of high growth and dwindling inflation. There is some macroeconomic stability, resilience and optimism and the economy can be expected to register GDP growth that could be in the range of 7-7.5 per cent in the coming year. Concomitantly, the Government of West Bengal is to be commended for its initiatives towards development and progress, in spite of heavy interest payments due to the inherited financial burden. Standing against heavy odds of financial erosion on account of payment of inherited interest outgo of Rs 1.4 lakh crore, during the State Vote on Account, the Hon'ble Finance Minister of West Bengal's focus is on resource building and development through a projected planned expenditure of Rs 57,905 crore.

The Chamber has focused on creating synergies and adding value to the stakeholders in each activity that it has engaged itself in, and as the newsletter will reveal, has brought to you an exhilarating mix of events, programmes and projects ranging from transportation solutions to industrial zoning work. The Chamber has already got its calendar blocked for the next few months. We need your support, participation and guidance to flourish and excel in our journey.

“ইস্হা নস্হাৰ্হা”!

Sd/-
Ambarish Dasgupta
President

members news corner

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey **Arambagh Foodmart Pvt. Ltd.** whose application for membership was tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on **23rd February 2016.**

The Indirect Taxes Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Workshop on VAT & Services Tax in Works Contract on 19th February, 2016 at The Park Kolkata. Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone graced the inaugural session.

The welcome address was delivered by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee. He also deliberated on the importance of works contract in current business scenario where almost all industries are affected by the indirect taxation on works contracts. The inaugural address was given by the Chief Guest, Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone. After the inaugural address he launched the Book – ‘Issues in Works Contract under Service Tax & VAT: A Comprehensive Technical Guide’, written by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson – Indirect Taxes Committee and Mr. Vivek Jalan, Member of the Indirect Taxes Committee of The Bengal Chamber. The publisher, Mr. Masheshwari of Book Corporation also joined in the official launch.

The six technical sessions of the Workshop covered, Works Contract under the Service Tax, Real Estate / Construction Industry under the Service Tax, Works Contract under the WB VAT Act, Comparative Study of Works Contract under various States, GST on Real Estate / Construction, Issues including various Judgments of Courts on Works Contract under VAT & CST. The speakers included Mr. Pulak Saha, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Partner - Tax & Regulatory Services, Price Waterhouse & Co. LLP, Mr. Vivek Jalan, FCA, JAV & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Mr. Avisekh Jaiswal, Sr. Manager – Indirect Tax, Ernst & Young LLP, Mr. M. S. Mani, Senior Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Limited and Mr. Khalid Anwar, Jt. Commissioner, Commercial Taxes, Government of West Bengal.

The Workshop was attended by close to hundred delegates.



Welcome Address by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Chief Corporate Officer, Legal and Corporate Affairs, DIC India Ltd.



Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest, Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone



Release of Book 'Works Contract under Service Tax & VAT : A Comprehensive Technical Guide' written by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Mr. Vivek Jalan, Member – Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Mr. T. B. Chatterjee presenting a memento to the Chief Guest, Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone



Technical Session in progress: Mr. Pulak Saha, Co-Chairperson-Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Partner - Tax & Regulatory Services, Price Waterhouse & Co. LLP



Technical Session in progress : Mr. Vivek Jalan, FCA, JAV & Associates, Chartered Accountants

19th February 2016
The Park

Workshop on VAT & Services Tax in Works Contract



Technical Session in progress : Mr. Avisekh Jaiswal, Sr. Manager – Indirect Tax, Ernst & Young LLP



Technical Session in progress : Mr. M S Mani, Senior Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Limited



Technical Session in progress : Mr. Khalid Anwar, Jt. Commissioner, Commercial Taxes, Government of West Bengal



Q/A Session in progress



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting a memento to Mr. Khalid Anwar, Jt. Commissioner, Commercial Taxes, Government of West Bengal

19th February 2016
Gandhi Bhavan, Jadavpur University

The Bengal Chamber Technology Quiz

The annual Bengal Chamber Technology Quiz was held on 19th February 2016 in association with Jadavpur University in the University Premises. It was the seventh edition of our IT Quiz, and rechristened this year as the Tech Quiz. This year, the Quiz was opened only for college students. There were 300 participants from Kolkata and rest of West Bengal like Durgapur, Asansol, Kalyani and also Odisha.

In fact, two teams from Odisha were among the top three teams. The winners were students from IIIT Bhubaneswar and CET Bhubaneswar. The positions of first and second runners up were shared by NIT Rourkela & IIFT, Kolkata.

The prizes included Rs 40,000/- for winners and Rs 20,000/- and 10,000/- for the 1st Runner Up and the 2nd Runner Up Teams respectively which were jointly shared by them.

The Quiz Master Mr. Charanpreet Singh, as usual, made the Quiz an exciting affair. The programme was well received by the participants as per the feedback we received.

The dignitaries who graced the occasion were :

- Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal
- Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata
- Dr. Ashish Swarup Verma, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University
- Dr. Sudipta De, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jadavpur University
- Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri, Professor of Economics and Former Head, Jadavpur University & Member, BCC&I Economic Affairs Committee.
- Prof. Rajat Acharyya, Dean, Faculty Council of Arts, Jadavpur University
- Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Dean, Faculty Council of Engg. & Tech, Jadavpur University
- Mr. S. Radhakrishnan, President, TIE Kolkata and Past President, BCC&I
- Mr. Ranjan Ganguly, CEO-Customer Service and CRM, Eureka Forbes Ltd

PROGRAMME

The Bengal Chamber Technology Quiz

19th February 2016
Gandhi Bhavan, Jadavpur University



Registration in progress.



Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, BCC&I explaining the rules of the quiz.



The preliminary round in progress.



Participants during recess.



The Quiz Master Mr. Charanpreet Singh in his quintessential demeanor conducting the quiz.



The quizzers brainstorming during the final round of the quiz.



The final round in progress.



The Champions, students from IIIT Bhubaneswar and CET Bhubaneswar collecting their prizes from Dr. Ashish Swarup Verma, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University

19th February 2016
Gandhi Bhavan, Jadavpur University

The Bengal Chamber Technology Quiz



All the winners along with the eminent dignitaries on the dais.



Thank You Sponsors!

20th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata

Next Gen Employability Conclave – 2nd Edition

The People Management Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized 'Next Gen Employability Conclave – 2nd Edition' at The Park, Kolkata on February 20, 2016. The objective of the Conclave was to address the employability scenario of Eastern India and to understand and brainstorm today's requirements of the industries through an interface between representatives of Industry and Educational Institutes imparting Engineering and Management studies. The Conclave was attended by Directors, Faculty, Students and Administrative Officers of Engineering and Management Institutes and HR Leaders involved in the recruitment process.

Guest Speakers at this event were Mr Hemant Kanoria, Chairman and Managing Director, Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd; Mr Sanjay Agarwal, Managing Director, Century Plyboards (I) Limited; Mr. Anil Kariwala, Managing Director, Kariwala Industries Ltd; Mr. Devesh Bansal, Managing Director, Skipper Limited; Dr. Mousumi Ghosh, Founder Director, Team Future; Prof. Santanu Ray, Director-Management Studies and Research, Future Business School; Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Senior Professor and Former Principal and Dean, Bhavans Institute of Management Studies; Dr. Naveen Das, Director, NSHM Business School; Mr Somesh Dasgupta Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and President (Corporate Affairs & Admin), India Power Corporation Limited; Mr Rahul Bose, L & K Leader, GBS, India, South Asia, IBM India Limited; Mr. P.K. Sahu, Co – Chairperson - The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Sr. General Manager (HRM & Safety), Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Limited; Mr. Subhasis Das, Vice President - Corporate HR & Personnel, Berger Paints India Limited; Mr. Rajesh Jain Head (Corporate HR), Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited; Maj Gen (Dr) SC Jain, VSM (Retd), Director, Army Institute of Management; Smt. Nabanita Khan, Director – Global Business Services IBM India Ltd; Mr Imdad Ali, Chief HRM, Profit Centers, Tata Steel Ltd; Arindam Banik, Director, International Management Institute; Mr. Jayanta Mukherjee, Head – HR, Quaker Chemical India Limited; Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Vice President and Centre Head Kolkata, Capgemini India Pvt.Ltd.; Mr. Sujitesh Das, Vice President- Strategic Human Resources, Microland Limited; Mr.

Ravindar Dharkar, VP – Talent Acquisition and L&D, Lafarge India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Ghosh, Bose & Associates Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. R N Lahiri, Director, Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science (Batanagar Education and Research Trust); Mr Sugata Halder, Country Head – HR, Century Plyboards (India) Limited; Mr. Vikash Kumar Singh, Founder Director, Genius Kids, Director, Annex College – Group of Institutions.

Promoters from various companies shared their stories of journey to success which inspired senior industry professionals to strive for professional excellence and also motivated young graduates to be more focused in their professional career. Eminent HR heads were of opinion that education was the single most important instrument for social and economic transformation. A well educated population, adequately equipped with knowledge and skill was not only essential to support economic growth, but it was also a precondition for growth to be inclusive since it's the educated and skilled person who could stand to benefit most from the employment opportunities which growth will provide.

A magazine named "HR Graffiti" was also published on the programme day which contains many articles on employability scenarios written by eminent HR heads from the industry.



Welcome Address by Mr Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and President (Corporate Affairs & Admin), India Power Corporation Limited.

PROGRAMME

Next Gen Employability Conclave – 2nd Edition

20th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata



Address by Mr Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Partner and Head Management Consulting and Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd.



Theme Address by Conference Chairperson – Mr Rahul Bose, L & K Leader, GBS, India, South Asia, IBM India Limited.



Vote of Thanks by Mr. P.K. Sahu, Co – Chairperson - The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Sr. General Manager (HRM & Safety), Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Limited.



Leader's Conclave moderated by Dr. Mousumi Ghosh, Founder Director, Team Future.



Address by Mr Hemant Kanoria, Chairman and Managing Director, Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd.



Mr. P.K. Sahu, Co – Chairperson - The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber presenting mementos to Mr. Hemant Kanoria, Chairman and Managing Director, Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd.



Mr. P.K. Sahu presenting mementos to Dr. Mousumi Ghosh, Founder Director, Team Future.



Leader's Conclave moderated by Prof. Santanu Ray, Director-Management Studies and Research, FutureEBusiness School.

20th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata

Next Gen Employability Conclave – 2nd Edition



Address by Mr Sanjay Agarwal, Managing Director, Century Plyboards (I) Limited.



Mr Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting mementos to Mr Sanjay Agarwal, Managing Director , Century Plyboards (I) Limited.



Mr Somesh Dasgupta presenting mementos to Prof. Santanu Ray, Director-Management Studies and Research, Future Business School.



Leader's Conclave moderated by Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Senior Professor Former Principal and Dean, Bhavans Institute of Management Studies.



Address by Mr. Anil Kariwala, Managing Director, Kariwala Industries Ltd.



Mr Rahul Bose, L & K Leader, GBS, India, South Asia, IBM India Limited presenting mementos to Dr. Suman K Mukerjee.



Mr Rahul Bose presenting mementos to Mr. Anil Kariwala.



Leader's Conclave moderated by Dr. Naveen Das, Director, NSHM Business School.



Address by Mr. Devesh Bansal, Managing Director, Skipper Limited.



Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Director, JIS Group presenting mementos to Mr. Devesh Bansal.



Mr. Simarpreet Singh presenting mementos to Dr. Naveen Das, Director, NSHM Business School.



Vision Sharing of People Management Committee by Mr Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with other committee members.

'HR Graffiti', a magazine released by People Management Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. L-R Mr. Rajesh Jain Head (Corporate HR), Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited; Mr. Subhasis Das, Vice President - Corporate HR & Personnel, Berger Paints India Limited; Prof. Santanu Ray, Director-Management Studies and Research, Future Business School; Mr. Devesh Bansal, Managing Director, Skipper Limited, Prof. Ranjan Das, Ex – IIM Calcutta; Mr Somesh Dasgupta Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and President (Corporate Affairs & Admin), India Power Corporation Limited; Mr. P.K. Sahu, Co – Chairperson - The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Sr. General Manager (HRM & Safety), Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Limited; Mr. Anil Kariwala, Managing Director, Kariwala Industries Ltd; Mr. Simarpreet Singh, Director, JIS Group; Mr Rahul Bose, L & K Leader, GBS, India, South Asia, IBM India Limited; Mr. Jayanta Mukherjee, Head – HR, Quaker Chemical India Limited; Mr. Partha Chowdhury, General Manager (HR) & Crew Management, Quippo Construction & Equipment Limited; Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Senior Professor Former Principal and Dean, Bhavans Institute of Management Studies; Mr. R N Lahiri, Director, Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science (Batanagar Education and Research Trust) with the magazine. At the back of Mr. R. N Lahiri is Dr. Rajdip Bakshi, Dean Business Management, Budge Budge Institute of Technology.



A section of the audience.



Question from the audience.

20th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata

Next Gen Employability Conclave – 2nd Edition



Speakers' Lunch.



Smt. Nabanita Khan, Director – Global Business Services IBM India Ltd addressing the audience during Panel Discussion on Attitude, Soft skills and Emotional Quotient - DNA of Hiring.



Mr Imdad Ali, Chief HRM, Profit Centers, Tata Steel Ltd addressing the audience during Panel Discussion on Attitude, Soft skills and Emotional Quotient - DNA of Hiring.



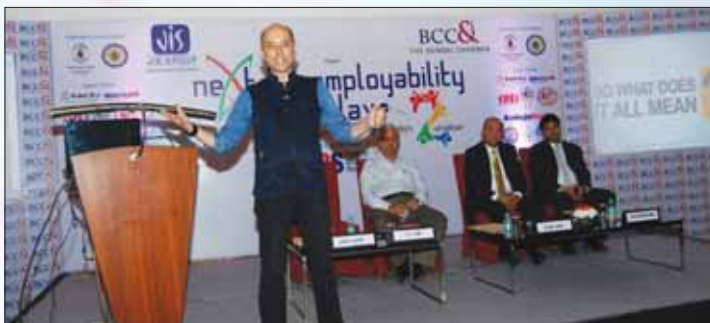
Dr. Arindam Banik, Director, International Management Institute addressing the audience during Panel Discussion on Attitude, Soft skills and Emotional Quotient - DNA of Hiring.



Mr. Jayanta Mukherjee, Head – HR, Quaker Chemical India Limited addressing the audience during Panel Discussion on Time Utilization in College - To create Paper Tigers or Budding Professionals (Covering Summer/Industry Projects) along with other dignitaries. To the left of Mr. Jayanta Mukherjee, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Vice President and Centre Head Kolkata Capgemini India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Sujit Das, Vice President- Strategic Human Resources, Microland Limited; Mr. Ravindar Dharkar, VP – Talent Acquisition and L&D, Lafarge India Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Managing Director, Ghosh, Bose & Associates Pvt. Ltd. addressing the audience during Panel Discussion on The Booming Career Zone: Entrepreneurship along with other dignitaries. To the right of Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Mr. R N Lahiri, Director, Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science (Batanagar Education and Research Trust); Mr. Sugata Halder, Country Head – HR, Century Plyboards (India) Limited. To his left, Mr. Vikash Kumar Singh, Founder Director, Genius Kids, Director, Annex College – Group of Institutions.



Mr Sugata Halder, Country Head – HR, Century Plyboards (India) Limited making a presentation on "Stay Relevant Stay Alive"

PROGRAMME

Wellness Expo

20th & 21st February 2016
City Centre I, Kund Area, Salt Lake

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized our Wellness Expo on 20th & 21st February 2016 at the City Centre I, Kund Area, Salt Lake. The Expo was inaugurated by Dr. Alok Roy, Immediate Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Chairman, Medica Group of Hospitals along with Dr. Rupali Basu, President and CEO (Eastern Region), Apollo Hospitals Group, India. After the ribbon cutting ceremony, a Yoga session was conducted by Mystic Yoga Studio.

14 reputed city Hospitals, Diagnostic Centres, Insurance Company and Stem Cell Banking Companies participated in the Wellness Expo to showcase their products and services. Participating hospitals

had also organized free blood pressure check-up, blood sugar testing, and eye testing along with free consultation in their stalls. Participating companies of Wellness Expo were Apollo Hospitals, AMRI Hospitals, B M Birla Heart Research Centre, Belle Vue Clinic, Birla Sun Life Insurance, Currae Eye Care Hospital, Columbia Asia Hospital, Cord Life Sciences India Pvt Ltd, Emami Frank Ross, GD Hospital & Diabetes Institute, ILS Hospitals, KPC Medical College & Hospital, Lifecell International Pvt Ltd, Mercy Hospital, Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, R N Tagore Hospital, Suraksha Diagnostic, Techno Global Hospital and Woodlands Multispecialty Hospital. A food stall was given by Flurys. The Expo attracted great footfall even while summer was setting in.



Inauguration of Wellness Expo by Dr. Alok Roy, Immediate Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Chairman, Medica Group of Hospitals along with Dr. Rupali Basu, President and CEO (Eastern Region), Apollo Hospitals Group, India.



Yoga Session by Mystic Yoga Studio at the Inaugural Ceremony.



Apollo Hospital Stall at Wellness Expo.



Belle Vue Clinic Stall.



Mercy Hospital Stall.



Blood Pressure check-up in GD Hospital Stall.

20th & 21st February 2016
City Centre I, Kund Area, Salt Lake

Wellness Expo



Blood Pressure check-up in B M Birla Heart & Research Institute Stall.



Cord Life Science India Pvt Ltd Stall.



R N Tagore Hospital Stall.



Suraksha Diagnostic Stall.

22nd February 2016
Jairambati, Bankura

Seminar on Potato Exports

The Agriculture and Rural Development Committee of the Chamber organized a one day Seminar on Potato Exports in Jayrambati, Bankura on February 22, 2016 in association with Department of Agriculture Marketing, Government of West Bengal and APEDA.

Shri Arup Roy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Marketing, Govt. of West Bengal inaugurated the Seminar and addressed the gathering of 500 farmers along with Local MLA and district Agriculture Officers. The Hon'ble Minister thanked BCC&I for their tremendous efforts in reaching out to farmers and graciously agreed to help such initiatives in the future.

Dr. C B Singh, Asst. General Manager, APEDA spoke on quality of potatoes for export and stressed the need for producing quality potatoes in the State. He thanked BCC&I for their endeavour and also agreed to help the Chamber in these matters.

Technical discussions on increasing the production and improving the quality of potato to match the international market standards was highlighted by Prof. Pranab Chatterjee, BCKV and Dr. Ajoy Kar, Soil Scientist. Prof. Chatterjee spoke about the higher and uneconomic doses of fertilizers used by farmers thereby increasing the cost of cultivation. Dr. Kar spoke about the nutrient uptake pattern of potato and the need for efficient fertilizer use. He urged the farmers to use the right nutrients along with organic manures to improve the storage quality of potatoes.

Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, Chairperson, Agriculture and Rural Development Committee also announced that the Bengal Chamber's Agriculture and Rural Development Committee would take initiative for soil testing in the surrounding villages for the quality production of potatoes for export.

This was an initiative of the Chamber directly connected with its farmer outreach programme, for which the Chamber is in close connect with the Government of West Bengal.



Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, Chairman, Agriculture and Rural Development Committee of the Bengal Chamber at the lectern.

PROGRAMME

Seminar on Potato Exports

22nd February 2016
Jairambati, Bankura



Shri Arup Roy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Marketing, Govt. of West Bengal.



The 500 farmers and exporters who were in the audience.

PROGRAMME

Interaction with Shri Basudeb Banerjee, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal

23rd February 2016
Chamber Premises

Shri Basudeb Banerjee, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, very kindly accepted the Chamber's invitation for an interactive session with members of its Managing Committee. The Members of the Chamber was privileged to felicitate Shri Banerjee on the occasion. In his address Shri Banerjee, in an encouraging note, spoke about the Government's commitment to change and improve initiatives towards industry, infrastructure development, tourism, skill development and issues concerning the unorganized sector in the State. His talk was followed by an invigorating Q&A Session.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President of the Chamber felicitating Shri Basudeb Banerjee, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal. Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate is on the right of Shri Banerjee.



Shri Basudeb Banerjee, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, addressing the MC Members.



The meeting in progress.



Members of the Managing Committee interacting with the Chief Secretary.

**25th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata**

East & North Eastern Skill Development Summit - Creating Synergies within all Stakeholders

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been organizing Skill Conclaves and Summits for the last few years focusing on the Eastern and North Eastern parts of India. This activity has now become an annual event of the Chamber. Since the North Eastern Part of the Country is a priority area and require extensive professional inputs in respect of introducing skills training providers, initiating large number of training programmes, organizing training of trainers programmes, maintaining liaison with industries and recruiters and universities and most importantly establishing links between industries and institutes, The Bengal Chamber has a special focus on the North Eastern region of the country in the realm of Skill Development.

The programme witnessed the presence of Shri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble Minister of the Technical Education & Training Department, Govt. of West Bengal. There were representatives from the State of Tripura and Nagaland attending the programme. Institutes that participated in the programme included George Telegraph, Globsyn and JIS among various other institutes that impart skills education in West Bengal. Tata Strive, Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Ltd and Berger were some of the corporates that came forward to be a part of this programme. Presence of a few Sector Skill Councils also created a difference and helped create a strong synergy between the various stakeholders of the skills fraternity. The Hon'ble Minister personally appreciated the efforts of the Chamber.



Mr. Subrata Dutta, Chairman Skill Development Committee, BCC&I, addressing the inaugural session.



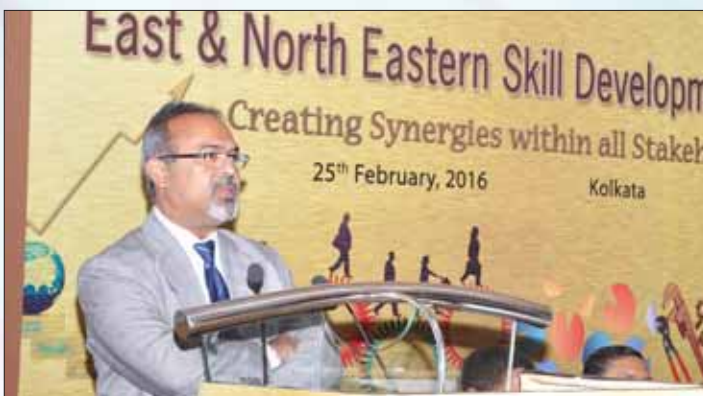
Mr. Mainak Guha, Programme Co-ordinator, Directorate of Skill Development, Govt. of Tripura giving his presentation.



Speakers at Session I: The opportunity landscape: perspective from Corporates and Skill Development Institutes.



Mr. Alok Mookherjea, Chairman, Howden Solyvent (India) Private Limited and Past President, The Bengal Chamber, coordinating the Session as the Session Chairman.



Mr. Abraham Stephanos, MD, Tata Steel Processing And Distribution Limited delivering his speech at Session I.



Ms. Tania Chakraborty, Secretariat, Bengal Chamber emceeing the programme.

PROGRAMME

East & North Eastern Skill Development Summit - Creating Synergies within all Stakeholders

25th February 2016
The Park, Kolkata



Shri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Technical Education & Training, Govt. of West Bengal at the Special Plenary Session, The Growth Trajectory & Success Stories of Skill Development in Bengal.



President Designate, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting memento to the Hon'ble Minister.



President Designate, Mr. Sutanu Ghosh with the Hon'ble Minister.



The Special Plenary Session with Hon'ble Minister Shri Ujjal Biswas.



Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, MD, Enfragy Solutions India Private Limited and Chairperson, Emerging Areas Committee, BCC&I with the Hon'ble Minister before delivering the Vote of Thanks and concluding the seminar.

PROGRAMME

Application of Technology – Business Connect

26th February 2016,
Chamber Premises

The Friends of IT Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the programme, 'Application of Technology – Business Connect' at Williamson Magor Hall, The Chamber Premises, Kolkata on February 26, 2016. IT companies from Kolkata took part in this seminar to present their profile and provide their best solutions to Senior Management/Decision Makers, Directors who participated as delegates from various industries like Healthcare, Real Estate, Education, Hospitality and Manufacturing.

IT companies who participated in this seminar were Erevmax Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Touchstone Tie up Pvt. Ltd., Axsys Technologies Ltd, Ultimate

Digital Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Seven Boats Info-System Pvt. Ltd., Business Brio (GBSM Consulting Pvt. Ltd), Peers Symantech and Baboon Labs India (P) Ltd. Technical presentations on best practices around Analytics, Social Media, Network and Web security, Medical Informatics were also showcased in front of the delegates.

A useful platform in the form of B2B discussion was also created for delegate companies looking for best IT solutions in their respective sectors. The participating IT companies shared the solutions and also shared information and knowledge about the latest advancements in Technology.

26th February 2016,
Chamber Premises

Application of Technology – Business Connect



Welcome Address by Mr Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Theme address by Mr Abhijit Hazra, Chairperson, Friends of IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Director, Touchstone Tie up Pvt. Ltd.



Vote of Thanks by Mr Udai Singh Solanki, Co-Chairperson, Friends of IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chief Technology Officer, Erevmax Technologies Pvt. Ltd.



Profile Presentation by one of the participating companies, Axsys Technologies Ltd.



A section of the delegates.



B2B session in progress.

26th February 2016,
Chamber premises

State Vote on Account Viewing Session

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the State Vote on Account (presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister of the State Government, Dr. Amit Mitra) Viewing Session on 26th February, 2016 in the ITC Room of the Chamber. Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I & Managing Director, Ghosh, Bose & Associates Pvt. Ltd., Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Senior Professor & Former Principal cum Dean, Bhavans Institute of Management Studies; Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri, Professor of Economics & Former Head of Department, Jadavpur University attended the Session and briefed the media on the Chamber's reactions.

1. Viewing Session of the State Vote on Account in progress (L-R): Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri, Professor of Economics & Former Head of Department, Jadavpur University; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, BCC&I, Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Economist, Senior Professor & Former Principal cum Dean, Bhavans Institute of Management Studies.



PROGRAMME

State Vote on Account Viewing Session

26th February 2016,
Chamber premises



Viewing Session of the State Vote on Account in progress.



Media interaction in progress.

Union Budget Viewing Session

29th February 2016
Chamber Premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the Union Budget 2016-17 Viewing Session on 29th February, 2016 in the Williamson Magor Hall of the Chamber. Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I & Partner and Head Management Consulting & Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I & Managing Director, Ghosh, Bose & Associates Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Sunil Mitra, Chairperson – Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&I & Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of

India; Mr. T.B. Chatterjee, Chairperson – Indirect Tax Committee, BCC&I and Chief Corporate Officer, Legal and Corporate Affairs, DIC India Limited; Dr. Bhaskar Banerjee, Past President, and Dr. Abhijit Sen, Past President were present. Members from the Managing Committee, Direct Taxes Committee and Indirect Taxes Committee also attended the Session. The Budget Viewing Session was followed by an analysis of the Budget and media interactions. The Chamber's reaction to the Budget was televised in the media.



Viewing Session of the Union Budget 2016 – 17 in progress.



Viewing Session of the Union Budget 2016 – 17 in progress (L-R) Mr. T.B. Chatterjee, Chairperson – Indirect Tax Committee, BCC&I; Shri Sunil Mitra, Chairperson – Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&I & Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, BCC&I.



Viewing Session of the Union Budget 2016 – 17 in progress.



Media Interaction in progress.

**1st March, 2016
The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata**

**Post-Budget Analysis Session
'Union Budget 2016-17: An In-depth Analysis'**

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and KPMG India organized the post-budget analysis session 'Union Budget 2016-17: An In-depth Analysis' on 1st March, 2016 at The Oberoi Grand. Welcome Address was given by Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I and Partner and Head Management Consulting & Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG. Shri Sunil Mitra, Chairperson – Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&I & Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India presided over the opening session and discussed economic perspectives on Budget 2016-17. Mr. Rahul Mitra, Partner and National Head, BEPS & Tax Dispute Resolution, KPMG and Mr. Sanjay Garg, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG deliberated on implications on Direct Taxes and Indirect Taxes respectively.

The Opening Session was followed by a Panel Discussion with experts from the Industry who all addressed on the overall economic impact and also from the perspective of their respective areas of interest. The Panel Discussion was chaired by Shri Sunil Mitra. Other panelists were Mr. Saugata Bhattacharya, Chief Economist, Axis Bank, Mr. Sanjiv Paul, Managing Director, Tata Metaliks Limited, Mr. Sushil Mohta, Chairman, CREDAI Bengal and Managing Director, Merlin Projects Limited and Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, CEO, Ambrosia Enterprise Pvt. Ltd.

There was also a Q/A session with the audience. The Panel Discussion was followed by networking lunch. The Post Budget analysis session was attended by more than 250 delegates.



Welcome Address by Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I & Partner and Head Management Consulting & Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG.



Opening Session (L-R) Mr. Rahul Mitra, Partner and National Head, BEPS & Tax Dispute Resolution, KPMG; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I & Partner and Head Management Consulting & Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG; Shri Sunil Mitra, Chairperson – Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&I & Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India; Mr. Sanjay Garg, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG.



Panel Discussion in progress (L-R) Mr. Sushil Mohta, Chairman, CREDAI Bengal and Managing Director, Merlin Projects Limited; Mr. Saugata Bhattacharya, Chief Economist, Axis Bank; Shri Sunil Mitra; Mr. Sanjiv Paul, Managing Director, Tata Metaliks Limited and Mr. Satyabrata Mukherjee, CEO, Ambrosia Enterprise Pvt. Ltd.



Q/A Session in progress.



The audience.

PROGRAMME

Taxi Commuter Connect Platform – Presentation and Press Meet

4th March 2016,
Netaji Indoor Stadium Premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry on 4th March 2016, in a brainstorming session with the Department of Transport, Govt. of West Bengal and other relevant Stakeholders, including Taxi Unions, presented a business proposal for the “Taxi Commuter Connect Platform”, an innovative platform for Public Taxi Operators, popularly known as yellow and blue/white taxis which are outside the purview of app-based service at the moment.

Over the past few years there has been a growing fleet of Mobile Application based (App-based) Taxi Service providers in Kolkata. Popularity and preference for App-based taxis are also on the rise. Key advantages of App based taxi drivers remain the availability of a platform for customer sourcing. However there remains an estimated 30,000 taxis (yellow and blue/white taxis) which are outside the purview of such customer sourcing platforms. With this proposal, The Bengal Chamber is offering the prospect of bringing to these taxis a platform for customer sourcing to provide them with a level playing field with other App-based taxi services. Such a platform is also expected to provide customers with an option to remotely locate and call a Yellow Taxi without compromising safety, comfort, reliability and cost competitiveness.

Having duly examined the city transportation and difficulties for both Yellow Taxi Drivers & Commuters, we are confident that our proposed platform will largely address their needs. Our goal is to provide a technology platform that helps Yellow Taxis with a competitive edge in customer sourcing through efficient information management and intelligent trend-based insights – all in real time. By availing our platform, Kolkata can experience:

- ❑ Improved Driver Commuter Interaction
- ❑ Less refusal, Yellow Taxi at door step
- ❑ Safe, reliable, comfortable, sustainable and accessible transport.
- ❑ Optimized City Area Coverage.
- ❑ Rationalized Taxi Polarization within the City.
- ❑ Potential drop in use of Personal Vehicles.
- ❑ Reduced Parking issues at Taxi Stands
- ❑ Enablement of Smarter City Transportation.

By implementing such platform, Yellow and blue/white taxis become more convenient, comfortable, accessible and understandable for everyone. The number of passengers using these taxis should increase and citizens would be able to embrace their utility to society, thereby, transforming the way Kolkata moves!

The Stakeholders present in the session included representatives from prominent Taxi Owners Associations (Calcutta Taxi Owners, Progressive Taxi Owners Association, Bengal Taxi Owners Association) National Informatics Centre (NIC), Kolkata Police (ACP-Traffic and DC-Traffic1) along with Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS, Principal Secretary, Transport, Govt. of West Bengal and other key officials from the Department of Transport, Govt. of West Bengal. The session was also very well covered by the Media. A two member task force represented by officials from the Department of Transport, Govt. of West Bengal and Kolkata Police was also being created to take the project forward.



Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal addressing the media.



BCC&I President Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, addressing the media.



Mr. Pradip Bhowmick, Partner, Infrastructure and Government Services, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd and part of the BCC&I's Task Force for this project presenting the contours of the project to the stakeholders present in the meeting.



A glimpse of the massive media coverage for the event.



Shri Alapan Bandyopadhyay, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal during a press interview. Alongside him from R-L are, Mr. Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS, Addl. Commissioner of Police (I) and Mr. V. Solomon Nesakumar, IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic Department.

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**4th March 2016
Chamber Premises**

This programme was organized in association with Jadavpur University. The speaker was Michael Shellenberger, a Time Magazine "Hero of the Environment" and Founder & President, Environmental Progress, USA. The programme was attended by representatives from Industry, Academia, Development Agencies and Consulates. Prof. Sibaji Raha, Director, Bose Institute was also present in the programme sharing his perspectives on Nuclear Energy.



Talk on "What India can learn from the history of environmental progress?"



The audience.

(L-R): Dr. Joyashree Roy, Professor of Economics , Coordinator, Global Change Programme, Jadavpur University; Dr. Michael Shellenberger, Founder & President, Environmental Progress, USA; Prof. Sibaji Raha, Director, Bose Institute and Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber

**8th March 2016,
Chamber premises, Kolkata**

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Sports Development Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with Ananya Onnomon, a socio-cultural organization and partner of the Chamber in many of its cultural activities, paid tribute to those ladies whose untiring toils have made their children illustrious achievers and leaders in their respective walks of life. The Chamber celebrated this unique day with a very special programme – "Ratnagarbha".

The Chamber paid tribute to Smt. Champa Devi Kanoria, pioneer of the Kanoria Foundation, SREI Group; Smt. Deepa Mallick Chakraborty, Mother of noted actress, Smt Koel Mallick; Smt Sanjukta Ghosh, Mother of Pandit Bickram Ghosh, well-known table player and percussionist; Smt Manjura Ali, Mother of Mr. Mir Afsar Ali, anchor, actor, musician and RJ; Smt Shiela Vijaya, Mother of Ms. Archana Vijaya, noted television presenter; Smt Kalyani Sarkar,

"Ratnagarbha": A Tribute to the Proud Mothers of Bengal

Mother of Shri Joy Sarkar; Smt Meera Gandhi, Mother of Shri Devang Gandhi, Former Test Cricketer and Smt Sanjukta Chakraborty, Mother of Smt Lagnajita Chakraborty, singer.

A special presentation was conducted by famous Gynaecologist of the city, Dr. Gautam Khastagir, Medical Director, BIRTH, on "Dream Comes True for Motherhood". The programme was moderated by Mr. Debashish Dutta, well-known journalist, and included performances by Mr Abhijit Das and Ms Debjani Dutta of Ananya Onnomon.

The sponsors of the event were Merck Group, Simaaya Fashions and Ghosh, Bose and Associates Private Limited. The programme was attended by more than 180 invitees.



Awardees during the function.



BCC&I Ratnagarbha.

PROGRAMME

“Ratnagarbha”: A Tribute to the Proud Mothers of Bengal

**8th March 2016,
Chamber premises, Kolkata**



Dr. Gautam Khastagir, famous Gynaecologist of Kolkata during his presentation.



Dr. H P Kanoria at the function.



Dr. Shanta Sen, Secretary, Annanya Onnomon.



Mr. Abhijit Das from Annanya Onnomon rendering Rabindrasangeet.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I presenting the Memento for Smt Meera Gandhi to his son Shri Devang Gandhi.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting the Memento to Smt Deepa Mallick Chakraborty, Mother of Smt Koel Mallick.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting the Memento to Smt Sanjukta Chakraborty, Mother of Smt Lagnajita Chakraborty.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting the Memento to Smt Sanjukta Ghosh, Mother of Pandit Bickram Ghosh.

**8th March 2016,
Chamber premises, Kolkata**

**“Ratnagarbha”: A Tribute to the
Proud Mothers of Bengal**



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting the Memento to Smt. Champa Devi Kanoria. Pioneer of the Kanoria Foundation.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I during his welcome address.



Mr. Debashish Dutta concluding the evening's programme.



Mr. Debashish Dutta, Moderator of the evening.



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate commencing the show.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I presenting the Ratnagarbha Memento to Smt. Kalyani Sarkar, Mother of Shri Joy Sarkar.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting the Ratnagarbha Memento to Smt Shiela Vijaya, Mother of Ms Archana Vijaya.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, presenting the Ratnagarbha Memento to Smt Manjura Ali, Mother of Mr. Mir Afsar Ali.

PROGRAMME

“Ratnagarbha”: A Tribute to the Proud Mothers of Bengal

8th March 2016,
Chamber premises, Kolkata



Ms. Debjani Dutta, Performer, Annaya Onnomon.



Smt. Deepa Mallick and Smt. Koel Mallick sharing a few anecdotes.



Smt. Deepa Mallick with her daughter, Smt. Koel Mallick.



Section of the audience.



Section of the audience.



Smt. Koel Mallick.



Smt. Champa Devi Kanoria, Pioneer of the Kanoria Foundation.

12th-13th March 2016
Hyatt Regency

Eastern Fashion Legacy

The Bengal Chamber partnered the Eastern Fashion Legacy, which was all about showcasing the fabrics from the East and brought together designers from West Bengal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and the North East on a common platform. This was an initiative of Mr. Arijit Datta, Chairman, Cultural Affairs Committee of the Chamber and Managing Director, Priya Entertainments Pvt. Ltd. The Show brought celebrity showstoppers and renowned designers on the same platform.



14th March 2016
Chamber Premises

Facilitating Indo-US Science and Technology Forum – Meeting with Professor Ashok Gadgil, Director of the Energy and Environmental Technologies Division at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley and Dr. Sathish Kumar, Senior Manager - R&D, Eureka Forbes Ltd.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in keeping with its focus of facilitating overseas business linkages especially Indo-US business, organized a meeting between Professor Ashok Gadgil, Director of the Energy and Environmental Technologies Division at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley with Dr. Sathish Kumar, Senior Manager - R&D, Eureka Forbes Ltd on 14th March 2016 in the Chamber.

Mr. Jonathan Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, US Consulate General in Kolkata forwarded this case to the Chamber. It was coordinated by Prof. Joyashree Roy, Coordinator, Global Change Programme, Jadavpur University. Prof. Roy is leading a team which is working to commercialize an arsenic remediation technology developed at the University of California at Berkeley. The commercialization efforts are being made under a grant from the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum. Prof. Gadgil is the developer of the technology and he was himself present in Kolkata on 14th March to meet the potential licensees. Dr. Sathish Kumar came down from Bangalore, on request of the Chamber, exclusively for this meeting.

Prof. Gadgil referred to NITI Aayog which will provide Rs 1,000 crore to save a large population in various States where people are forced to consume groundwater that contains excess of health-crippling arsenic and fluoride. The plan is to install community water purification plants (CWPPs), each of which would provide 1,000 litres of drinking water an hour for which users will have to pay 10 paise per litre. Groundwater contamination - also including that of iron, salinity and nitrate - has become a serious public health crisis, particularly in rural pockets, affecting over 3.61 crore people in 63,831 pockets across half of India's districts, latest government data shows. The

said technology also aims to provide arsenic free drinking water to communities. Unlike Reverse Osmosis system, this technology will have no rejection of water. It may be executed completely on local supply chain. Though it requires electricity, intermittent supply may also be utilized. It may also be run on renewable energy. It will, however, be more expensive in that case.

Prof. Roy mentioned that there is huge scope of work for supplying safe irrigation water. Further research may be undertaken for it.

Facilitation of this meeting was in sync with the Chamber's initiative of setting up a US-India Business Help Desk and Industry-Academia Meet. Apart from Prof. Gadgil, Dr. Kumar and Prof. Joyashree Roy, the meeting was attended by Mr. Arup Kumar Mitra, Senior Commercial Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service and Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



The Meeting in progress

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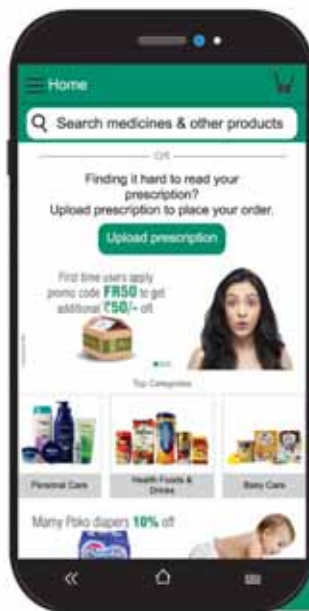
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PROGRAMME

Ease of Doing Business

18th March 2016,
Chamber Premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session on “Ease of Doing Business” on 18th March, 2016 in the Chamber premises. Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone was the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker. Welcome Address was given by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Various issues related to Service Tax were discussed and addressed by Shri Panda. The Interactive Session was attended by more than 60 delegates.



Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker, Shri S. K. Panda, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata Zone.



Interactive Session in progress.



Q/A Session in progress



Interactive Session in progress (L-R): Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Shri S. K. Panda.



Q/A Session in progress.



Mr. T. B. Chatterjee presenting a memento to Shri S. K. Panda.

Wealth Management Summit 2016 – “Loan for All” Conclave

21st March 2016,
The Park, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber organised the “Loan for All” Conclave on 21st of March 2016. The Indian mutual fund industry is one of the fastest growing segments of the financial sector. Buoyed by robust capital inflows and strong participation of retail investors, the asset base of the mutual fund industry reached all-time highs during 2014-15. The cumulative net assets of all mutual funds as on March 31, 2015 was Rs. 10,82,757 crore as against Rs. 8,25,240 crore on March 31, 2014, representing an increase of 31.2 percent. There had been a steady growth in the recent years too. Over the past years, mutual fund investments in equity had been outweighed by investments in debt. However, the gross market borrowing in the

recent Union Budget was put at Rs 6 lakh crore. The move will lead to more supply of government bonds to the market leading a spike in government bonds yields and lowering of bond prices. There are other important asset classes too which needs penetration and more importantly participation from the investors like the commodity market. The objective of the seminar was to create a platform to understand the mechanism of “Wealth creation through Financial Assets” – Mutual Funds as conduit and Alternate Asset class as an Investment strategy.

**21st March 2016,
The Park, Kolkata**

**Wealth Management Summit 2016 –
“Loan for All” Conclave**

Mr. Prithipal Singh, Head- Pan India Sales, BNP Paribas Asset Management India Pvt. Ltd. graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. There was an exclusive session on Commodity market Chaired by Mr. Vibhor Tandon, MCX Ind. Ltd. (AVP (East)). The Session on Commodity Market also witnessed the presence of other eminent speakers such as Mr. Arunava Chattopadhyay, MCX Ind. Ltd. Executive- BD/ PKMT; and Mr. Kunal Shah, Research Head, Nirmal Bang Commodities Pvt. Ltd. There was an Exclusive Session with the Guest of Honour, Deputy CEO of Reliance Mutual Fund, Mr. Himanshu Vyapak. Mr. Vyapak touched upon the perspectives and various opportunities in the Mutual Fund industry. Mr. Sanjay Dongre, Senior Fund Manager, UTI Mutual Fund addressed the audience focusing the various details of the Equity Market. The Summit also witnessed the participation of a large audience from corporates and banks.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President , BCC&I ; Mr. Prithipal Singh, Head Pan India Sales, BNP Paribas Asset Management India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate during the Q/A Session of the Inaugural Session.



Mr. Prithipal Singh, Head Pan India Sales, BNP Paribas Asset Management India Pvt. Ltd.



Q/A round.



Mr. Vibhor Tandon, MCX Ind. Ltd. AVP (East) chairing the Session on Commodity Market.



Mr. Kunal Shah, Research Head, Nirmal Bang Commodities Pvt. Ltd. addressing at the Session on Commodity Market.



Mr. Arunava Chattopadhyay, MCX Ind. Ltd. Executive- BD/ PKMT addressing at the Session on Commodity Market.



Guest of Honour of the Summit, Mr. Himanshu Vyapak, Deputy CEO, Reliance Mutual Fund addressing the audience.



Mr. Sanjay Dongre, Senior Fund Manager, UTI Mutual Fund addressing on Equity Market.

The Inaugural Edition of Leadership Lecture Series of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry commenced with an enlightening talk by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, followed by an invigorating interactive session at the Chamber Premises on 28th March, 2016.

In his welcome address, the President, Mr Ambarish Dasgupta, stated that The Bengal Chamber of Commerce has traditionally been a forum for stalwarts to meet and share perspectives on industry, trade and developmental issues. The Chamber was honoured to have Dr. Ahluwalia as the luminary in the inaugural edition of the Leadership Lecture Series to which the Chamber would be inviting eminent knowledge experts and thought leaders to deliberate on subjects of immediate relevance. Further, it would also provide the industry leaders, academicians and eminent people across various fields, the opportunity to share their thoughts with the invited speakers and apprise them about the activities happening in this part of the country.

Mr Sunil Mitra, Chairperson, Economic Affairs Committee, in his address stated that while India's structural economic processes has yielded results by way of increase in FDI and global rating agencies and institutions reviewing their earlier pessimistic assessments and also the Aadhar movement which has made a substantial headway, India still had a long way to go. The country presently seemed to be at a cross road as far as economic development was concerned.

Starting his speech, Dr Ahluwalia stated that he felt greatly honoured to be the First Speaker at The Bengal Chamber Leadership Lecture Series and to be at this impressive Heritage Building of the Chamber. Dr. Ahluwalia's gripped the interest of the audience throughout his address which covered an analysis of the economic reform process and its slow outcome initially. He then made a detailed analysis of the country's GDP growth story and his own theory on how to maintain and sustain a GDP growth of around 7.5% to 8% per annum and bringing about inclusive growth as well in the process. The highlights of his talk are summarized below:

In the last 10 years or so, the global perception of India has improved substantially. Globally, people perceive India very differently as compared to what it was a few years back. This happens to be the 25th year of liberalization of the Indian economy. However, the impact of what was done in the 90s was not felt immediately. The rate of change for the better had been slower than what it was expected to be.

From 2003 onwards right up to the global financial crisis in 2008, the economy grew faster than ever, at about 8% per annum. The Indian economy also slowed down due to global factors, but picked up quickly. The Indian economy during this time grew at 7.7% per annum. The only economy which did better was China. We are about 1/4th of China's size but still it is a significant economy growing at 7.7%. We should remain on the ball and remain doing the right things and we should keep growing at that rate. However, global growth prospects have deteriorated.

In the developing economies, countries heavily dependent on commodities are not benefiting. China has grown for 13 years at 10% and is now slowing down. They have been able to capitalize

on the growth that has happened. However, the impact on their domestic demand has been negative. This year their growth rate has been about 6.5%.

The next question to be asked is whether it is really true that China or other countries will slow down and at the same time India will continue to grow. Dr. Ahluwalia felt that growth will depend on increase in exports and managing balance of payments. Currently global growth prospects have depreciated. The mood in the industrialized world is negative. Decline in oil and commodities prices has helped India. If oil prices remain low the balance of payment problem can be tackled. The other positive factor for India has been that a positive message has gone out to the world through multiple changes in the Government that India welcomes FDI. However, poor infrastructure, poor logistics and overall lack of ease of doing business are our domestic constraints.

As far as the GDP growth of the country is concerned, the 12th Plan, as it began was quite optimistic. The growth target has been fixed to about 8%. It is not difficult to focus on a figure of 8% to 9%. According to his views right now, globally what people think is if we can follow sound policies and maintain the pace of reforms we can surely continue with a growth rate of about 7.5%. This forecast is based on continuing reforms triggering productivity.

The role of productivity in growth process needs to be focused on and understood. If India's productivity growth improves and if it can go up to at 2% to 2.5% from 1% per year then India's GDP growth rate can be 7.5%. Therefore, even to achieve this 7.5% growth there has to be an improvement in the underlying growth of what is called Total Factor Productivity which implies decomposition of growth of capital input and growth of labour input. Our capital investment is much more as we are far from the growth frontier and there is scope for catching up and leap frogging. Around 32 to 34% of GDP goes into investment in capital. The system is flexible enough for technology changes to be brought in.

Dr Ahluwalia felt very clearly on what India now needs to do in order to be on the growth path. He felt that India needs:

- (1) Macro-economic balance; otherwise everything gets disrupted. The Government should ensure macro-economic balance.
- (2) Development of infrastructure which is poor now. Infrastructure means power and logistics. Improvement should be such that it could enable integrated movement. Systems response in infrastructure is important.
- (3) Ease of doing business. A list of necessities which businessmen talk about. Each State should promise that in a short time frame what will be on offer. Presently States are competing against each other which has been an important development.
- (4) The new phenomenon has been that progress in industries is not going to come from traditional big industrial houses. They are not going to be the ones that are going to produce jobs in the scale that we need. Not much has been done to build up an environment for startups. Startups think that they are smarter than legacy systems in the space of startups. Both Central and State Governments need to focus on what is needed to be done. By small and medium we have meant unviable miniscule industries. We however have reasonably bigger concentration of larger entities. We do not have small and medium really. Our policy has been a multiplication of low technology small scale operation that are not being able keep pace with the rest of the system.

**28th March 2016,
Chamber Premises**

**BCC&I Leadership Lecture Series with
Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia,**

(5) 'Financial Inclusion'. This has been given a lot of emphasis by the present Government. The number of people included in the banking system is very small. Technology enablers with Aadhar linkages have enabled more people to be brought under the banking system. 900 million people have been covered under Aadhar. Gradually all subsidies and payments like NAREGA payments can be done through Aadhar based bank accounts. The robust 'one person one identity' enabled environment will open up several avenues and seal leakages. A person can use his entire financial records available through the system to access credit requirements.

Road Ahead

Dr. Ahluwalia listed agriculture, banking, infrastructure and skill development as the areas that the government should focus on to drive growth. Noting that agriculture growth was lagging, he stressed the need to improve the farm market, enhance rural road connectivity and focus on agri research. In banking, he argued the government has to find a way around the mess over bad loans with appropriate haircuts (for lending institutions) and penalties (for promoters).

The 1st Leadership Lecture Series was presented by JIS Group, in association with ABP & The Telegraph.



Dr. Ahluwalia taking questions from the audience. Seated on the Dais are (from Left to Right) Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber, Mr. Sunil Mitra, Chairperson, Economic Affairs Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India and Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber.



Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia addressing the audience.



Mr. Anoop Hoon, Chairperson, Marketing & Brand Committee, The Bengal Chamber, presenting a Memento to Dr. Ahluwalia.



Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, in front of the hallowed portals of The Bengal Chamber, accompanied by Mr. Sunil Mitra, Chairperson, Economic Affairs Committee, The Bengal Chamber and Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India to his right; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber to his immediate left and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, DG Designate, The Bengal Chamber, on the extreme Left.



Mr. Taranjit Singh, CMD, JIS Group and Chief Patron, The Bengal Chamber, presenting a memento to Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

- Seminar and B2B on India-Gulf Business Exchange, on 26th April 2016 in the Chamber
- Workshop on Arbitration, 7th May 2016 Chamber premises
- Business Delegation to Myanmar from 16th May to 20th May 2016
- Business-IT Conclave on 17th June 2016 in Hyatt Regency, Kolkata

PROGRAMME

Discussion Forum on "Power since Paris"

1st April, 2016
The Park, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Discussion Forum on "Power since Paris" from 10:30 a.m. on 1st April, 2016 at The Park, Kolkata. Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), delivered a Special Address on "Cop 21: Impact on India". Dr. Mathur was the spokesperson for the Indian Delegation at the U.N. Climate Change Conference of Parties in Paris.

Among other issues, Dr. Mathur mentioned about significance of economics, policies, legal framework and business models to make the commitments made in the Paris Convention a reality. He shared his appreciation for the Government of France for organizing the Convention and engaging the Policy Makers to achieve the best each country may offer. He emphasized that with suitable policy level intervention and developing appropriate business models, the set target of producing 175 GW of renewable energy is achievable as the commitment has been made voluntarily by the country keeping in consideration all aspects. The same is relevant for the other major negotiators as well.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber delivering the Welcome Address.



Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI, delivering the Special Address on "Cop 21: Impact on India"



Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee presenting a memento to Dr. Ajay Mathur.

Dr. Mathur's Address was followed by a Panel Discussion on 'India's Power Realities – from Generation to Consumers'. Mr. Sanjay Seth, Secretary, Bureau of Energy Efficiency moderated the Panel Discussion. The Panelists included Mr. Prithviraj Nath, Policy Analyst and Head, CUTS International, Kolkata; Mr. A K Goswami, Director, India Power Corporation Limited and Mr. A Mandal, President - Business Development, Techno Electric and Engineering Company Limited. The Panel observed loss of power as a major challenge in the current scenario. Consumers' aspects included assurance and quality power. It was highlighted that there is a gap in connectivity and availability of power.

The programme was attended by over 150 participants including senior representatives from industry, academia, development agencies and Consulates. French Consul General Mr. Damien Syed was also present apart from Mr. Jonathan Ward, Principal Commercial Officer of the United States in Kolkata.



Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber setting the agenda for the Discussions of the day.



Interactive Session.



Panel Discussion in progress. Seated (L-R): Mr. A K Goswami, Director, India Power Corporation Limited; Mr. Sanjay Seth, Secretary, Bureau of Energy Efficiency; Mr. Prithviraj Nath, Policy Analyst and Head, CUTS International, Kolkata and Mr. A Mandal, President - Business Development, Techno Electric and Engineering Company Limited.

**1st April, 2016
The Park, Kolkata**

**Discussion Forum on
“Power since Paris”**



Media Interaction with Dr Ajay Mathur in progress.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber setting the 'Way Forward' at the conclusion of the programme.

**2nd April 2016,
Chamber premises**

**The Convergence of
“Sports and Entertainment”**

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with DTDC limited organized a panel discussion on “The Convergence of Sports and Entertainment” on 2nd April 2016 in the Chamber premises.

The panelists of the session included luminaries like Mr. Sourav Ganguly, legendary cricketer and former captain of Indian Cricket Team and currently the CAB President, Mr. Ian Bishop, former West Indian Fast Bowler and presently commentator and Mr. Deep Dasgupta, former Wicket Keeper Batsman of the Indian Cricket team and a commentator at present. The Panel was moderated by Prof Boria Majumder, sports journalist, author, commentator and also a

cricket historian. Mr. Abhishek Bachchan, Actor, who was also scheduled to be present, sent a short audio message since he could not fly to Kolkata due to illness.

The session focused on perspectives on the evolution of sports business which provides an excellent roadmap to maximizing the benefits and minimizing the pitfalls that arise at the intersection of sports and entertainment. The programme being held on the eve of the T20 Cricket World Cup Final at the Eden Gardens, invariably covered a lot of cricket discussions. The 300 plus strong audience was left mesmerized by the anecdotes shared by the cricketers.



L-R Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, BCC&I welcoming Mr. Sourav Ganguly.



Mr. Sourav Ganguly and M.r. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, BCC&I during the walkthrough of the Chamber building.



Mr. Sourav Ganguly and Mr. Ian Bishop, Former West Indian Cricketer at the ITC Room along with Past President Mr. S Radhakrishnan (standing back right).



Mr. Ian Bishop and Mr. Sourav Ganguly during a discussion at the ITC Room, Chamber premises.

PROGRAMME

The Convergence of “Sports and Entertainment”

2nd April 2016,
Chamber premises



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta commencing the programme.



During the interaction.



Mr. Abhishek Bachchan conveyed a message to the audience during the panel discussion. Seated left to right: Mr. Boria Majumder, Sports Historian and moderator of the panel; Mr. Ian Bishop, Mr. Sourav Ganguly, Mr. Deep Dasgupta.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting a memento to Mr. Deep Dasgupta.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting a memento to Mr. Sourav Ganguly.



Mr. Sourav Ganguly during the panel discussion.



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh presenting a memento to Mr. Ian Bishop.



The panel discussion in progress.

**2nd April 2016,
Chamber premises**

**The Convergence of
“Sports and Entertainment”**



The audience, which included corporates, celebrities, Consular Corps, sports personalities and the media.



The audience.



The audience.

**7th April 2016
Hotel Kenilworth, Kolkata**

Panel Discussion on ‘Diabetes in ICU & Glycemic Control in Non-Diabetic Critically Ill Patients’

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine (ISCCM) and SATS Academy of Critical Care organized a Panel Discussion on ‘Diabetes in ICU & Glycemic Control in Non-Diabetic Critically Ill Patients’ on 7th April 2016 at Hotel Kenilworth on the occasion of the World Health Day.

The theme of World Health Day this year is ‘Beat Diabetes: Scale up prevention, strengthen care and enhance surveillance.’ The Keynote Address was by Dr. George Fernandes, Vice President Operations, B M Birla Heart Research Centre. Panelists were Dr. Binayak Sinha, Consultant Diabetologist, AMRI Hospitals, Kolkata; Dr. Samit Ghoshal, Consultant Diabetologist, Nightangle Hospital, Kolkata; Dr. Nirmalya Roy, Consultant Internal Medicine, B M Birla Heart Research Centre; Dr. Suresh Ramasubban, Head of the Department, Critical Care, Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, Kolkata and Dr. Biplab Ghosh, Consultant Nephrologist, RTIICS, Kolkata.



Keynote address by Dr. George Fernandes, Vice President Operations, B M Birla Heart Research Centre.



Panel Discussion in progress.

Dr. Pawan Agarwal, the internationally acclaimed and well-known motivational speaker, conducted an enlightening session on the **Six Sigma Supply Chain** by **Mumbai Dubbawalas**, on 29 March 2016 at GNIT Auditorium.

The programme was attended by hundreds of enthusiastic students and staff members of JIS Group and media houses. Dr. Agarwal reiterated the importance of passion, commitment, consistency, flawless execution, accuracy, dedication, time management and customer satisfaction in professional services by presenting the case study of Mumbai Dubbawalas.

He focused on the work ethics, professionalism and character of Mumbai Dubbawalas and how that can be imbibed in the academic framework. He enlivened the spirits of all and infused inspiration, zeal and aspiration among the audience.



Dr Pawan Agarwal delivered his excellent motivational speech on 'Unfolding the secrets of Mumbai Dubbawalas' Six Sigma' on 28th March 2016 at JISCE.

Narula Institute of Technology, under the aegis of JIS Group Educational Initiatives, witnessed its largest ever Annual Techno Management Fest **Kritanj 2K16- Crossroad of Innovation** on 7th & 8th April, 2016. The idea of Kritanj was conceived with the aim to provide the technically inclined youth a successful platform where their talent and expertise would be recognized and duly rewarded. It is a platform wherein students can showcase their projects and ideas through various activities such as hardware and software Project Demonstration and Multimedia Presentation.

Kritanj 2K16 had more than 3000 participation from 50 + colleges and 30+ schools across West Bengal. Various events covered under Kritanj-2016 included Robo Ranger, Robo Soccer and Robo War, which were truly exciting and had huge participation. The other fascinating events were: Gaming, Bridge It, Electrocution, Concrete, Cad It, Code It and Add Mad. Kritanj 2016 also had some online events like The Selfie Contest and Treasure Hunt. The most interesting and crowd pulling events were The Takeshi's Castle, Paintball and Zorbing.

The whole campus of Narula Institute of Technology was charged up with positive energy. Kritanj 2K16 was appreciated by all the students and visitors. Narula Institute of Technology gave students an opportunity to spark up their regular college life and encouraged the students to Think out beyond.

The success of Kritanj 2016 has been possible with the institute's vision, students' hard work and the enthusiastic participation and crowd.



NEWS FROM THE JIS GROUP



Special Lecture Session held on 26th February 2016 on "Advancement in Solar Energy and Agricultural Technology" by **Dr. Arnon Gat**, CEO Agrosolar, Tel Aviv, Israel at B.C.Roy Auditorium, JIS College of Engineering, Kalyani.



International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The Day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

In this context, Women Cell, JIS College of Engineering celebrated the Day by **"Pledging For Parity!"** Students also participated in the **"Street Drama Show"**.



Prof. Sudip Misra, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Kharagpur delivered the TEQIP Sponsored Invited Expert Lecture on **"Wireless Sensor Networks and Internet of Things"** for the students of the Department of Information Technology and Computer Science & Engineering, on 5th March 2016, at Dr.B.C.Roy Auditorium, JIS College of Engineering.

