



# Newsletter



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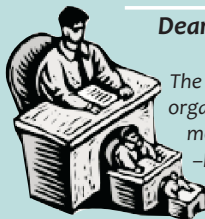
VOL 6 | No. 8

August, 2010

## from the desk of the PRESIDENT

10th August 2010

Dear Member,



The highlight of the programmes organized by the Chamber during the month of July 2010 was the 'Business-IT Conclave 2010'. The Conclave was a signature event of the Chamber in the IT realm and would henceforth be an annual feature in the Chamber's calendar of events. Planned as a forum for both corporates and IT users and developers to meet, discuss, share and exchange best practices in IT strategies and domain for their businesses, the Conclave highlighted the winning strategies that were being scripted in IT businesses and also introduced the audience to the cutting-edge concepts and practices in IT.

In July 2010 the Chamber also organized an Interactive Session with Dr G.D. Gautama, Principal Secretary—Power & Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Govt. of West Bengal immediately after the Managing Committee meeting. Dr Gautama raised a number of issues relating to the development, challenges and opportunities of the power sector in West Bengal and the far-reaching changes since liberalization. He also referred to the challenges faced by the State in implementing its ongoing power projects.

During the month under review, the Chamber also organized a Seminar on Direct Taxes. The Seminar focused on critical issues relating to Tax Deducted at Source (covering both domestic and international transactions) and the Revised Discussion Paper of the Draft Direct Taxes Code released by the Government of India recently.

The coming months will be characterized by a series of thought-provoking programmes. The dates of these events are indicated in the 'Coming Events' section of this Newsletter. Our AGM is also scheduled on 22 September, 2010, details of which will be intimated later. Your whole-hearted participation would, I am sure, go a long way in enhancing the quality and utility of these events.

Sd/-  
**SANDIPAN CHAKRAVORTY**  
President

## MEMBERS' NEWS CORNER

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to **Army Welfare Placement Organisation, D P World Pvt. Ltd., EMARS Mining & Construction Pvt. Ltd. and Orient Transport Co.** whose applications for membership were tabled and approved by the Chamber Committee at its meeting on **20th July 2010**.

## NEWS FLASH

**ANNOUNCING  
THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY CONCLAVE 2010,  
27th-28th August 2010, ITC Sonar, Kolkata**

Eastern India's leading forum for discussing and brainstorming global and local environmental issues like climate change and the response of business, the government and civil society. The objective of the 2010 Conclave is to provide an even larger forum than the previous year for visiting the scenarios governing the Indian economy and industry with the Climate negotiations this year in the background and look at emerging scenarios that would confront industry and the business community.



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## PROGRAMMES

**BUSINESS-IT CONCLAVE, 2010** 17TH JULY 2010, ITC SONAR, KOLKATA



The Conclave about to begin : At the podium, Mr. Khokan Mookerji, Chief Mentor, The Bengal Chamber.

discuss, share and exchange best practices in IT strategies and domain for their businesses. This year, the theme for the inaugural edition was "New Horizons for IT in Business".

The Conclave addressed the winning strategies that were being scripted in IT businesses

The Information Technology Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the first-ever Business-IT Conclave 2010 on 17th July 2010 at the ITC Sonar, Kolkata. The Conclave would be an annual feature in the Chamber's calendar of events and was a signature event of the Bengal Chamber in the IT realm. The

Business-IT Conclave was planned as a forum for both corporates and IT users and IT developers to meet,



L-R: Mr. R N Lahiri, Chairperson, IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Dr. Debesh Das, Hon'ble IT Minister of West Bengal; Mr. S Radhakrishnan, Vice Chairman & Regional Chairman (East), Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council, & Past President, The Bengal Chamber.



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



▲ At the podium: Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber.

and IT applications and also introduced the audience to the cutting-edge concepts and practices in IT that could help, to a great extent, the business world emerging from the recession.

The Business-IT Conclave, as the name suggests, brought business houses and corporates, which were users of IT applications together with software developers, with the focus being new developments in IT applications, which had a direct impact on business growth. As India Inc. was emerging out of the recession, focus was on streamlining of processes, management of costs and improving bottomlines. The role played by IT applications and tools was immense in this process of change management. In such a context, the IT Committee felt there was a need for a forum to bring the CIOs, CEOs and IT Heads of corporates together with the software developers so that each was aware of the developments and requirements in the other's domain.

The USP of the programme was that it covered the entire gamut of IT strategies – from innovation, value creation and best practices stories to what is cutting edge in IT today.

The overarching theme for the two pre-lunch sessions was, **"Winning Strategies with IT – Innovation, Value Creation and Best Practices Stories"**. The first technical session focused on, **"Shaping Change with IT"**. Mr. Siddhartha Mukherjee, Advisor, West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited was the Session Chairperson. Mr. Subho Samanta, Head of Kolkata Operations & Global Delivery Head for Customer Solutions Practice, Cognizant Technology Solutions India Limited made a presentation on, "Improve



▲ Session I in progress. L-R: Mr. Siddhartha Mukherjee, Advisor WEBEL; Mr. Sunil Srinivasan, Director, SAP India; Mr. Niladri Ghosh, Head, Sales & Operations, India & Middle East, Huntsman Advanced Materials India.



▼ Mr. Aneesh Dhawan, Territory Manager – North & East, VMware India.



▲ Mr. Subho Samanta, Head of Kolkata Operations & Global Delivery Head for Customer Solutions Practice, Cognizant and Co-Chairperson, IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber.

Customer Focus through CRM Systems", while Mr. Niladri Ghosh, Head, Sales & Operations, India & Middle East, Huntsman Advanced Materials India Pvt. Ltd. spoke on, "Supply Chain Management for Manufacturing". The session was also addressed by Mr. Sunil Srinivasan, Director - Manufacturing and Supply Chain Solutions, SAP India Pvt. Ltd. who made a presentation on "New Developments in Supply Chain Management – Planning, Execution and Collaboration across the Responsive Supply Network". "Cost Optimization through Resource Virtualization" was addressed by Mr. Aneesh Dhawan, Territory Manager – North & East, VMware India.

The second session (also pre-lunch) focused on, **"Business and IT in a World Driven by Reorganization"**. Mr. Amit Mukherjee, Vice President - IT & Supply Chain, Spencers Retail Limited and Group CIO, RPG Enterprises was the Session Chairperson. Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Executive Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd. made a presentation on, "Role of IT in Mergers and Acquisitions", while Mr. Tanmoy Chakrabarty, Vice President & Global Head, Government Industry Solutions Unit, Tata Consultancy Services Limited spoke on, "Application Outsourcing for Value".

The overarching theme for the only post lunch session was, **"What is cutting edge in IT today?"** Accordingly, the session addressed, **"Performance Considerations for an IT System"** with Mr. Debashish Roy, Director, Adapt Solutions Pvt. Ltd. as the Session Chairperson. Mr. Rajarshi Sengupta, Executive Director, Deloitte & Touche Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. was the first speaker who made a presentation on, "Ways to Save Money inside Your Business



▲ Session II in progress: L-R: Mr. Amit Mukherjee, Vice President - IT & Supply Chain, Spencers Retail Limited and Group CIO, RPG Enterprises was the Session Chairperson; Mr. Tanmoy Chakrabarty, Vice President & Global Head, Government Industry Solutions Unit, Tata Consultancy Services Limited.



▲ Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Executive Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.



▲ Session III: L-R: Mr. Debashish Roy, Director, Adapt Solutions Pvt. Ltd.; Ms. Medha Nair, Business Analyst- Information Management, India Software Labs, IBM; Mr. Vivek Gupta, Director – India Alliances and Channels, Salesforce.com India.

Intelligence Infrastructure”. **Mr. Bhaswata Sinharoy**, Group Head, Wipro Technologies next spoke on, “How enterprise architects can work to deliver BPM on Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) Platforms?” “Relating Master Data Management to the Applications and Business Architectures of the Future” was addressed by **Ms. Medha Nair**, Business Analyst- Information Management, India Software Labs, IBM. The final presentation of the day was on, “What is cutting edge in IT? – Stirring up a Cloud Environment” by **Mr. Vivek Gupta**, Director – India Alliances

and Channels, Salesforce.com India.

Earlier the Conclave was inaugurated by **Dr. Debesh Das**, Hon’ble Minister-in-Charge, IT Department, Government of West Bengal. The programme was attended by over 150 delegates and the common feedback was that the Conclave content was most relevant and that the panel of speakers was indeed excellent. The Bengal Chamber’s first edition of this annual Business-IT Conclave was thus a tremendous success.



▲ Mr. Rajarshi Sengupta, Executive Director, Deloitte & Touche Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.



▲ Mr. Bhaswata Sinharoy, Group Head, Wipro Technologies.



▲ The audience.

20TH JULY, 2010, CHAMBER PREMISES

### INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH DR. G D GAUTAMA, IAS, ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Dr. G D Gautama focused on status of power generation and distribution in the State, how generation efficiency was the key factor and increasing PLF of generating stations was the need of the hour. He also raised a number of issues relating to

the development, challenges and opportunities of the power sector in West Bengal and the far-reaching changes since liberalization. He also referred to the challenges in implementing ongoing power projects in the State.

Dr. G D Gautama, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Deptt. of Power & NCES, GoWB (2nd from left) with the Chamber President, Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty (3rd from left)



28TH JULY, 2010, CHAMBER PREMISES

### SEMINAR ON DIRECT TAXES

The Seminar addressed critical issues relating to TDS (covering both foreign and domestic payments) and the Revised Discussion Paper of the Draft Direct Taxes Code released by the Government of India recently. The programme started with an overview of the subjects by Mr. Pallav Gupta, Chairperson, Direct Taxes Committee of the Chamber. The speakers included taxation experts from Deloitte

Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd. - Mr. Parikshit Datta, Senior Director and Mr. Himanshu Patel, Director, who addressed the Revised Discussion Paper on DTC. Mr. Patel along with Mr. Subhobrata Sen, Senior Manager addressed TDS on domestic and international transactions covering the changed law in respect of rates, returns etc. The programme was attended by around 50 delegates.

Seated from L-R: Mr. Parikshit Datta, Senior Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Pallav Gupta, Chairperson, Direct Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Himanshu Patel, Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Subhobrata Sen, Senior Manager, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd.



▲ A section of the audience

### UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

- Environment and Energy Conclave 2010, 27th-28th August 2010, ITC Sonar, Kolkata
- Workshop on “Knowledge updation on Gratuity and ESI (Amendment) Acts and Outsourcing Practices”, 28th August 2010, Chamber premises
- "Adda" Session: Heroines of Satyajit Ray, 11th September 2010, Chamber premises
- Seminar on “Perspectives on Eco-Friendly Transportation - The River”, 18th September 2010, Chamber premises
- The Bengal Chamber Award for Excellence in Manufacturing Practices in MSMEs, 21st September 2010, Chamber premises
- The Bengal Chamber Annual General Meeting 23rd September, 2010 Chamber Premises

## EVENTS AT THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE



**4th August 2010**  
Event - Art Exhibition by Spandan

Inauguration by eminent artist -  
**Shri Subrata Gangopadhyay.**



Esplanade 1885



## DOWN MEMORY LANE

THE CHAMBER'S ROLE IN THE NATION'S HISTORY

### INDEPENDENCE AND THEREAFTER

(Excerpts from  
"The Bengal Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry  
– 1853 -1953 AD Centenary Survey"  
by Geoffrey Tyson)

*Continued from earlier edition...*

In such circumstances, to continue and extend existing processes of consultation was not merely an act of grace by the new Government of India, but one which by the same token recognized the best interests of its own subjects. And the machinery was there ready at hand, for the war had built up a network of advisory and other bodies through which Government maintained regular touch with the changing conditions of trade and industry. The new Government of India came into office at a moment when acute wartime shortages still persisted, when the rationing of foreign

exchange was vitally necessary, when business confidence had been gravely shattered by the Budget of February 1947 and when the country's economy, already under strong inflationary pressures, was bleeding and disrupted from the act of partition. Given the need for careful husbanding of essential resources, the case for some planning and overall direction was unanswerable. Against this broad background of hard and unpalatable economic fact which confronted Mr. Nehru's new administration must also be set the political exuberance of the moment. Rightly or wrongly, the great mass of the people had come to believe that the departure of an alien administration would be followed not merely by an access of self-respect, but also by a rapid improvement in the standard of living. They considered this could be quickly achieved and, so far as the industrial worker was concerned, he was not prepared to defer his claims indefinitely. He demanded a payment on account, here and now.

*to be continued ...*