



from the desk of the
PRESIDENT

Dear Member,

28th July, 2015

As the term of the current Managing Committee for 2014-2015 draws closer to the next Annual General Meeting in September, the Bengal Chamber reflects on yet another year added to its history of nearly two centuries. The year has been eclectic! Apart from venturing into new activities like developmental and awareness projects, organizing programmes in other States and strengthening our existing work in the various verticals that we are engaged in, we have also taken the Chamber much beyond our international borders.

The Chamber has travelled extensively and visited a number of countries in South East Asia with the sole objective of catalyzing business for the State and the Region while creating strong linkages with overseas Chambers of Commerce. We have created mutually beneficial and rewarding relationships with leading Chambers of Commerce in Singapore and Malaysia and with the Indian Embassy in countries like Thailand, which are all part of the South East Asian block of nations critical to India's Act East Policy and for which West Bengal truly acts as a gateway to the rest of the country.

We are delighted to report to you that henceforth we shall witness the coming together of businesses from these countries and regions in our State and shall also offer a multitude of services to the common membership. We hope that with the Hon'ble Chief Minister's visit to the UK, our initiative in South East Asia will jointly create newer opportunities for business collaborations with overseas partners.

Additionally, we are also playing a most active role in the fruition of a concept, which we had introduced to the State Government and which now is being catalyzed by us as the "City of Analytics", christened as "Samriddhi" by the Government of West Bengal, land for which has been identified at Kalyani, only 45 minutes away from the Kolkata airport. Our idea, all along, has been to position

Kolkata as a destination for global analytics players. With the market for big data and analytics at an astounding USD 125 billion in 2015, we have always felt that Kolkata with its premier and world class institutions offering courses in mathematics, statistics, economics and related fields, is most suitably positioned to develop as an analytics hub. This being the guiding principle behind our concept township, we are greatly hopeful of bringing in analytics majors to set up shop in the State. We are happy to share with you that the project is moving forward with great speed and we shall keep you posted as we proceed.

The Chamber's activities, as always, are in sync with the developments in the world and the local economy and the calendar of events is already full for the next few months. With your support, participation and guidance, the Secretariat is always looking forward to improving its services and bringing to you more meaningful and relevant programmes.

In this journey, I have had the great pleasure of working with my colleagues and friends in the Managing Committee and Expert Committees, with the steadfast support of the Past Presidents and solid execution by the Secretariat. Thanks to them and to their untiring efforts, the year has been a most memorable one. I am greatly thankful to our members, stakeholders and partners, who have all worked with us and connected with India's oldest institution of its kind thereby making the Chamber always abuzz with new ideas and activities. My heartfelt thanks to the Hon'ble Ministers, Bureaucrats and Government officials, who have always been kind to us, lent us a patient hearing for all our representations and supported and participated in our activities. It has been an overwhelming experience!

Sd/-
Dr. ALOK ROY
President

members news corner

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to **United Liner Shipping Services LLP** whose application for membership was tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on 21st May 2015.





Mr. T B Chatterjee, Chairperson,
Indirect Taxes Committee, The
Bengal Chamber

Mr. T B Chatterjee, Chairman, Indirect Taxes Committee of the Bengal Chamber and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Deputy Director General of the Chamber met the GST Select Committee of Parliamentarians from the Rajya Sabha, on their invitation, at Kolkata on 24th June 2015.

Mr. T. B. Chatterjee presented our views before the Committee, which included Parliamentarians like Shri Bhupender Yadav, Chairman, Select Committee on GST; Shri K C Tyagi ; Shri D Raja; Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar; Shri Derek O Brien and others.

Very recently, the Select Committee on Goods and Services Tax has submitted its report in the Rajya Sabha with a proposal for three modifications to the Bill.

We are happy to mention that all the three recommendations were part of the Bengal Chamber Memorandum and the most important one was withdrawal of 1% additional tax on inter state transactions not available as set off. This has also been accepted by the Committee. Possibly the Ministry of Finance has also accepted all the recommendations of the Select Committee (GST).

The modifications are related to Clauses 12,18, and 19. Clause 12 (4) (e) is on GST Council's powers on recommending rates within a band and the panel may propose that the 'band' be defined within GST laws. The panel felt that the 1 percent additional inter-state tax may lead to cascading of taxes, and may call for clarifying Clause 18 to prevent that. Third is the modification to Section 19, which is basically about compensation for GST related losses to States for a period of five years.



On the occasion of the 60th Birth Anniversary of his Majesty, The Fourth King of Bhutan, The Royal Bhutan Consulate, Kolkata and the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry are organizing a Golf Meet in Thimphu, Bhutan on 2nd October and 3rd October 2015.

Participation is open for all eligible golfers. However, due to logistical issues, there is a restriction on the number of entries and we are only registering golfers on a first-come-first-served basis. For further details, interested participants are requested to please contact Ms. Sukanya Bose, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, **on +91 9830296033 or email at sukanya@bengalchamber.com.**



The President of the Chamber, Dr. Alok Roy during an interview to Hong Kong based TV channel, Phoenix TV.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING signed between The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region)

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region) signed a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING on 24th July 2015. The MOU was signed by Mr. S.M. Ejaz Ahmed, Director, Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region) and Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Chamber premises. The objective is to work together in formulating policy for awarding academic credit for apprenticeship training, facilitating and creating opportunities for apprenticeship training for qualified students, increasing awareness level about the Apprenticeship Training Scheme (ATS) of the Government of India amongst member industries of the Chamber, promoting skill development through ATS, etc.



(L) Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. S.M. Ejaz Ahmed, Director, Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region) after signing the MOU.



Mr. S.M. Ejaz Ahmed, Director, Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region) and Mr. R N Lahiri, Chairman, Education Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



22ND MAY 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

PROGRAMMES

WORKSHOP ON SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE THROUGH E-BUSINESS

The MSME Development and Manufacturing Committee of BCC&I, in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT, Kharagpur), organized a half day workshop on "Supply Chain Excellence through E-Business", which was addressed by senior faculty member of IIT, Kharagpur. Senior representatives from MSMEs from the manufacturing and service sectors attended the workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to create awareness about E-Business for MSMEs i.e. introduction of the concept, about its tools and techniques, applications, etc. so that in the near future they could further develop and grow their respective business units by adopting and implementing E-Business solutions in their respective business domains. MSMEs from sectors like engineering, manufacturing, petrochemicals, chemicals, refractories, and others attended the workshop.

A Press Conference was organized on 29th May 2015 on the Chamber's recent Business Delegation to Thimphu, Bhutan from 12th May to 14th May 2015. The report on the Delegation was presented to Mr. Karma T Namgyal, Consul General, Royal Bhutan Consulate, Kolkata.



The delegates.



The faculty of IIT, Kharagpur conducting the workshop.

PROGRAMMES

PRESS CONFERENCE ON OUTCOME OF BUSINESS DELEGATION TO BHUTAN

29TH MAY 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES



(L-R): Mr Karma T Namgyal, Consul General, Royal Bhutan Consulate, Kolkata and Dr Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber.



The Press Conference in progress.

PROGRAMMES

ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON THE "USE OF PATENT INFORMATION FOR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND IPR COMMERCIALIZATION"

1ST JUNE 2015,
ITC SONAR, KOLKATA

Capitalizing globally on innovation requires its global protection. A technology company operating in one country automatically competes with firms from the rest of the world. Mediating the effects of this competition requires the right tools to protect a company's technological assets in the right markets.

Whilst Europe and India are major trading partners and important sources of innovation, technology owners from both regions are relatively inactive when it comes to protecting their inventions in each other's markets. In the long term, insufficient protection may impede the competitiveness of European and Indian firms, as they will not be able to claim their rights over their inventions in relevant markets.

Against this backdrop, under the Cooperation agreement to work in India and with a view to supporting the Indian Government's 'Make in India' initiative, the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) and the European Patent Office (EPO) in association with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I), conducted a technical workshop on "Using Patent Information for Business Intelligence and IPR Commercialization" on 1st June 2015 at ITC Sonar, Kolkata. The workshop was well attended with more than 130 participants from industry, academia, legal fraternity, researchers, academicians, MSMEs, etc.

A drawback of using traditional channels of technology transfer is the lack of information with respect to understanding the technology, ownership, and its commercial use. To overcome this, the workshop organized in Kolkata highlighted the use of patent information systems to search for clean and green technologies which could then be transferred to India to meet the requirement of the fast expanding Indian economy.

The EPO provides free access to databases which Indian companies can quickly search to identify technologies required. EBTC can then facilitate and act as an interface for

transferring, localizing and adapting these technologies into India on behalf of European SMEs. This model can significantly increase access to technology, and boost EU-India partnerships in clean technology.

Eastern India has immense untapped potential, and has a large cluster of government, non-government, and research institutions. In addition to this, the region also has a patent office operating out of Kolkata. Amongst other industries, mining activities in Orissa presents interesting opportunities for European organizations to innovate, collaborate and transfer technology.

The technical sessions provided hands-on training in conducting searches on EPO's databases such as Espacenet and Global Patent Index (GPI). EPO experts demonstrated different ways to search for technologies, and a discussion of the EP register allowed participants to understand the legal status / ownership details of patented technologies. A very practical event, participants were also encouraged to search and identify technologies of interest.



L-R: Mr. Suman Lahiri (Regional Director, EBTC); Mr. Deb A Mukherjee (Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, BCC&I); Dr. S K Mitra (Deputy Controller, Designs and Patents, Indian IP Office, Kolkata); Mr. François Régis Hannart (Principal Director, European and International Co-operation, EPO); Mr. Enrico Luzzatto (Director, Pure and Applied Organic Chemistry, EPO) and Mr. Arvind Chopra (Head IPR, EBTC).

1ST JUNE 2015,
ITC SONAR, KOLKATA

ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON THE "USE OF PATENT INFORMATION FOR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND IPR COMMERCIALIZATION"



Mr. Patrick Le Gonidec, Electronic Publication and Dissemination, EPO



The audience

5TH JUNE 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

SEMINAR ON "EASE OF DOING BUSINESS"

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I) organized a half-day Interactive Session on "Ease of Doing Business" on 5th June 2015 at the Williamson Magor Hall, BCC&I. Dr. Gautam Ray, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax was present in the session as Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker.

The objective of the programme was to bring to board the measures being undertaken by the Government to ease bottlenecks in EXIM trade and to address the various issues, procedural and otherwise, confronting the exporters and importers. Besides, the forum also addressed the need for a plan of action to help the stakeholders in the smooth running of their respective business operations in the context of international trade.

The stakeholders of the session were the members from the Bengal Chamber's shipping fraternity, ASIC, CFBA, CCHAA, MSA, EISA, FIEO, EEPC, various exporters and importers, customs agents, ship owners, ship brokers, ship charterers and the areas covered were Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax. This interactive session was an eye-opener for the industry fraternity and it gave a clear picture about the entire operations/procedures that are carried out in areas like Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax. The total number of participants present was 150 (approx).



The delegates present in the interactive session on "Ease of Doing Business" organized by BCC&I.



Mr. T B Chatterjee, Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee, BCC&I addressing the interactive session. Seated on the dais L-R: Dr. N.K. Soren, IRS, Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), West Bengal; Dr. Gautam Ray, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax (West Bengal, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar) and Shri Partho Roy Chowdhury, IRS, Commissioner, Service Tax.



Dr. Gautam Ray, IRS addressing the interactive session.

PROGRAMMES

SEMINAR ON "EASE OF DOING BUSINESS"

5TH JUNE 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES



Dr. Alok Roy, President, BCC&I presenting a memento to Dr Gautam Ray, IRS.



Dr. Alok Roy presenting a memento to Dr. N.K. Soren, IRS.



Dr. Alok Roy presenting a memento to Shri Partho Roy Chowdhury, IRS.



Dr Gautam Ray, IRS and Mr. T B Chatterjee in a press conference after the interactive session.

PROGRAMMES

INDIAN INSURANCE INDUSTRY: ROAD AHEAD – CATALYZING GROWTH THROUGH HIGHER INSURANCE PENETRATION

10TH JUNE 2015,
THE PARK, KOLKATA

The Bengal Chamber organised the annual seminar on Indian Insurance Industry on 10th June 2015 at The Park. Globally, India ranked 40th in terms of insurance penetration and 79th in terms of insurance density during FY14. Given the under-penetrated market in the country, there is scope for significant growth. The raising of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit from 26% to 49% in the sector is expected to bring in capital to the country from foreign partners, boost operational efficiency and lead to more competition in the realm of customer coverage in rural and semi urban areas while increasing employment growth.

The non-life insurance industry had underwritten a total premium of Rs. 70610 crore in India for the year 2013-14 as against Rs. 62973 crore in 2012-13, registering a growth of 12.13 per cent as against an increase of 19.10 per cent recorded in the previous year. Still Non Life Insurance penetration and per capita insurance premium is very low and there is a huge potential for growth. The under-penetration is driven by a lack of overall financial awareness, lack of understanding of general insurance products, low perceived benefits, and propensity to purchase insurance based on reactive drivers such as insistence by financiers, statutory requirements, etc. Health insurance is an important domain where penetration has not been enough particularly in tier II & tier III cities and rural India.



Inaugural Session with Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, BCC&I; Mr. Jagdish Singh, Chairman, BCC&I Banking & Finance Committee and Head-Treasury, ITC; Mr. Shashwat Sharma, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services; Mr. Anuj Agarwal, MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd. and Mr. Suresh Mathur, Senior Joint Director, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA)

10TH JUNE 2015,
THE PARK, KOLKATA

INDIAN INSURANCE INDUSTRY: ROAD AHEAD – CATALYZING GROWTH THROUGH HIGHER INSURANCE PENETRATION

The premium collection in Health segment continued to surge ahead at Rs. 15663 crore in 2013-14 from Rs. 13,975 crore of 2012-13, registering a growth of 12.08 per cent. However, the market share of health segment which is 22.18 has remained more or less at the same levels of previous year which was 22.19 percent. One of the major concerns of health insurance segment has been the consistently high Incurred Claims Ratio (ICR) reported by the segment, which stood at over 90 per cent for the past three years thereby making the sector highly unprofitable. Another major concern in health insurance business is the skewed distribution of health business across various States and Union Territories. There is also an increasing number of fraud cases which creates a bottleneck for the growth of this industry.



Mr. M Anand, Executive Director - Marketing, SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. chairing the session on Life Insurance with eminent speakers- Mr. Alok Kalra, Head- Marketing, Reliance Life Insurance Co. Ltd.; Mr. Prabhat Bajaj, Vice President & Head – Corporate Agency and Brokers Channel, Birla Sun Life Insurance Co. Ltd. and Dr John Harrison, Director, Reed Group- Australia

Mr. Suresh Mathur, Senior Joint Director, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA) graced the occasion, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Anuj Agarwal, MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd. graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. The Summit has also witnessed the deliberations of eminent speakers like Mr. Shashwat Sharma, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services; Mr. M Anand, Executive Director - Marketing, SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd.; Mr. Alok Kalra, Head- Marketing, Reliance Life Insurance Co. Ltd.; Mr. Prabhat Bajaj, Vice President & Head – Corporate Agency and Brokers Channel, Birla Sun Life Insurance Co. Ltd. ; Dr John Harrison, Director, Reed Group- Australia; Mr. M Vasantha Krishna, General Manager & Director, National Insurance Co. Ltd. and Dr. Amitoj Singh, Head- Health, Universal Sompo General Insurance Co. Ltd.

The Summit has also witnessed the participation of a large audience and eminent bankers and was widely covered in the print and electronic media.



(Extreme Right) Chief Guest Mr. Suresh Mathur, Senior Joint Director, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA); (2nd from Left) Guest of Honour Mr. Anuj Agarwal, MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd.; and Special Guest Mr. Shashwat Sharma, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services with President Designate of BCC&I, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta (2nd from Right) in the Q & A Session.



Indian Insurance Industry: Road Ahead seminar witnessed huge participation across the industry and media houses.



Eminent Speakers are addressing the audience in the Non Life Insurance session – (L-R) Dr John Harrison, Director, Reed Group- Australia; Mr. Shashwat Sharma, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services; Mr. M Vasantha Krishna, General Manager & Director, National Insurance Co. Ltd. and Dr. Amitoj Singh, Head- Health, Universal Sompo General Insurance Co. Ltd.

ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARENESS PROGRAMME

11TH - 13TH JUNE 2015,
SCHOOLS IN TRIPURA, AGARTALA

A three day Energy Conservation Awareness Programme at schools in Agartala was organized by the Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL) under the aegis of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted the programme.

This was part of the Chamber's Energy Conservation Awareness Project in the North East, under the aegis of the Energy and Environment Committee, focusing on addressing the behavioural aspects of energy users.

The six schools that were selected by the Directorate of School Education, Government of Tripura were Shishu Bihar Higher Secondary School, Ramakrishna Ashram Higher Secondary School, Maharani Tulsibati Higher Secondary School, Abhay Nagar Nazrul Smriti Vidyalaya, Umakanta Academy and Bodhjung Higher Secondary School for Boys.

Mr. Nilanjan Bose, Advisor and Consultant to TSECL and Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce explained the need for these young adults to be champions of energy conservation thus bringing about energy smartness in their daily chores while spreading awareness within their localities. The significance and the conscious need to buy star rated appliances was stressed upon and the implication of such an act was explained through a series of presentations, short films and animations. The interactive session came to a conclusion with a quiz on all that was discussed with the students and the winners went away with prizes. The school authorities were extremely receptive while the students in all the schools were attentive, responsive and enthusiastic to the cause.



(L-R) Ms. Angana Guha Roychowdhury, Assistant Director, BCC&I, Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director, BCC&I with the CMD, TSECL Mr. S K Ray.



Energy Conservation Awareness Programme training at Shishu Bihar HS School.



Shishu Bihar HS School.



Energy Conservation Awareness Programme training at Maharani Tulsibati HS



Energy Conservation Awareness Programme training at Umakanta Academy for Boys.



Energy Conservation Awareness Programme training at Abhay Nagar Nazrul Smriti Vidyalaya.



Energy Conservation Awareness Programme training at Bodhjung HS School for Boys.

15TH - 17TH JULY 2015,
SCHOOLS IN TRIPURA, AGARTALA

ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The next six schools (selected by the Directorate of School Education, Government of Tripura) covered in the second phase were, Nandanagar H S School, Henry Derozio English Medium School, Kamini Kumar Singha Memorial School, M G M High School, Bijoy Kumar Girls High School and Ramnagar Girls High School.

Mr. Nilanjan Bose, Advisor and Consultant to TSECL and Ms Sukanya Bose, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber and Ms. Amrita Choudhury, Consultant, The Bengal Chamber were the faculty. The entire programme covering 12 schools was very well appreciated by TSECL, the students and the school authorities.



(L-R) Mr. Nilanjan Bose, Advisor and Consultant to TSECL; Headmistress of Nandanagar HS School; the student who won a prize during the quiz and Ms Sukanya Bose, Asst Director, BCC&I.



Ms Sukanya Bose conducting the workshop on Energy Conservation in Henry Derozio English Medium School, Agartala.



Ms Sukanya Bose handing over a memento to the headmistress of Henry Derozio English Medium School.



Ms Amrita Choudhury during the presentation at Kamini Kumar Singha Memorial School.



Ms Sukanya Bose with the winners of the Quiz Competition along with the staff from Kamini Kumar Singha Memorial School.



Ms Sukanya Bose with students of Kamini Kumar Singha Memorial School during the workshop.

PROGRAMMES

ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARENESS PROGRAMME

15TH - 17TH JULY 2015,
SCHOOLS IN TRIPURA, AGARTALA



Ms. Sukanya Bose along with the principal of M G M High School distributing prizes to the winners of the Quiz competition.



Ms Sukanya Bose with the students of M G M High School.



Ms Sukanya Bose conducting the workshop in Bijoy Kumar Girls High School.



Ms Amrita Choudhury during the workshop in Ramnagar Girls High School.



Ms Sukanya Bose making a presentation at Ramnagar Girls High School.



A group photograph with the Ramnagar Girls High School authorities and students at the end of the session.

PROGRAMMES

SINGAPORE - YOUR GATEWAY FOR
GLOBAL EXPANSION

12TH JUNE 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

Singapore has been consistently acknowledged as a leading global business hub – one that features developed infrastructure, political stability, open business policies, a skilled workforce, the use of English as the main working language and respect for intellectual property rights.

Both MSMEs, in great numbers, and multinational companies have chosen Singapore as their HQ. Business owners all over the world regard Singapore as an ideal location to grow their businesses, with many of them using the country as a

springboard to tap into other emerging markets. In this context, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with PwC organised this programme to address certain aspects of doing business in Singapore. The programme focused on,

- Why Singapore is an ideal destination?
- India - Singapore trade/investment linkages
- Overview of Singapore's tax regime

12TH JUNE 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

SINGAPORE - YOUR GATEWAY FOR GLOBAL EXPANSION

- Possible regional/global structuring options using Singapore

The speaker was Mr. Abhijit Ghosh, Senior Partner from PwC Singapore who had worked with numerous Indian companies in the past on matters such as setting up of business operations in Singapore and using Singapore as a hub for Asia Pacific operations. He shared his perspectives on how to enter the market and benefit from market conditions while managing unfamiliar risks.

The programme was attended by more than 70 participants belonging to both corporates and MSMEs from varied sectors. Some of the sectors represented were, Shipping, Tea, Foodgrains and Processed Food, Engineering, etc.



Mr. Abhijit Ghosh, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers.



Mr. Abhijit Ghosh and Mr. P K Saha, Partner, PwC along with delegates from Singapore, Mr. Jasper Ang and Ms. Justina Tan at the interactive session.



Participants during the interactive session.



Participants interacting with Mr. Abhijit Ghosh.



During the Question and Answer Session.



Memento presentation to Mr. Abhijit Ghosh.

**FELICITATION OF THE MOHUN BAGAN FOOTBALL TEAM
– I-LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2015**

17TH JUNE 2015
CHAMBER PREMISES

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a special evening with the I-League Champions 2015 - Mohun Bagan on 17th June 2015 in the Williamson Magor Hall in the Chamber Premises.

The programme was organized to commemorate the occasion of the I-League being won by a team from Kolkata. The Bengal Chamber, therefore, felicitated the coach, team and officials of Mohun Bagan. The felicitation was followed by a panel discussion on “Anubhuti o Abhigota ...tokhon o ekhon...2002 - 2015”. The panel discussion was addressed by Shri Debjit Ghosh, Shri Dulal Biswas, Shri Sanjoy Sen, Shri Shilton Paul, Shri Pritam Kotal, Shri Debashish Dutta from

Mohun Bagan and Ms. Sudheshna Mukherjee from the Fan Club and was moderated by Shri Manash Chakroborty.

Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. Subrata Dutta, Chairman, Sports Development Committee of the Chamber jointly presented the commemorative plaque to the Mohun Bagan Team and also to the individual players and team officials. The programme was well covered by the media and had prominent coverage in all the leading newspapers of the city. The programme was attended by more than 180 delegates.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the welcome speech.



(L-R) Shri Dulal Biswas, Shri Shilton Paul, Shri Debjit Ghosh, Shri Debashish Dutta, Shri Pritam Kotal, Ms. Sudheshna Mukherjee and the moderator Shri Manash Chakroborty.



Section of the audience before the formal commencement of the programme.



(L-R) Shri Pritam Kotal, Ms. Sudheshna Mukherjee and the moderator Shri Manash Chakroborty with Shri Sanjoy Sen.



Section of the audience during the programme.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta and Mr. Subrata Dutta, Chairman, Sports Development Committee of the Chamber presenting the commemorative plaque to the Mohun Bagan Team



The Mohun Bagan Team with the Bengal Chamber plaque.

18TH JUNE 2015
CHAMBER PREMISES

SEMINAR ON GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

The Indirect Taxes Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Seminar on Goods and Services Tax on 18th June 2015 in the Chamber. Shri Partha Roy Choudhury, Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata graced the inaugural session. The Welcome Address was delivered 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. Special address on GST was given by Mr. Waman Parkhi, Senior Partner, KPMG.

The technical sessions of the Seminar covered the critical issues of GST like Preparedness for GST, New Amendments

under the Finance Act, 2015, Cenvat Credit / Reverse Charge, Preventing litigation, Handling SCN, Penalties and Prosecution in Service Tax, Service Tax on Real Estate Transactions and Works Contract Service. The speakers included Mr. T B Chatterjee, Mr. P K Saha, Partner - Tax & Regulatory Services, Price Waterhouse & Co. LLP, Mr. M S Mani, Senior Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Limited, Mr. Vivek Jalan, FCA, JAV & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Mr. Arun Agarwal-FCA, K N Jain & Co and Mr. Sushil Kumar Goyal, Agrawal Singhania & Co.



Welcome Address by Mr. T B Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber.



Technical Session in progress: Mr. P K Saha, Partner - Tax & Regulatory Services, Price Waterhouse & Co. LLP



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



Audience at the Seminar



Dignitaries at the Inaugural Session: Mr. T B Chatterjee, Shri Partha Roy Choudhury, Commissioner of Service Tax, Kolkata, Mr. Waman Parkhi, Senior Partner, KPMG.



Technical Session in progress - Mr. M. S. Mani, Senior Director – Indirect Tax, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Limited



Technical Session in progress: Mr. Arun Agarwal, FCA, K N Jain & Co & Mr Sushil Kumar Goyal, Agrawal Singhania & Co.



Media Interaction

PRESS CONFERENCE AND SITE VISIT IN KALYANI TO LAUNCH "SAMRIDDI – KALYANI ANALYTICS CITY"

19TH JUNE 2015,
KALYANI

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal organized a Press Conference on 19th June in Kalyani to launch "Samridhi – Kalyani Analytics City". The concept of creating a city on the lines of a smart city, dedicated to the business of analytics was launched by the Bengal Chamber and is now being catalyzed by the Chamber. The focus is to construct the city, a Rs. 3000 crore project by itself (which would result in a huge investment inflow to Bengal) and invite investors and players in Analytics to take up space in the city.

Shri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Technical Education and Training, Government of West Bengal addressed the media with Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Urban Development, Town and Country Planning and Municipal Affairs & Chairman, West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (HIDCO); Dr. Ramendra Nath Biswas, Hon'ble MLA, Kalyani (SC); Shri Surendra Gupta, IAS; Chief Executive Officer, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA); Dr. Nilimesh Roy Chowdhury, Former Chairman, Kalyani Municipality and others. Members of BCC&I including Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate; Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Senior Vice President, Mr. Kallol Datta, Immediate Past President; Mr. Taranjit Singh, Chief Patron, and other Industry representatives were present. Mr. Dulal Mukherjee, Proprietor, Dulal Mukherjee & Associates and Managing Committee Member, BCC&I who has drafted the blueprint of the City was also present.



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, BCC&I addressing the Media. Seated are other dignitaries.



Dignitaries with the drafted layouts of the city.

The press conference was followed by a visit to the site of the proposed city.

The Government of West Bengal has identified 52 acres of land next to Kalyani Expressway for the proposed project and will offer the plot through e-auction.

Kolkata can ideally leverage its advantage of being home to intellectual manpower which is its unique attribute, backed by premier higher education institutions like IIT, ISI, IEST, JU, IIM and others.

The concept of the New Age Analytics Hub was launched at the "Business Analytics Innovation Summit @ Bengal" which was organised by the Chamber on 10th December 2014 in Taj Bengal, Kolkata in the presence of Janab Firhad Hakim, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Municipal Affairs, Urban Development and Town and Country Planning, Government of West Bengal, Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Finance and Excise, Commerce and Industries, Information Technology and Electronics, Industrial Reconstruction, Government of West Bengal, and Shri Debashis Sen, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Town and Country Planning, Government of West Bengal & Chairman, WBHIDCO Ltd.



Mr. Kallol Datta, Immediate Past President, BCC&I addressing the Media. Seated are other dignitaries.



Mr. Dulal Mukherjee, Proprietor, Dulal Mukherjee & Associates and Managing Committee Member, BCC&I explaining the contours of the city.

19TH JUNE 2015,
KALYANI

PRESS CONFERENCE AND SITE VISIT IN KALYANI TO LAUNCH "SAMRIDDI – KALYANI ANALYTICS CITY"



Shri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Technical Education and Training, Government of West Bengal addressing the media



At the site.

26TH JUNE 2015,
HYATT REGENCY, KOLKATA

BUSINESS-IT CONCLAVE: ENABLING A DIGITAL INDIA

The IT Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the sixth edition of the annual Business IT Conclave on 26th June 2015 in Hyatt Regency, Kolkata. The theme, this year, was 'Enabling a Digital India'.

Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Commerce and Industries, Information Technology and Electronics, Finance and Excise and Industrial Reconstruction, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest. The other Inaugural Session speakers were:

- Mr. Rajan S Mathews, Director General, Cellular Operators Association of India
- Mr. Sudipta K. Sen, Regional Director-South East Asia, Vice Chairman & Board Member – India, SAS Institute (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- Dr. G D Gautama, IAS, State Information Commissioner, West Bengal Information Commission

The programme flowed on the contours of 'Enabling a Digital India' highlighting the aspects of:

- E-Governance: At a time, when there is increasing awareness amongst citizens about their rights with a resultant increase in expectations from the Government to perform and deliver, the whole paradigm of governance

has changed. Today the Government is expected to be transparent in its dealings, accountable for its activities and faster in its responses. Digital India subsumes a mix of services and plans that are just right for reinvigorating the state of governance in the country. Mr. Shekhar Agrawal, Senior Vice President, - Government Business, Vodafone spoke on the 'Driving eGovernance'.

- Mr. Rajarshi Sengupta, Senior Director, Deloitte & Touche Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. addressed Outside In Perspective of 'Digital India'.
- Cyber Security will be an important focus in the Digital India initiative, especially as the Internet becomes the new weapon for fighting wars. Increased connectivity and greater use of technology would undoubtedly benefit the masses, but at the same time it could throw up a new set of vulnerabilities and security challenges. Past incidents have shown that cyber security is one area where India is clearly lacking. Discussion Forum 1: Securing Digital India was joined by,
 - Shri Sivaji Ghosh, IPS, Principal Secretary, Department of Correctional Administration, Government of West Bengal
 - Mr. Harish Agarwal, Partner, Ernst and Young
 - Mr. Siddharth Vishwanath, Partner,



Inaugural Session (L-R): Mr. Sanjoy Sen, Co-Chairperson, IT Committee, BCC&I; Mr. Dulal Mukherjee, Proprietor, Dulal Mukherjee and Associates; Mr. Arnab Basu, Chairperson, IT Committee, BCC&I; Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Finance and Excise, Commerce and Industries, Information Technology and Electronics, Industrial Reconstruction, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Rajan S Mathews, Director General, Cellular Operators Association of India; Mr. Sudipta K. Sen, Regional Director-South East Asia, Vice Chairman & Board Member – India, SAS Institute (India) Pvt. Ltd; Dr G D Gautama, IAS, State Information Commissioner, West Bengal Information Commission and Mr. Debasis Basu, Co-Chairperson, IT Committee, BCC&I

PROGRAMMES

**BUSINESS-IT CONCLAVE:
ENABLING A DIGITAL INDIA**

26TH JUNE 2015,
HYATT REGENCY, KOLKATA

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)

- Mr. Puneet Bhatia
- Maj Gen (Retd.) P.K. Mallick

Mr. Partha Sengupta, Vice President- IT Services, ITC Infotech and Head-IT, ITC Ltd. chaired the Forum.

- Internet of Things (IoT) framework is part of the broader 'Digital India' vision shared by the Government. A budget of Rs 1 lakh crore has already been sanctioned to implement all the future plans under this vision. Big Data and the Internet of Things (IoT) are revolutionizing the world around us - from the medical care we receive to the way retailers market to us. Researchers are bullish over adoption of mobile Internet, cloud technology, digital payments, digital identity, Internet of Things, intelligent transportation, advanced geographic information system and next generation genomics. Discussion Forum 2: Connecting the country through IoT was joined by,



Dr. Amit Mitra



Mr. Rajarshi Sengupta, Senior Director, Deloitte & Touche Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Shekhar Agrawal, Senior Vice President, Government Business, Vodafone (L-R)



Mr. S Radhakrishnan, President, TiE Kolkata and Past President, The Bengal Chamber at the podium. Behind him is Mr. C N Raghupathi, Vice President & Head – India Business Unit, Infosys. Seated (L-R): Mr. Sourabh Mukherjee, Vice President-Data Management, Accenture Digital; Mr. Sandeep Agarwal, Sr. VP & Head, Engineering R&D Services, Happiest Minds Technologies; Mr. Subrata Das, Country Lead – Internet of Things, SAP and Mr. Selva Kumar Rajasekaran, General Manager –New Product Development and Partnerships

- Mr. Sourabh Mukherjee, Vice President-Data Management, Accenture Digital

- Mr. Sandeep Agarwal, Sr. VP & Head, Engineering R&D Services, Happiest Minds Technologies

- Mr C N Raghupathi, Vice President & Head – India Business Unit, Infosys

- Mr. Subrata Das, Country Lead – Internet of Things, SAP

- Mr. Selva Kumar Rajasekaran, General Manager –New Product Development and Partnerships

Mr. S Radhakrishnan, President, TiE Kolkata and Past President, The Bengal Chamber chaired the Forum.

- Building Smart Cities – the Way Forward and its implementation in Kolkata- At the conclusion, Mr. Amit Malik, Director India & SAARC, Cisco Systems (India) Private Limited addressed the topic.



Mr. Dulal Mukherjee presenting the plan of the 'City of Analytics' to Dr Amit Mitra



(L-R): Maj Gen (Retd.) P.K.Mallick, Mr. Puneet Bhatia; Mr. Partha Sengupta, Vice President- IT Services, ITC Infotech and Head-IT, ITC Ltd; Shri Sivaji Ghosh, IPS, Principal Secretary, Department of Correctional Administration, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Siddharth Vishwanath, Partner, PwC and Mr. Harish Agarwal, Partner, Ernst and Young



Mr. Amit Malik, Director India & SAARC, Cisco Systems (India) Private Limited

1ST JULY 2015,
SWISSOTEL, KOLKATA

"CLASH OF THE TITANS", QUIZ FOR THE DOCTORS BY THE DOCTORS ON DOCTOR'S DAY

1st July has been traditionally celebrated as Doctor's Day in India, commemorating the Birth Anniversary of the legendary Dr. B. C. Roy. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with Indian Medical Association, organized a unique Quiz named 'Clash of the Titans' on Doctor's Day, at Swissotel, 6 p.m. onwards.

The quiz was organized celebrating the glorious history of medicine and its hidden gems. It was a Quiz for the Doctors and by the Doctors! An exclusive selection of doctors - leaders in their chosen specialties took part in the event. The quiz featured questions from Medical history, discoveries, trivia, its representation in culture et al. More than 75 teams participated

in the Quiz. Dr. Arindam Kar, Dr. Partha Sarathi Goswami, Dr. Soubhadra Chakraborty, Dr. Partha Sarathi Ghatak were the Quiz Masters. The Winners were Dr. Chandramouli Bhattacharya and Dr. Prasad Krishnan. 1st Runners Up were Dr. Rahul Guha Biswas and Dr. Palash Kumar. 2nd Runners Up were Dr. Siddhartha Banerjee and Dr. Suresh Ramasubban. The prize distribution ceremony was graced by Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister-of-State (Independent Charge), Department of Women, Child Development & Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal. More than 275 doctors were present as participants and guests. The fun filled event of the evening was followed by a gala networking dinner.



Welcome address by Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry



Audience and participants at the Quiz



Quiz Master Dr. Soubhadra Chakraborty conducting the Quiz



Teams at the final round of the Quiz



Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister-of-State (Independent Charge), Department of Women, Child Development & Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal presenting trophies to the Winners

“OPPORTUNITIES IN QATAR AND GULF CO-OPERATION COUNCIL”

(Press Conference on same subject on 10th July 2015 in the Chamber premises)

11TH JULY 2015,
TAJ BENGAL, KOLKATA

Doha Bank Q.S.C. in association with the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a programme on “Opportunities in Qatar and Gulf Co-operation Council” on Saturday, 11th July 2015 from 7.00 pm in the Crystal Hall, Taj Bengal.

The programme addressed the following aspects about “Business Opportunities in Qatar and Gulf Co-operation Council”.

- Why Qatar / GCC is an ideal destination?
- India – Qatar / GCC Bilateral relationships
- Doha Bank – Its India operations and capabilities

Additionally, the President Designate of the Bengal Chamber and Partner and Head Management Consulting and Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG Advisory Services, Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta lent an Industry perspective of Bengal vis-à-vis Qatar/GCC.



Doha Bank Press Conference on July 10, 2015 – (L-R) Dr. R. Seetharaman, Group CEO of Doha Bank; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. P Roy, Director General, BCC&I and Mr. Nilangshu Dey, President, NROAB with the media.

Dr. R Seetharaman, Group CEO of Doha Bank delivered the keynote address on the “Opportunities of Bilateral Business in Qatar and GCC.” The event was graced by Janab Firhad Hakim, Hon’ble Minister, Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal, who delivered the Inaugural address. A lucky draw at the end of the programme saw three lucky winners receiving small tokens of appreciation from the CEO.

The programme had a good participation of 150 delegates with some leading corporates and Honorary Consul Generals participating.

The interactive session came to a conclusion with a networking dinner.



Dr. Seetharaman addresses the media. Mr. Dasgupta looks on.



Dr. Alok Roy, President, BCC&I delivering the Welcome Address at the Seminar on Bilateral Business Opportunities in Qatar and GCC, held on 11th July 2015.



The audience at the Seminar.

11TH JULY 2015,
TAJ BENGAL, KOLKATA

"OPPORTUNITIES IN QATAR AND GULF CO-OPERATION COUNCIL"
(Press Conference on same subject on 10th July 2015 in the Chamber premises)



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta sharing the Industry perspective at the seminar.



A section of the audience.



Dr. R Seetharaman delivering his speech at the seminar.



The Head Table. (L-R) Dr. Alok Roy & The Hon'ble Minister, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, Janab Firhad Hakim.



The Head Table. (L-R) Dr Alok Roy & The Hon'ble Minister Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, Janab Firhad Hakim & Mr P Roy.



The Hon'ble Minister delivering the Keynote Address.



The Hon'ble Minister delivering the Keynote Address.



Dr Seetharaman during the interactive session with the audience.

PROGRAMMES

"OPPORTUNITIES IN QATAR AND GULF CO-OPERATION COUNCIL" (Press Conference on same subject on 10th July 2015 in the Chamber premises)

11TH JULY 2015,
TAJ BENGAL, KOLKATA



The Lucky Draw.



Dr. Roy presents the memento to the Hon'ble Minister.

PROGRAMMES

14TH JULY 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

PANEL DISCUSSION ON "THE IMPACT OF GREEK CRISIS"

The Greek crisis has made headlines all over the world. Thousands have been worried about the impact of the crisis on the world economy. Indeed, closer home, we have been pondering about the effect on the Indian economy. On Monday, 13th July 2015, following a seemingly incessant 17 hours of summit talks, Eurozone leaders announced a new deal of €86 billion to rescue Greece – a third bailout. Will this pave the way for the country's economic revival?

With this backdrop, BCC&I organized a Panel Discussion on, "The Impact of Greek Crisis" headed by top economists and diplomats, who sought the answer on 14th July 2015 in the Chamber premises (Globsyn Room).

The panel included Mr. Rainer Schmiedchen, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri, Jadavpur University, Prof. Abhirup Sarkar, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and ABP's Business Editor, Mr. Suparna Pathak. The panel was moderated by Dr. Suman Kumar Mukherjee, Senior Professor, Principal and Dean Bharatiya Bidhya Bhavan Institute of Management Science. Almost in a unanimous voice the panelists did not find any path for Greece's economic crisis betterment despite their present stand with EU.

The German Consul General, Mr. Rainer Schmiedchen said since Greece is a part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the countries in Eurozone, which are also alliance members need to come to the aid of the country undergoing tremendous financial crisis. Furthermore, Mr. Schmiedchen said the Russians, who are expanding their influence in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean zone, are on the lookout for the crisis to boil. He also hinted at the problem of refugees - mainly migrant workers pouring out of Greece to other European countries for a better livelihood. However, he said the cash-strapped country can temporarily opt out of the economic pact with its western neighbours to stabilize its own currency and economy and thereafter return to the EU. Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri highlighted that Greece alone cannot be blamed, and that it is very difficult to come out of the present situation. Mr.

Suparna Pathak said that the Government was spending more than collecting deficits. Greece was given money and had just misused it. Prof. Abhirup Sarkar mentioned that people lost confidence in the Government as the unemployment rate was 25%. He pointed out that Greece could come out of this situation if it moved out of the Union. He also said that Greece should be allowed to spend so that the demand for goods would increase which in turn drives growth.

Will Greece revive their economy like India did, when it faced an identical condition historically and redeemed it, asked one of the participants. In reply Prof. Abhirup Sarkar (ISI) said the tie-up with EU is a big obstacle for Greece to revive their present economic plight because they cannot take step towards economic reforms independently. Meanwhile, India being a free nation was able to find the way of economic redemption from identical crisis situation during yesteryears highlighted Prof. Sarkar. Conversely, Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri of Jadavpur University said the comparison between India and Greece is not much relevant. India has a big market which paved the way for structural economic reforms, pointed out Prof. Ray Chaudhuri while rejecting the Greece-India analogy.



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Deputy Director General of The Bengal Chamber interacting with Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Chairperson and moderator of the panel before the start of the programme

14TH JULY 2015,
CHAMBER PREMISES

PANEL DISCUSSION ON "THE IMPACT OF GREEK CRISIS"



(L-R) Capt. S. B. Mazumder, Chairperson, Shipping Committee of BCC&I and Executive Director, Seahorse Ship Agencies Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Suparna Pathak, Business Editor, ABP Pvt Ltd; Mr. Rainer Schmiedchen, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany; Dr. Suman K Mukerjee, Member of BCC&I Economic Affairs Committee and Senior Professor & Principal and Dean, Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan Institute of Management Science; Prof. Abhirup Sarkar, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata; Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri, Professor, Jadavpur University and Mr. P Roy, Director General of BCC&I



Capt. S. B. Mazumder delivering the welcome address



Mr. Rainer Schmiedchen addressing the session



Dr. Suman K Mukerjee moderating the session



Mr. Suparna Pathak expressing his views



Prof. Abhirup Sarkar during his dialogue



Prof. Ajitava Ray Chaudhuri delivering his speech



Mr. P Roy, Director General of BCC&I delivering the Vote of Thanks



The Q/A Session



A Section of the audience



Dr. Suman K Mukerjee interacting with the media.



- ❖ Second International Conference on Engineering for Humanity, 20th – 22nd August 2015, Chamber premises
- ❖ Workshop on Statistical Decision Making for Managers, 20th-21st August 2015, The Park
- ❖ Eighth Annual Environment and Energy Conclave – Power for India: Swachh and Smart, 28th August 2015, ITC Sonar, Kolkata
- ❖ Rural Marketing Conclave, 29th August 2015, The Park
- ❖ Annual General Meeting of The Bengal Chamber, 10th September 2015
- ❖ Third Annual Best Young HR Professionals Award, 11th September 2015, The Park
- ❖ Indo Bhutan Tourism Initiative – Delegation from Bengal Chamber to Thimphu, Bhutan, 15th-17th September 2015
- ❖ Mega Seminar on Transloading – The Future of Bulk Cargo Handling in India, 18th September 2015, Chamber premises
- ❖ Iron and Steel Roundtable – The Way Forward, 24th September 2015, The Park
- ❖ Urban Infrastructure Conclave, 29th September 2015, The Park
- ❖ Bhutan India Friendship Golf Trophy, 2nd-3rd October 2015, Thimphu, Bhutan

Visit to Kuala Lumpur Malaysia on 13th and 14th July 2015 and Return Visit by Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce to The Bengal Chamber on 25th July 2015

Dr Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry visited Malaysia on 13th and 14th July 2015 to meet Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce and Malaysia International Chamber of Commerce. He was accompanied by Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber.

Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber was represented by Dato' Kanagaraja Raman, Deputy President who is also the President of Malaysia-India Chamber of Commerce. Other senior members of Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber were also present. Malaysia International Chamber of Commerce was represented by Datuk Wira Jallah Baba, President, Mr. Stewart Forbes, Executive Director and other senior members of the Secretariat.

The abovementioned Chambers of Commerce conveyed their confirmation to work together with The Bengal Chamber to facilitate bilateral business.

They were briefed about the Chamber's historical legacy, West Bengal's geo-strategic positioning and The Bengal Chamber's bandwidth in the Eastern and North Eastern Regions of India and countries like Bangladesh, Bhutan and Myanmar through the creation of the Confederation of Eastern Chambers of Commerce and Industry spearheaded by The Bengal Chamber. They were apprised about the Chamber's newest initiative of the City of Analytics, which the Chamber has embarked on with the Government of West Bengal and is reaching out to the investors in international and domestic markets. They were also informed about the India International Mega Trade Fair, which the Chamber organizes annually with G S Marketing Associates.

The following areas of possible collaborations emerged from the discussions:

1. Both the Chambers are willing to work with The Bengal Chamber in making available the furniture products of Malaysia in India.

1.1 Both the Chambers showed interest in areas of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions. Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce mentioned that they were willing to participate in the India International Mega Trade Fair with their furniture and other products. They may also explore the possibility

of organizing a stand-alone Furniture Exposition with The Bengal Chamber at a later stage.

2. Organizing Business Delegations were of interest to both the Chambers.

3. Malaysia International Chamber of Commerce proposed to bring a golfers' delegation to Malaysia. This may be marketed in Kolkata/Eastern India and also in Bangladesh and Bhutan as golf tourism. B2B meetings may be organized as a part of it.

4. Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce invited The Bengal Chamber to participate, with a delegation, and nominate speakers in the 'Smart Cities India International Conference and Exhibition' on 29th and 30th September 2015 in Sunway International Convention. The Conference is being organized to bring together the ASEAN Investors for investment in the proposed Smart Cities of India.

5. Malaysia International Chamber of Commerce requested The Bengal Chamber to keep them informed about the various programmes organized by the latter. This would be followed for both Malaysian International Chamber and Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber.

6. Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber also enquired whether the link of their website could be created in The Bengal Chamber's website and vice-versa. They were informed that the same was possible.

7. Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber also sought Dr. Roy's help towards a programme on 'Infectious Disease' to be held in Malaysia.

Meetings were also held with Putrajaya International Convention Centre. PICC was created and managed by the Prime Minister's Office of Malaysia to promote business. This is now an autonomous body. The meeting with Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber was held in PICC. The meeting was also joined by President, Malaysia-Libya Chamber of Commerce. Malaysia-Libya Chamber is under Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber. Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber would provide connectivity to the other countries in Asia as well.

A three-member delegation led by Dato' Kanagaraja Raman visited Kolkata exclusively to meet The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 25th July 2015 to discuss and finalize the agenda discussed between the two Chambers.



Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber addressing.



Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Director, The Bengal Chamber interacting.

PROGRAMMES

Visit to Kuala Lumpur Malaysia on 13th and 14th July 2015 and Return Visit by Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce to The Bengal Chamber on 25th July 2015



Dr. Alok Roy, Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury with Dato' Kanagaraja Raman, Deputy President (next to Dr. Roy) and other members of Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce



Dr. Alok Roy and Datuk Wira Jallah Baba, President, Malaysia International Chamber of Commerce.



Meeting in progress with Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce.



Delegation of Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce with Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber in his office.



Delegation of Malaysia Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce with Dr. Alok Roy and with the Secretariat Members of The Bengal Chamber in the Chamber premises. Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Managing Director, Enfragy Solutions India Private Limited and Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber were also present.

PROGRAMMES

SINGAPORE VISIT THAILAND VISIT

15TH -16TH JULY 2015

17TH -18TH JULY 2015

Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI)

Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director, BCC&I, met with Mr. Malminder Singh, Executive Director and Ms. Nishani Hassan, Manager Corporate Communications & Publications, Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Mr. Singh said that SICCI had few footprints only in West Bengal and not in other Eastern States. Bengal Chamber's network with other Eastern States and Chambers of Commerce will prove to be a win-win situation as this will lend the relevant platform for SICCI to penetrate the market gradually. Rest of

the eastern part of India still remains an unknown territory for them. Not enough outreach has been made. Mr. Singh and Dr Roy agreed that a delegation from SICCI to West Bengal may be planned. Analytics, with the project of Smart City at Kalyani could be promoted to investors in Singapore from the Infrastructure, Banking & Financial Services and Private Equity sectors.

High Commission of India in Singapore

Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director, BCC&I, met with the High Commissioner, Her Excellency, Ms. Vijay Singh. The High Commissioner reiterated that Singapore has a bandwidth and connect only with few States of the Easter Region and West

15TH -16TH JULY 2015
17TH -18TH JULY 2015

Bengal is one of them. She opined that the West Bengal Chief Minister has already tapped the necessary organizations that had to be engaged for the State. Along with West Bengal, Assam and Bihar are the other two States that are being looked at by Singapore for investments. Ms. Singh was of the opinion that Singapore is bullish about investing in Bengal. Bengal is not unknown to Singapore and investors from Singapore are willing and interested to invest in good projects. She confirmed that Singapore works on a Business to Business model and focuses on areas they are familiar with. For the Singapore business fraternity familiarity with the sector is of importance and they are more keen and agreeable on "cooked project" or projects that have already commenced. The Smart City project at Kalyani is a point in case. Ms. Singh opined that investors would be keen at looking on this project. Investors from the infrastructure domain could be tapped. The High Commissioner was upbeat with Bengal Chamber's connect with the North Eastern States as NE has a territorial boundary with the South East Asian countries. Also, the High Commission of India in Singapore has been pushing the NE region in the Singapore market.

The High Commission was planning an Investor's Meet. The information would be shared with The Chamber and a subsequent delegation maybe planned.

Embassy of India, Kingdom of Thailand

Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director,

BCC&I met with H.E. Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand, Mr. G. Balasubramanian, Deputy Chief of Mission, DPR to UN-ESCAP & Dr. Binoy George, First Secretary, Economic & Commercial, Embassy of India, Bangkok on 17th July 2015.

Mr. Shringla stated that focus of Thailand is on Eastern India with particular interest in Bengal, Bihar and the North Eastern States. The Bengal Chamber's connect with these States would help to bridge the gap between South East Asia and the said States. He said that the Thais are creating 6 economic zones. Investors in manufacturing sector could be attracted.

The Ambassador felt that Buddhist tourism involving Kolkata would be a huge hit amongst the Thai people. The Ambassador was very keen on the Bengal Chamber's initiative to include Kolkata in the Buddhist tourism circuit and in the restoration of the relic of Lord Buddha which is located in the Indian Museum.

A Golf Delegation on 25th September 2015 was being planned in Thailand. The Bengal Chamber would be a part of the one day India Cup and bring in two groups for playing golf in Thailand. A Thai-Indian Golf Association was to be formally announced then. Moreover, The Embassy was planning to hold a programme on SME event tentatively scheduled for November 2015 and was keen on having a SME delegation from Bengal. B2B meetings would be jointly set up by the Embassy and the Chamber. Thailand was keen on investing in India as well as in Bengal.



(L-R) Dr. Alok Roy, President, The Bengal Chamber & Mr. Malminderjit Singh, Executive Director, Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI)



(L-R) Ms. Nishani Hassan, Manager Corporate Communications, SICCI, Ms. Lopamudra Dutta, Assistant Director, BCC&I, Dr. Alok Roy, Mr. Malminderjit Singh.



Dr Alok Roy with Mr. Malminderjit Singh.



(L-R) Dr. Alok Roy with H.E. Ms. Vijay Thakur Singh, the Indian High Commissioner in Singapore at the Indian HC in Singapore.

PROGRAMMES

**SINGAPORE VISIT
THAILAND VISIT**

15TH -16TH JULY 2015
17TH -18TH JULY 2015



(L-R) H.E. Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Ambassador of India in Thailand & Dr. Alok Roy, at The Indian Embassy, Thailand.



(L-R) Dr. Binoy George, Mr. Balasubramanian, H.E. Mr. Shringla, Dr. Roy & Ms. Dutta, at The Indian Embassy, Thailand.

PROGRAMMES

**20TH JULY 2015, THE FUTURE FOUNDATION SCHOOL
TOLLYGUNGE, KOLKATA**

**WORKSHOP ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
RIGHTS FOR THE YOUNG MINDS**

The Education Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted a workshop with the students of higher secondary section of the Future Foundation School on Intellectual Property Rights on 20th July 2015.

The Committee organized the workshop with a mission to encourage the young minds to be aware of various career opportunities and also wanted to make the young generation understand what IPR is all about and how they could make a good career out of it.

Mr. Sushanta Sinha, Head of Learning and Talent Development, Tata Consultancy Services, Mr. Utsav Banerjee, Senior Representative from TCS along with Ms Sukanya

Bose, Asst Director, BCC&I conducted the workshop. It was an interactive session and both the school authorities and students appreciated the workshop and participated with a positive attitude.



Ms Sukanya Bose, Mr Utsav Banerjee and Mr Sushanta Sinha during the workshop.



Ms Sukanya Bose, along with the students during the workshop.



Mr Sushanta Sinha during the workshop.

25TH JULY, 2015
CHAMBER PREMISES

WORKSHOP ON CSR MANAGEMENT FOR THE CORPORATES

The Bengal Chamber organized a one-day workshop on “CSR Management” for Corporates that aimed to equip the corporates to perceive CSR through a strategic lens. Ms. Mallika Jalan, Secretary, Centre for Contemporary Communication (CCC), Kolkata, was the knowledge partner for this training session.

CSR aims to create an ecosystem for furthering meaningful CSR practice in India. CSR is the concept of ‘sustainable livelihood’, which transcends cheque book philanthropy. India being the first country to include CSR as a part of its legislative framework, the CSR space in India enters a new landscape with notification of Section 135, Schedule VII of Companies Act 2013 and associated CSR policy rules. The Companies Act 2013 which came into effect on April 1, 2014, mandates companies to formulate a CSR policy and incur a given minimum expenditure on social activities.

The session focused on :

- Identification of CSR Projects.
- CSR – the Indian Agenda.
- Running CSR Projects.
- Leadership skills for effective execution of CSR Projects.
- Monitoring & Evaluation and Impact Assessment.



The Head Table: (L-R) Mr. P Roy, Director General, BCC&I and Mr Pradip Chopra, Chairman, PS Group.



Mr. Chopra delivering the keynote address on CSR Branding.



Mr. Nikhil Pant, Chief Programme Executive, CSR, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi, during his session.

The faculty for the workshop included, Mr. Pradip Kumar Chopra, Chairman, P S Group, Kolkata; Mr. Nikhil Pant, Chief Programme Executive- CSR, IICA, New Delhi; Mr. Rohan Sarma, Head Empanelment Committee, Training and Capacity Building National CSR Hub, TISS, Mumbai.

Mr. Pradip Chopra delivered the keynote address and spoke about branding through CSR. Mr. Nikhil Pant took the first technical session and addressed ‘CSR- The Indian Agenda’ where he covered relevant points like Section 135, Companies Act 2013 – the sense & spirit of the landmark legislation, CSR Rules – the role of the Executive – the Enabler, CSR Policy – corporate partnership in nation building, Compliance & Reporting – a business opportunity and discussed the Tata Power - REACHA Case, which was a business case for CSR. Mr. Rohan Sarma took the final technical session post lunch and discussed about CSR Project Management Cycle, evaluative frameworks for CSR partners and projects.

Both the sessions were informative and interactive with enthusiastic participation from the delegates. The workshop saw a good attendance with an interesting mix of corporates and PSUs from varied domains.



Mr. Pant interacting with the delegates.



Sharing of queries by the delegates.



The participants at the workshop.



Mr. Rohan Sarma, Head Empanelment Committee, CSR Hub, TISS Mumbai, during his technical session.

EVENTS AT THE PALLADIAN CLUB

THE PALLADIAN CLUB



Official launch of “**Amar Katha Amar Gaan**” - an audio CD, held in presence of renowned artistes of Bengal, **Srikanta Acharya, Lopamudra Mitra, Rupankar, Babaji, Antara Choudhury and Indranil Sen, Indrajit Sen & Sri Prabir Mukhopadhyay** who penned the songs for the album, at the Palladian Club on 18th May 2015.



Felicitation of Cactus

Alliance Francaise du Bengale in association with The Palladian Club & Uncommon presented “**YUBA MUSICAL FESTIVAL 2**” on 16th June 2015

Short Term Training Program on “Introduction to Design of Algorithm”

JIS College of Engineering successfully conducted Two Week Short Term Training Program on “Introduction to Design of Algorithm”, (at Remote Center-1335) which was organized by IIT-Kharagpur from 25th May to 30th May 2015. Total 66 participants from different Engineering colleges attended the training program. Mr. Debashis Sanki, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Information Technology was the Workshop Coordinator and Mr. Soumyabrata Saha, Department of Information Technology was the Remote Center Coordinator for this workshop.



Short Term Training Program on “Environmental Studies”

JIS College of Engineering successfully conducted Two Week Short Term Training Program on “Environmental Studies” (at Remote Center-1335) which was organized by IIT-Bombay from 2nd June to 12th June, 2015. Total 18 participants attended the training program. Dr. Mahuya Das, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Chemistry was the Workshop Coordinator and Mr. Soumyabrata Saha, Department of Information Technology was the Remote Center Coordinator for this workshop.



Workshop on Microelectronics & VLSI Design using Advanced Simulation Tools 29th June - 10th July 2015 organized by ECE Department, Narula Institute of Technology Agarpara

The objective of the workshop was to provide opportunities to faculty members, research scholars and technical assistants as well as students to enrich their intellectual capacities and stimulate their professional growth.

The major focus of the workshop was the up-gradation of outcome based teaching & learning skills and research for the participants in the field of Micro & Nano electronic devices and also for VLSI design in nanoscale using advanced simulation tools. Hands-on exposure to Modern VLSI design and analysis tools like Cadence Virtuoso, Visual TCAD, and TSPICE were also offered to blend the research with implementation issues in real life scenarios.



Workshop on **Microelectronics & VLSI Design using Advanced Simulation Tools** 29th June - 10th July 2015 organized by ECE Department, Narula Institute of Technology Agarpara

Prof. (Dr.) M.R.Kanjilal, Principal, NIT, Agarpara, inaugurated the Workshop WMVDAST-2015. Prof. C. K. Sarkar, Jadavpur University delivered his lecture on HEMT and Advanced MOSFET at WMVDAST-2015. Prof. S. K. Sanyal, Jadavpur University delivered his lecture on Advanced Low Power VLSI Design at WMVDAST-2015. Mr. S. Bari, Asst. Professor, ECE, Narula Institute of Technology delivered his lecture on Basics of MOSFET & Issues to Design CMOS Circuit at WMVDAST-2015. Dr. S. Panda, Head, ECE, Narula Institute of Technology delivered his lecture on Basics of Fabrication for Integrated Circuits at WMVDAST-2015. Prof. (Dr.) D. De, WBUT delivered his lecture on Quantum Cellular Automata at WMVDAST-2015. Dr. A. Sarkar, Kalyani Govt. gave a lecture on Nano Scale Devices at WMVDAST-2015. Hands on Session by the experts on CADENCE from Entuple Technologies at WMVDAST-2015 was held.



There was also a felicitation by Dr. S. Panda to the Expert on VTCAD from Cadre Design system at WMVDAST 2015.

Digital India Week Celebration

JIS College of Engineering successfully organized and celebrated Digital India Week (involving IIT-Bombay SPOKEN TUTORIAL Project) on 6th July 2015. JIS College of Engineering is working as the RESOURCE CENTER, ACADEMIC CENTER of IIT-Bombay in the Spoken Tutorial Project. At the commencement of the event, Dr. Bhabes Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Principal, JISCE presented his valuable comments on the Digital India Week and Mrs. Sila Singh Ghosh, General Manager - Corporate Relation, JIS Group spoke on the theme. HODs of different departments and different departmental coordinators delivered their speech on Digital India Week and shared their opinion in the Spoken Tutorial program at JISCE.

A total of 45 participants actively participated in the program to make it a grand success. Students from different departments provided their feedback on the effectiveness of the Spoken Tutorial. Dr. Somsubhra Gupta, HOD, Dept. of IT, JISCE shared his observations on the theme.



“IEEE COMSOC Kolkata”

A seminar program on the topics of recent researches on wireless communication was organized by IEEE COMSOC Kolkata Chapter and Department of ECE, Narula Institute of Technology on 25th July 2015. The program commenced with the lighting of the auspicious lamp and welcome address by Principal of Narula Institute of Technology, Prof. (Dr.) M.R Kanjilal who welcomed the hon'ble guests, Prof (Dr.) Salil Sanyal ETCE Department, Jadavpur University, Chairperson IEEE Circuits & Systems- Kolkata Section; Prof Iti Saha Misra ETCE department of Jadavpur University, Chairperson IEEE ComSoc, Kolkata Section and Mr. Anirban Dutta Chowdhury, TCS Innovation Lab, Kolkata.



Workshop on “Advancement in Bio-chemical and Bio-medical Engineering” under TEQIP phase-II”, 20th - 25th July 2015, organized by Department of Chemistry and Department of Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering, Narula Institute of Technology

The program started with the opening speech by Prof. (Dr.) M. R. Kanjilal, Principal, Narula Institute of Technology, Agarpara. The participants were mainly students from the department of Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering. Many of the Faculty members of different departments also participated in the workshop.

The speakers were,

1. Prof. (Dr.) Samir K Pal, Professor, Department of Chemical, Biological & Macromolecular Sciences, S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata.
2. Prof.(Dr.) D.K.Bhattacharya, Ex. Head of the Department ,Pure Mathematics, Calcutta Univ., Emeritus Professor, AICTE, Jadavpur University, Emeritus Professor UGC Rabindra Bharti University.
3. Prof. (Dr.) D.K.Bhattacharyya, Sir Rash Behari Ghosh Professor, Department of Chemical Technology, Calcutta University.
4. Prof. (Dr.) D.N. Tibarewala, Ex. Director and Professor, School of Bio-Science and Engg., Jadavpur University.
5. Saugat Bhattacharyya, Ph.D. Exchange ,Inria Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée, Iirmm France, School of Bioscience and Engineering, Jadavpur University.
6. Prof. (Dr.) Kunal Pal, Professor, Department of Biotechnology & Medical Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Rourkela.

The laboratory sessions and hands-on sessions were carried out by ESL Technologies on Labview and MATLAB in the departmental laboratory. The participants also got to experience the advancements in the interdisciplinary fields. Total number of participants was 80.

