



from the desk of the
PRESIDENT

Dear Member,



30th August, 2016

In my first message to you after having been elected President of this heritage Chamber, I had spoken about working with the Government of West Bengal towards its endeavour to bring about inclusive growth along with a pro-business environment in the State. As my year-long term comes to an end, it is time to recapitulate. The year has given a fair amount of insight into the areas where the Chamber can meaningfully join forces with the Government with the latter having acknowledged its willingness to engage with the Chamber in areas ranging from Agriculture, MSME, Transportation, Information Technology, Land & Land Reforms initiatives, besides taking part in business and policy reforms.

The Chamber formally opened its office in Siliguri and commenced facilitation services for Industry and Commerce in sync with the vision of our Hon'ble CM to promote North Bengal as the gateway to the North East and South East Asia.

During the past one year, apart from amplifying its existing work in the various verticals that it is already engaged in, the Chamber has left its footprints in many new areas and activities like Research and Consulting. To be a bit more specific, I would like to mention here about some work initiated by the Chamber with the Government of West Bengal. The Chamber not only actively participated in BGBS 2016, but on this occasion submitted a paper on the necessary Tax reforms incentives in the State. A reference booklet for the much needed guidance on land and land related matters for the industry was brought out by the Chamber. Also an advocacy report for the support and ease of functioning of the existing SME manufacturing units was brought out.

Initiatives taken up in the realms of Agriculture, Health, Sports Development etc. include the following:

- The Agro and Rural Development Committee visited Santiniketan for a milestone rural development project in villages near Bolpur, conducted seminars on Potato Exports and Farmers Training on Vermicompost Culture in association with Visva Bharati University and Agricultural Training Centre, Narendrapur, Ramakrishna Mission.

- Health related initiatives included signing a Memorandum of Agreement with National Institute of Cholera & Enteric Diseases (NICED) with the sole intent of addressing, bringing to board and undertaking cutting-edge research on those diseases that have assumed or are expected to assume endemic proportions. The Chamber has embarked on a fund raising drive for this research project.
- In the Sporting arena, The Convergence of Sports and Entertainment on the eve of World T20 Final with the Stalwarts of the game gracing the Chamber was an unprecedented occasion.
- The Chamber premises will shortly display Bengal's Industrial heritage and history within the premises in the form of a museum.

The Chamber has also gone much beyond the international borders by taking relevant and prestigious business delegations to South East Asia (Myanmar) and Europe (Italy). Each of these visits opened up new avenues for bilateral relations. Imminent delegations to Sri Lanka and Russia are lined up in October and November respectively. The year also witnessed closer engagement of the Chamber with the US Consulate General through the first ever Select USA roadshow held in Kolkata. As always, the Chamber has strived to improve its services to the membership, industry at large, the Government and the civil society. I am extremely thankful to our members, stakeholders and partners for their valued patronage; to my colleagues and friends in the Managing Committee and Expert Committees, with whom I have had great pleasure of working and co-steering the Chamber ahead during the past one year; to the Secretariat members for their execution, and to the Past Presidents for their support and guidance. 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 and a most memorable one!

Sd/-
Ambarish Dasgupta
President

NEWS FLASH

The Bengal Chamber's Meeting with Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Railway Minister of India on 9th August 2016 in New Delhi.



Greeting the Hon'ble Railway Minister of India



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, The Bengal Chamber (right) apprising the Hon'ble Railway Minister on the Chamber's focus areas in Infrastructure

NEWS FLASH

Letter of appreciation received from Mr. Damiano Francovich, Consul General of Italy in the context of the recent Chamber's business delegation to Italy.

NEWS FLASH

Site Visit to "Samriddhi – Kalyani Analytics City", 9th August 2016

The Bengal Chamber coordinated a visit for senior officers of the Belani Group to the site of "Samriddhi- Kalyani Analytics City" on 9th August 2016. BCC&I made the necessary arrangements in synchronization with the Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal to facilitate the visit. The officials were accompanied by Mr. Sambit Dasgupta of BCC&I from Kolkata and was attended and hosted in Kalyani by Mr. Khalid Kaiser- Estate Manager Kalyani. The officials expressed their happiness on seeing the plot and took notes of the nitty-gritties of the imminent project.



Officials of Belani Group accompanied by Mr. Khalid Kaiser- Estate Manager Kalyani (extreme left) and Mr. Sambit Dasgupta of BCC&I (extreme right) at the site

NEWS FLASH

Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal joined the Emerging Technologies Committee Meeting of the Chamber held on 18th August 2016 and interacted with the Members.

The Principal Secretary shared the developments and the plans of the IT&E Department. The Members also shared their feedback and suggestions on positioning West Bengal as a preferred IT destination and also other services in the realm of IT in the State.



Meeting in progress


Consulate General of Italy
KOLKATA

SG REV. LALBEHARI SHAH SARANI
(FORMERLY NEW ROAD)
KOLKATA 700 027, (INDIA)
Telephones: 0091 33-24792414
0091 33-24792426
Fax: 0091 33-24793892
E-mail: consolatogenerale.calcutta@esteri.it

27th July 2016

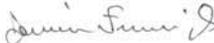
Dear Mr Ghosh,

I wish to thank you for your valued feedback and the detailed report on the Business Delegation which you led to Italy. In this regard, I really appreciate the strong business interest shown by you and The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. You can be assured of my continued support and cooperation in our common goal of strengthening the Indo-Italian partnership with a special stress to West Bengal and the Eastern part of India.

It is also very encouraging to know that through such business initiatives which you have just undertaken, you were able to make a new beginning in your endeavour to grow and to expand.

I am confident that this Business Delegation would give added impetus in our pursuit to promote, facilitate and to increase the volume of joint activities between our two countries.

With warm regards


Damiano Francovich
Consul General of Italy

Mr Subhodip Ghosh
Director General Designate
The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Royal Exchange
6 Netaji Subhas Road
Kolkata 700 001



Officials of Belani Group, Mr. Dorjee Sherpa, Sr. Manager, Business Development & Marketing Department and Mr. Subrata Bhakat, Manager-Marketing understanding the geography of the location



Seated on the head table (L-R): Mr. Arnab Basu, Chairperson, Emerging Technologies Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Shri Talleen Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Sanjoy Sen, Co- Chairperson, Emerging Technologies Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. R N Lahiri, Chairperson Emeritus, Emerging Technologies Committee, The Bengal Chamber

NEWS FLASH

BCC&I Collaboration with ISOC Kolkata on IETF Capacity Building Programme

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry initiated a successful collaboration with ISOC Kolkata on IETF Capacity Building Program in the month of July. An Awareness Session of Internet Society Kolkata Chapter was successfully conducted at JIS College of Engineering, Kalyani and Gurnanak Institute of Technology, Sodepur on 22nd July, 2016. The Capacity Development Program went off well at both these institutions on the same day.

At JIS, Kalyani, an interesting discussion with Dr. Dave took place and a separate presentation from management perspective was given to the Head of the Departments. At GNIT Sodepur, interest was shown in opening an IETF Laboratory in their college which will focus on Internet Traffic Engineering. A non-financial MOU to collaborate further is being drafted which will be shared in the month of August.



IETF Capacity Building in JIS College of Engineering and Gurnanak Institute of Technology with Internet Society (ISOC), Kolkata Chapter



PROGRAMME

A Musical Journey with Bhoomi

23rd July 2016

Rotary Sadan Auditorium, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East and Infinity Benchmark organized a musical evening with the reputed Bangla band "Bhoomi" on 23rd July 2016 from 6.30 p.m. onwards at the Rotary Sadan.

Bhoomi is a reputed Bengali urban folk music group based in Kolkata, which started its journey on 24th July 1999. Soon it became hugely popular and performed at various local, national and international platforms. In July 2006 they performed at the United Nations headquarters in New York. Bhoomi has also performed in the Montreal Jazz Festival in 2008.

Every year Bhoomi celebrates its birthday at a very special place with a social cause. This year Bhoomi associated with The Bengal Chamber and presented an enchanting musical evening to the members of the Chamber.

Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East and Infinity Benchmark along with Anderson Printing and Mio-Amore were the supporters of the event. The event was also covered by ETV Bangla for telecast purposes.



Bhoomi during the performance

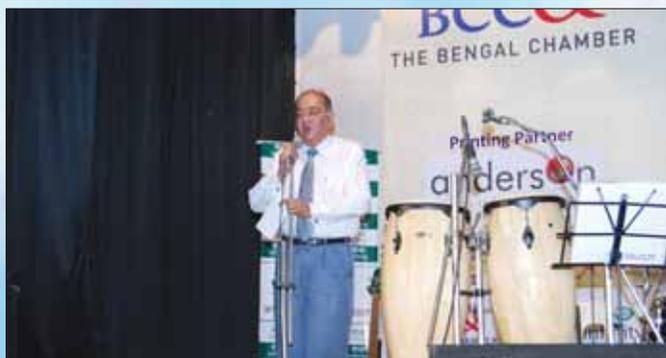


During performance

PROGRAMME

A Musical Journey with Bhoomi

23rd July 2016
Rotary Sadan Auditorium, Kolkata



Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry giving the welcome address



Mr. Abhijit Sen, President, Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East

General Insurance Conclave 2016 - Profitability, Innovation & Health

30th July 2016
The Park, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber organised a seminar on Indian Insurance Industry on 30th July 2016.

India is undergoing a digital revolution; and the insurance industry in general & non-life sectors specifically has taken a number of steps to embrace the same. The Digital India initiatives of the GOI can answer the multiple challenges of the sector like stagnant penetration, margin pressure and transparency. Whilst the Online Channels are flourishing, the individual insurers are making sizeable investments to be ready to create a robust digital environment for the benefit of all stakeholders. IRDAI has also come out with a slew of draft regulations to provide an orderly development in this arena. With all these rapid technological changes around, are the insurers, service providers & the distributors ready to build an enabling environment? What are the pre-requisites of the same and how can we join the global trends to create benchmarks in the next 5 years? The objective of the seminar was to analyse the innovations, profitability and the new ecosystem in the Non-Life Insurance Industry.



The programme witnessed the deliberations of eminent speakers like Mr. Joydeep K Roy, Partner & Leader, Insurance & Allied Businesses, PwC, India; Mr. Ramani Vaidyanathan, Head, GI Product & Strategy, Policy Bazaar; and Mr. Gunjan Ghai, SVP & National Head - Brand, Marketing & Product Development, SBI General Insurance Co. Ltd.

Business Session with Thailand Board of Investment, Government of Thailand

11th August 2016
The Taj Gateway, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Business Session with Thailand Board of Investment, Government of Thailand on 11th August 2016 at Poolside Hall, The Taj Gateway Hotel, EM Bypass Kolkata, from 6.30 pm onwards followed by an Interactive Session and Networking Dinner.

Ms. Chitra Kulvanich, Executive Director, General Administration Bureau graced the session along with Ms. Kanokporn Chotipal, Senior Diplomat & Director of Investment from Board of Investment, Mr. Preecha Kaensa, Consul General of Royal Thai Consulate General, Kolkata and Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The objectives of the session were:

- Facilitating interaction on the growing level of engagement between Thailand and India.

- Highlighting opportunities and areas for India based companies to successfully establish and grow their business in Thailand.

Ms. Kanokporn Chotipal, Senior Diplomat & Director of Investment from Board of Investment was the prolocutor of the session. Ms. Chitra Kulvanich, Executive Director, General Administration Bureau delivered a presentation on "Thailand's Dynamic Investment Environment and Opportunities".

Key topics of the presentation, addressed by Ms Kulvanich were :

- Thailand's globally established position
- Thailand as the ASEAN Hub
- Investment Incentives
- BOI Services



Welcome Address by Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Address by Mr. Preecha Kaensa, Consul General of Royal Thai Consulate General, Kolkata



Presentation by Ms. Chitra Kulvanich, Executive Director, General Administration Bureau



A section of the audience



Q/A Session in progress

Upcoming Programmes

BRICS Young Diplomats Forum	6th September 2016	Chamber premises
Annual General Meeting and Annual Reception	14th September 2016	AGM at Chamber premises and Reception at the Oberoi Grand
Inauguration of The Calcutta Gallery	14th September 2016	Chamber premises
Changing Face of Communication	17th September, 2016	The Park, Kolkata
E Business Summit	24th September, 2016	Hotel Novotel, Rajarhat, Kolkata
World Tourism Day Quiz	27th September 2016	Chamber premises
BCC&I Infrastructure Summit	29th September, 2016	Hyatt Regency Kolkata
Business Delegation to Sri Lanka For World Export Development Forum (WEDF)	10th -16th October 2016	
Business Delegation to Russia	7th Nov to 12th Nov 2016	
The Bengal Chamber Golf Trophy	2nd and 3rd December 2016,	The Tollygunge Club

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I) partnering the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT, Kharagpur) organized a two full-day “Workshop on Engineering Failure Analysis” on 18th and 19th August, 2016 at The Park, Kolkata. The workshop was conducted by eminent faculty of Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. The workshop was organized for industry professionals to enable them to know more about the use of various tools / techniques used to analyze engineering failures in their respective domains which may help them to achieve manufacturing excellence and operational efficiency.

The objective of organizing the workshop was to provide “Hands on Learning” to the respective participants on “Various Tools/Techniques and their Implementations” which are required for Analysis of Engineering Failures occurring in respective organizational domains.

The two day workshop started with a very positive note and the faculty present were Prof (Dr) Siddhartha Das, Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT, Kharagpur), Professor (Dr) Karabi Das, Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Professor (Dr.) Tapas Kr. Bandyopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-Kharagpur) and Professor Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Centenary Professor of Statistics, University of Calcutta.

Besides, from the Manufacturing Committee of the Chamber, present were Mr Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, and Mr Debasis Jana, Co – Chairperson.

The workshop witnessed the participation of engineers from manufacturing and engineering sectors.



Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das, Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT, Kharagpur) delivering his lecture at the sixth edition of the annual Manufacturing Workshop titled “Workshop on Engineering Failure Analysis”. L-R : Seated on the dais are Prof. (Dr.) Karabi Das, Prof., Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, IIT Kharagpur and Mr. Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I)



Participants present in the workshop



Interaction of the Participants with the Sponsors



Interaction of the Participants with Mr. Debkumar Basu



Mr. Debkumar Basu delivering his lecture at the end of the workshop while seated on the dais (L-R) are Professor Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Centenary Professor of Statistics, University of Calcutta, Mr. Debasis Jana, Co – Chairperson, Manufacturing Committee, The Bengal Chamber, Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das, Prof. (Dr.) Karabi Das and Prof. (Dr.) Tapas Kr. Bandyopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, IIT Kharagpur



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to one of the participants of the workshop

18th - 19th August 2016
The Park, Kolkata

Workshop on Engineering Failure Analysis



Mr. Debasis Jana presenting a memento to one of the participants of the workshop



Professor Shyama Prasad Mukherjee delivering his lecture in the workshop



Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das presenting a memento to one of the participants of the workshop



Professor (Dr.) Tapas Kr. Bandyopadhyay delivering his lecture in the workshop



Demonstration of the Sponsors in the workshop



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Prof (Dr) Siddhartha Das



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to one of the participants of the workshop



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Prof (Dr) Karabi Das.

The MSME and Entrepreneurship Forum Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized this year's "The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition 2016" awards programme on Friday, 19th August 2016 at the Williamson Magor Hall in the Chamber Premises.

"The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition" initiative has been undertaken by The Bengal Chamber to help identify and reward entrepreneurs of West Bengal with outstanding entrepreneurial vision irrespective of their size and capital who are instrumental in the socio-economic development of the State. The aim of the initiative is to encourage dynamic, sustainable and forward thinking entrepreneurs of West Bengal, who are contributing to the development of the State's economy. This Initiative recognizes entrepreneurship aiming at promoting further entrepreneurial activity. The recognition also aims to contribute to the promotion, growth & implementation of Bengal's dynamic entrepreneurial network.

Guest Speakers at the programme were Shri Sadhan Pande, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Consumer Affairs Department and Self Help Group & Self Employment Department, Government of West Bengal, Mr Sandip Mukherjee, Regional Corporate Affairs Manager, Amway India Enterprises Pvt Ltd

and Dr Debapi Roy, ABO (Amway Business Owner).

The 1st edition (conducted in 2015) had seen around 50(fifty) budding entrepreneurs being recognized for their initiatives and at least 3 (three) successful entrepreneurs, each from the Manufacturing and the Service sector receiving Awards from the State's Finance & Commerce and Industries Minister, Dr. Amit Mitra at The Bengal Chamber's Annual General Meeting of 2015.

This year apart from Services and Manufacturing Sector, Start-ups have been added as a separate category to encourage and promote new businesses and ideas. The main objective of this initiative is not competition but to recognize the efforts of entrepreneurs towards the overall socio-economic development of the State. There were applications from different industry verticals like IT & ITES, Manufacturing, Retail, Hospitality, HR, Education, Real Estate, Financial Services and others.

Applications this year were under 3 categories :

- Services Sector
- Manufacturing Sector
- Start-ups

Total 6 applications from the Start-ups, 7 from Manufacturing and 9 from services sector have been shortlisted for the final interview. These are :

Sl no	Start up	Manufacturing	Service Sector
1	Dimensions Interior Solutions	Arambagh Foodmart Pvt Ltd	Axsys Technologies Ltd
2	GRIP Consulting	I & B Engineers Pvt Ltd	Blue Copper Technologies Pvt Ltd
3	ISOAH Data Securities Pvt Ltd	Indo Webal Surgical Pvt Ltd	Capital Numbers Infotech Pvt Ltd
4	Soinit Technology Solutions Pvt Ltd	Kusari Enterprise	Codeclouds IT Solutions Pvt Ltd
5	Krishworks Technology and Research Labs Pvt Ltd (Team Krishna)	Neogi Technologies and Research Pvt Ltd	Eduplex Solutions Pvt Ltd
6	Team Taurus Food & Hospitality Services Pvt Ltd	Vikram Solar Private Limited	Mjunction Services Ltd
7		Wow Momo Foods Pvt. Ltd.	Primarc Pecan Retail Pvt Ltd
8			Som Imaging Informatics Pvt Ltd
9			Wizertech Informatics Pvt Ltd

The final interview is scheduled on 30th August 2016.

19th August 2016
Chamber Premises

The Bengal Entrepreneurship Recognition 2016



Mr. S Radhakrishnan, President, TIE Kolkata and Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry welcoming the Chief Guest, Shri Sadhan Pande, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Consumer Affairs Department and Self Help Group & Self Employment Department, Government of West Bengal



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. delivering his address



Shri Sadhan Pande, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Consumer Affairs Department and Self Help Group & Self Employment Department, Government of West Bengal addressing the audience



Mr. Sandip Mukherjee, Regional Corporate Affairs Manager, Amway India Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. addressing the audience



Mr. S Radhakrishnan delivering the Theme Address



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



Shri Sadhan Pande presenting Recognition Memento and Certificate to Entrepreneurs



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting Recognition Memento and Certificate to Entrepreneurs



Mr. S Radhakrishnan presenting Recognition Memento and Certificate to Entrepreneurs



Presentation by Dr. Debapi Roy, ABO (Amway Business Owner)



Mr. Smarajit Purkayastha, Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting memento to Dr Debapi Roy, ABO (Amway Business Owner)



Vote of Thanks by Mr. Smarajit Purkayastha



Dignitaries on the dais



A section of the participants

20th August 2016
Chamber Premises

Women@Work: Greater Scope, Better Pay

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with South Asian Women in Media (SAWM) organized a workshop on "Women at Work" on 20th August 2016.

The purpose of the workshop was to generate media discourse and public discussion on the draft NPW (2016), especially the provisions related to work: skill development, greater career opportunity, higher productivity and greater financial inclusion. It focused on the provisions in the draft for a safe and enabling ambience for working women.

The session was addressed by Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister- of- State, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Women Development & Social Welfare & Child Development, Government of West Bengal, Justice Joymalya Bagchi, Hon'ble Judge, Calcutta High Court and other distinguished and eminent speakers namely Swati Bhattacharjee, General Secretary, South Asian Women in Media (SAWM) India, Dr. Samita Sen, Director, School of Women's Studies, JU, and former Vice Chancellor of Diamond Harbour Women's University, Ms Janet Ford, Deputy Head of Mission, British Deputy High Commission, Smt Suparna Sengupta, COO, Woodlands Hospital, Mr Greg Pardo, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, U S Consulate General, Prof. Arijita Dutta, Professor of Economics, Calcutta University and Ms Ruchira Goswami, Professor of Social Science, NUJS. The session was moderated by Smt Shikha Mukherjee, eminent journalist.

The session discussed the need to bring more women from

the informal economy to the formal economy, so that women have equal opportunity to enter and enjoy decent work, in just and favorable environment. The need is to,

- Ensure women's skill development, especially in new and emerging areas like information based industries, telecommunication, software designs, and financial services;
- Enhance training and work incentives for women in health and education sectors, which depend heavily on women;
- Promote part-time and flexi-time jobs in organized sectors;
- Make provisions for re-entry of technically skilled women in job markets, especially after breaks for care giving;
- Develop a strategy for the financial sector to reduce gender gap in access to private credit; and
- Use technology to reduce drudgery and improve access to health, education, communication.

The workshop was supported by the Department of Health and Family Welfare as well as the Department of Women Development & Social Welfare & Child Development, Government of West Bengal and Ghosh Bose & Associates Pvt. Ltd.



L-R: Ms. Swati Bhattacharjee, General Secretary, South Asian Women in Media (SAWM) India; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber; Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister- of- State, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Women Development & Social Welfare & Child Development, Government of West Bengal; Justice Joymalya Bagchi, Hon'ble Judge, Calcutta High Court; Dr. Samita Sen, Director, School of Women's Studies, JU, and former Vice Chancellor of Diamond Harbour Women's University; Smt. Suparna Sengupta, COO, Woodlands Hospital, during the opening session



During the session



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



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta during the opening session



Ms. Swati Bhattacharjee, General Secretary, South Asian Women in Media (SAWM) India setting the agenda of the session



Section of the audience



Dr. Samita Sen, Director, School of Women's Studies, JU, and former Vice Chancellor of Diamond Harbour Women's University during her speech



A section of the audience



During the interactive session



Participants



Justice Joymalya Bagchi, Hon'ble Judge, Calcutta High Court during his address

20th August 2016
Chamber Premises

Women@Work: Greater Scope, Better Pay



Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister- of- State, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Women Development & Social Welfare & Child Development, Government of West Bengal during her keynote address



Justice Joymalya Bagchi, Hon'ble Judge, Calcutta High Court during his address



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta presenting a memento to Dr Shashi Panja



Smt. Shikha Mukherjee, eminent journalist moderating the session



Ms. Janet Ford, Deputy Head of Mission, British Deputy High Commission addressing. Mr. Greg Pardo, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, U S Consulate is beside her



Extreme left: Prof. Arijita Dutta, Professor of Economics, Calcutta University



Smt. Suparna Sengupta, COO, Woodlands Hospital, during the interactive session

PROGRAMME

Interactive Meeting with Smt. Rita Teautia, IAS, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Government of India

20th August 2016
The Lalit Great Eastern

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in association with FIEO, ASSOCHAM, EEPC and India & Gem & Jewellery EPC, organized an "Interactive Meeting with Smt Rita Teautia, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India" on 20th August 2016 at the Lalit Great Eastern.

This was a forum where sectoral issues of exporters & policy suggestions were discussed.

Mr. Ardhendu Mandal, Chairman, International Trade Cell of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry was one of the dignitaries who spoke in this forum and shared the dais with Smt. Rita Teautia, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Commerce, Govt. of India; Shri D K Singh, IAS, Addl. DGFT; Shri Sanjay Chadha, IAS, Joint secretary, Dept. of Commerce, Govt. of India; Ms Anita Praveen, IAS, Joint Secretary & Chairperson, APEDA; Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, IAS, Joint Secretary & Chairman, Tea Board; Shri Surendra Gupta, IAS, Managing Director, WBIDC; Shri Randhir Kumar, IAS, Commissioner, WB Commercial Tax; Shri N K Soren, IRS, Commissioner of Customs (port & preventive); Mr. Ajay Sahai, DG & CEO, FIEO; Mr. Ramesh Kumar Agarwal, Regional Chairman, FIEO (ER); Mr. Arun Kumar Garodia, Regional Chairman, EEPC India; Mr. Prakash Chandra Pincha, Regional Chairman, GJEPC and Mr. Sanjay Jhunjunwalla, Chairman Eastern Region, ASSOCHAM.

As one of the key focus areas of the International Trade Cell of the Bengal Chamber is to provide advocacy and a networking platform for the EXIM Community and the Government, Mr. Mandal discussed a few issues which are very relevant for the exporters, mainly those who belong to the MSME sector.

Some of the points which Mr. Mandal spoke about, were:

1. With introduction of GST there is uncertainty about whether duty exemption would be available for GST under EPCG & Advance Authorization (AA) scheme. If such exemption is not available, it will act to additional cost for exporters. Though credit would be available, since exports are exempted from taxes, there would be blockage of funds to some extent.
2. Role of Export Inspection Councils - Most of the EIC offices are not situated in manufacturing clusters. This creates problem for inspection & adds to transaction cost. It is therefore requested that manufacturers having ISO certification should be allowed to issue Preferential Certificate of Origin on their own. If need be, selective list of items may continue under EIC.
3. Application for Advance Authorization, EPCG & Duty Credit Scrips should be completely online. Since both the documents E-BRC, & Shipping bill are available online, physical submission of documents should be dispensed with immediately.
4. There is little awareness on the impact of FTAs particularly in MSME sector. There should be a mechanism to sensitize MSME sector in this regard as this is a most vulnerable area. It is pertinent to note that MSMEs' contribution is almost 45 % in exports & hence this should be done as top priority.



BCC&I as an Associate Partner with FIEO, ASSOCHAM, EEPC and India & Gem & Jewellery EPC



Mr. Ardhendu Mandal sharing the dais with the other dignitaries



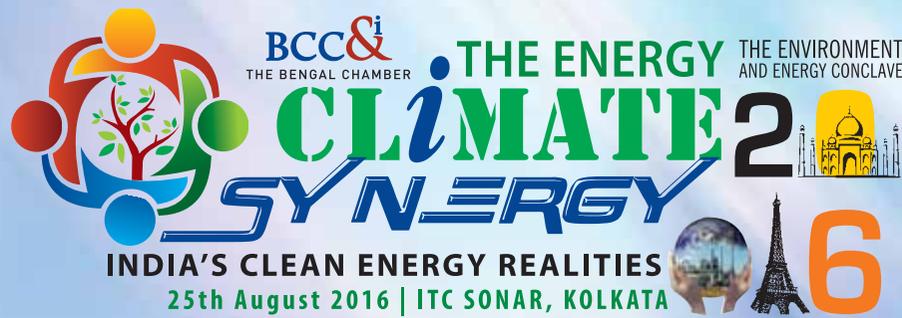
(Fifth from left) Mr. Ardhendu Mandal, Chairman, International Trade Cell of the Bengal Chamber representing the Chamber at the forum



Audience during the Interactive Session

25th August 2016
The ITC Sonar, Kolkata

Ninth Annual Environment and Energy Conclave 2016



The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the ninth edition of the Chamber's signature programme, the Environment and Energy Conclave, in association with Coal India Limited, on 25th August 2016 in ITC Sonar, Kolkata. Shri Sovandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Power & Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal graced the Conclave as the Chief Guest. The Conclave featured signing of Memorandum of Understanding between The Energy and Resources Institute and the Chamber for working together in the realm of Renewables and allied areas. Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed the MoU. Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata made a Special Presentation on 'An Inconvenient Truth'. Dr. Ajay Mathur, set the tone by speaking on, 'Will the Climate Change after Paris? - As assessment of India's energy strategies and INDCs'. Shri Sutirtha Bhattacharya, IAS, Chairman and Managing Director, Coal India Ltd spoke about, 'Coal – India's mainstay - What you did not know about Coal – an efficient clean and low emission pathway'. Shri Anil Razdan, IAS, Former Secretary, Power, Government of India delivered his address on, 'The Balance between Conventional and Renewables for India's Energy Basket – Economic Feasibility'. Shri P S Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman and Managing Director, Coal India Ltd presented the Theme 'The Energy Climate Synergy'. The Inaugural Session also included a Power Panel which had Mr. Deepak Amitabh, IRS, Chairman and Managing Director, PTC India Limited; Mr. Debasis Gupta, GM (Special Projects), CESC Limited and Mr. Santosh Kamath, Partner-Infrastructure, Government and Healthcare, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd. as speakers. The topics were 'Open Access, Electricity Trading and power Markets in India'; 'Power Distribution for the future' and 'Ever evolving and increasingly important energy sector in India' respectively. CUTS International was the Consumer Connect Partner of

the Chamber. Mr. Udai S Mehta, Deputy Executive Director, CUTS International presented the Draft Comments on the Conclave theme, which would be finalized after collating the speeches and recommendations of the speakers.

The Sessions on 'Generating cost effective power in the context of progressive technology' and 'How feasible is the Renewables Target of 175 GW by 2022' were joined by Mr. Ashok Kr Goswami, Wholetime Director, India Power Corporation Limited; Dr. R R Sonde, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President, Research, Innovation & Technology, Thermax Limited; Dr. Bikash Sinha, Homi Bhabha Professor, DAE, Former Director, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics and Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre, Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India; Mr Shirish S Garud, Director, EETD (Energy-Environment Technology Development) Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Mr. Sriram Kuchimanchi, Founder and Principal, Smarter Dharma.

Dr. Kirit S Parikh, Former Member, Planning Commission and Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) was the Valedictory Speaker who addressed on 'Business Opportunities in the era of Energy Climate Synergy'.

The annual Environment and Energy Conclave, an international forum for Climate Change mitigation and business response, is held every August and is the preferred forum for discussing environmental and climate challenges and mitigation actions in sync with India's clean energy-led development pathway.

This year, The Conclave addressed the issue of bringing about a balance in India's energy basket and power infrastructure by focusing on the theme, "Energy Climate Synergy – India's Clean Energy Realities".



Shri Sovandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Power & Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal delivering the Inaugural Address



Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata making a special presentation on "An Inconvenient Truth"



Shri P S Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman and Managing Director, Coal India Ltd Presenting the Conference Theme



Shri Anil Razdan, Former Secretary, Power, Government of India addressing 'The Balance between Conventional and Renewables for India's Energy Basket – Economic Feasibility'



Shri Sutirtha Bhattacharya, IAS, Chairman and Managing Director, Coal India Ltd speaking on 'Coal – India's mainstay: What you did not know about Coal – an efficient clean and low emission pathway'



Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute addressing 'Will the Climate Change after Paris? - As assessment of India's energy strategies and INDCs'



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the Welcome Address



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce presenting a Bonsai, as memento, to Shri Sovandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Power & Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of West Bengal

25th August 2016
The ITC Sonar, Kolkata

Ninth Annual Environment and Energy Conclave 2016



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry commences the Conclave



Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry moderating the Inaugural Session



Signing of MoU - The Bengal Chamber & TERI to work together on Renewables and allied areas



Exchange of MoU



Release of the Position Paper prepared by CUTS International.



Mr. Deepak Amitabh, IRS, Chairman and Managing Director, PTC India Limited addressing 'Open Access, Electricity Trading and Power Markets in India'.



Mr. Debasis Gupta, GM (Special Projects), CESC Limited speaking on 'Power Distribution for the future'.



Mr. Santosh Kamath, Partner-Infrastructure, Government and Healthcare, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd. addressing 'Ever evolving and increasingly important energy sector in India'.



Mr. Uday S Mehta, Deputy Executive Director, CUTS International presenting the Position Paper by the Consumer Connect Partner (CUTS).



(L-R): Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Ashok Kr Goswami, Wholetime Director, India Power Corporation Limited; Mr Shirish S Garud, Director, EETD (Energy-Environment Technology Development) Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI); Dr. R R Sonde, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President, Research, Innovation & Technology, Thermax Limited; Mr. Sriram Kuchimanchi, Founder and Principal, Smarter Dharma and Dr. Bikash Sinha, Homi Bhabha Professor, DAE, Former Director, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics and Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre, Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India.



Valedictory Session: Business Opportunities in the era of Energy Climate Synergy by Dr. Kirit S Parikh, Former Member, Planning Commission and Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADE).



Part of the 350 plus audience.



The Conclave in progress.



During the proceedings.

New Innovations in Cloud Computing for Big Data Applications

Dept. of Information Technology, JIS College of Engineering conducted TEQIP Sponsored Expert Lecture on New Innovations in Cloud Computing for Big Data Applications on 1st August 2016 at R-304. Prof. Raj Kumar Buyya, Professor of Computer Science and Software Engineering and Director, Cloud Computing and Distributed Systems Laboratory, University of Melbourne, Australia delivered his speech on cloud computing along with BigData application. Students of CSE, IT, MCA, BCA participated in the said session. Faculty members of Dept of CSE and IT also attended the said event.



Bio Informatics - Genomics

Dept. of Information Technology, JIS College of Engineering conducted TEQIP Sponsored Expert Lecture on Bio Informatics - Genomics on 26th August, 2016 at R-304. Dr. Bhaswati Pandit, National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, West Bengal, delivered her speech on BioInformatics along with Genomics. Students of IT, BCA participated in the said session. Faculty members of Dept. of IT also attended the said event.



Skill Development and Orientation Towards Engineering Education

JIS College of Engineering, Kalyani was proud to host the Orientation Program for 1st Year students under the banner of 'Skill Development and Orientation Towards Engineering Education' from 1st -5th August 2016. This one week Orientation Programme aimed to familiarise the new entrants with the academics, social values and culture of the Institution to help them grow as good human beings, thus making the institution and society proud, as an alumnus of JIS College of Engineering, Kalyani.



Water Pollution and Water Quality Improvement

Commemorating the 155th Birth Anniversary of Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy, Applied Science and Humanities Department, GNIT organized a one-day seminar on Water Pollution and Water Quality Improvement on 2nd August, 2016.

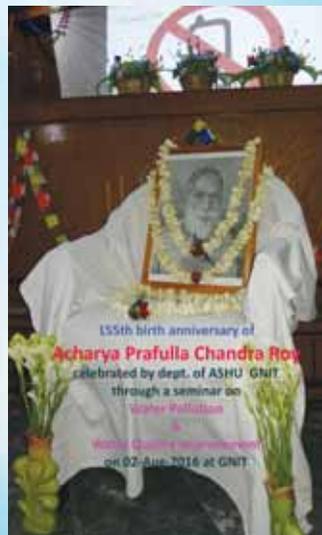
During the consecutive two technical sessions, eminent speakers from different institutions enriched the audience with their invaluable presentations on the poor scenario of water pollution at the State, Country and Global levels.

Dr. Sumit Nandi, HOD, BSHU Department, Narula Institute of Technology, Agarpara delivered a lecture on Water the lifeline of the human being on Earth focusing on the utility of protection of water in daily life as well for the future generations.

Prof. Pradip Kr. Sikdar, Senior Professor, IISWBM spoke on Water Recourse Management and strategies for sustainable development.

Prof. Dipankar Charabarti, Director (Research), School of Environmental Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata during his presentation portrayed endemic conditions of arsenic and fluoride contaminated places and the fate of more than 480 million inhabitants in India, with a focus on remediation methods.

The session was attended by hundreds of students and faculty members of GNIT.



Azaadi 70

Narula Institute of Technology organized several events to celebrate Azaadi 70 inside the institute campus in response to the call from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). The Students Life Centre organized a Painting and an essay writing competition on the theme Yaad karo Qurbani, where students participated enthusiastically and added colour to their imagination. When the dusk descended, hundreds of students assembled to join the Candle light march in memory of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives to achieve a free nation. The candle march commenced with a brief introduction by the Student coordinators who focussed on the role of the student community towards nation building. The students and the staff members marched in the campus chanting patriotic songs.

