



from the desk of the
PRESIDENT

Dear Member,



9th February, 2018

India is currently going through major structural reforms and the budget 2018-19 continues that trend.

I would like to say, this is a budget for the people of India. It has brought back the focus on the relevant sectors- health, education and rural distress. The emphasis on affordable housing continues. To give it a big boost, the government now proposes to set up a dedicated Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) in the National Housing Bank. Housing is an engine of economy because of a high multiplier effect and many beneficial forward and backward linkages in the economy.

The Budget has also proposed to expand the coverage under Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana by bringing 60 crore basic bank accounts within its fold and undertake measures to provide services of micro insurance and unorganized sector pension schemes through these accounts.

The biggest beneficiaries of this Budget are the medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs)—the units which can create massive employment opportunities. Post demonetization and introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST), the MSME segment is being formalized and this is leading to generation of enormous financial information database of their businesses and finances. The budget has proposed to use this data base to ensure steady funds flow into these units, including the much-needed working capital.

It is proposing to bring all public sector banks and corporations on the Trade Electronic Receivable Discounting System platform and link this with the GST Network. The online loan sanctioning facility for MSMEs will change the financing pattern for this segment. The Finance Minister has also said that the Government is working on measures to address the bad loans and stressed accounts of the MSMEs.

On top of all these, the tax burden on the MSMEs is also being reduced. Last year, the finance minister had announced the reduction of corporate tax rate to 25% for companies with turnover less than Rs 50 crore. This benefited 96% of the companies filing tax returns. This time, he has extended this benefit to companies with turnover up to Rs 250 crore in the financial year 2016-17. This will benefit the entire class of micro, small and medium enterprises. The idea behind all these measures is to ease the cash flow for the MSME segment and create jobs.

Overall, this budget will go a long way for job creation and addressing agrarian distress.

Concurrently, West Bengal State Budget 2018 is an exercise in welfare economics with stress on empowering rural Bengal. The Budget has also focused on boosting the traditional industries of the State like Tea apart from promoting affordable housing along with introducing social sector schemes in sync with the West Bengal Government's enduring principles.

The Chamber over the years in its multi-faceted roles has been the champion for causes-economic, social, humanitarian and this edition of the newsletter shall substantiate this aforementioned verity. We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Government of West Bengal on the astounding success of the Bengal Global Business Summit 2018 which was indeed a reflection of its underlying theme—"Bengal Means Business."

The Chamber is gearing up with a stellar line up of events and activities and I seek your encouragement, participation and patronage in our endeavor to scale newer heights.

Sd/-
C S Ghosh
President

MEMBER'S NEWS CORNER



Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to *Savourites Hospitality Pvt. Ltd.* and *Vikram Solar Limited* whose applications for membership were tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on 20th December 2017.

The People Management Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized 'Next Gen Employability: Industry-Academia Networking Meet' at Williamson Magor Hall, The Chamber Premises, Kolkata on 15th December 2017. The objective of the Meet was to address the employability scenario of Eastern India and to understand and brainstorm today's requirements of the industries through an interface between representatives of Industry and those from Educational Institutes imparting Engineering and Management studies. The initiative brought the Industry and Academia representatives together under one roof and provided a platform where the Academia understood the challenges and measures needed to proceed for bridging the gap and make fresh graduates more industry ready. The Conclave was attended by Directors, Faculty Members and Administrative Officers of Engineering and Management Institutes and eminent HR Leaders involved in the recruitment process.

Speakers at this event were:

- Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and President (Corporate Affairs & Admin), India Power Corporation Limited
- Mr. Rahul Bose, Co-Chairperson – The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Global Manager Learning & Knowledge, IBM Global Business Services
- Mr. R. N. Lahiri, Director, Techno India Batanagar (Formerly Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science)
- Mr. Ankur Chaturvedi, General Manager, Emami Ltd.
- Ms. Shikha Banerjee, General Manager – HR, Shapoorji Pallonji And Company Pvt. Ltd.
- Mr. Sugata Halder, Country Head – HR, Century Plyboards (India) Ltd.
- Mr. Sidharth Das, Vice President – HR, Kolkata & Rest of Bengal, Vodafone
- Ms. Shivani Chaturvedi, Chief People Officer, Mjunction Services Ltd

Eminent HR Heads were of the opinion that the present industrial society has opened up a multiplicity of occupations and professions and each one of them is associated with scientific knowledge and skills. It is a society of complex division of labour and requires people with specialized knowledge. Modern education fulfills the needs of industrial economy. A vast range of subjects like medicine, health, engineering, management and law have become hot areas of professionalization and specialization today. Hence according

to them education was the single most important instrument for social and economic transformation. A well educated population, adequately equipped with knowledge and skill was not only essential to support economic growth, but it was also a precondition for growth to be inclusive since it is the educated and skilled person who could stand to benefit most from the employment opportunities which growth will provide.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry will continue arranging Networking Meets between Industry and Academia across India.



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



Theme Address by Mr. Rahul Bose, Co-Chairperson - The People Management Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Global Manager Learning & Knowledge, IBM Global Business Services

**15th December 2017,
Chamber Premises**

**'NEXT GEN EMPLOYABILITY: INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA
NETWORKING MEET'**



Panel Discussion on Vision Sharing by The People Management Committee on Industry Needs and Employability Parameters moderated by Mr. R.N Lahiri, Director, Techno India Batanagar (Formerly Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science). To his right, Ms. Shivani Chaturvedi, Chief People Officer, Mjunction Services Ltd; Mr. Ankur Chaturvedi, General Manager, Emami Ltd. and Ms. Shikha Banerjee, General Manager – HR, Shapoorji Pallonji And Company Pvt. Ltd. To his left, Mr. Sugata Halder, Country Head – HR, Century Plyboards (India) Ltd. and Mr. Sidharth Das, Vice President – HR, Kolkata & Rest of Bengal, Vodafone



A section of audience



Questions from the audience

**15th-25th December 2017,
Science City Grounds, Kolkata**

INDIA INTERNATIONAL MEGA TRADE FAIR

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce, along with GS Marketing Associates, organized the 16th edition of The India International Mega Trade Fair at Science City Grounds, Kolkata, from 15th to 25th December 2017.

Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Departments of Finance, Industry, Commerce & Enterprises and MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal was the Chief Guest at the Inauguration.

Others who were present at the Inauguration included Mr Oo Han, Deputy Director General, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization, Ministry of Commerce, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; Mr Eknarayan Aryal, Consul General of Nepal,

Mr Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber, amongst others.

Trade fairs, conferences, business events, economic forums and exhibitions can be defined in a unified manner as sophisticated platforms for conducting business on a national and international scale. These trade fairs are a high-impact method to disclose new products, services and trends. Everywhere in the world, trade fair is a great stage for head to head, business-to-business communication for exhibitors and visitors from any branch of the industry. It is more than just a marketing tool as the entire marketplace is at one's fingertips. As a source of market information they fulfill needs in a centralized way. They provide an excellent opportunity to

PROGRAMME

INDIA INTERNATIONAL MEGA TRADE FAIR

15th-25th December 2017,
Science City Grounds, Kolkata

assess opinions from clients and determine market potential, conduct research and evaluate competition, develop commercial structures by identifying new agents and distributors, and initiating joint ventures and project partnerships.

The Chamber's main aim through this Fair is to bring Bengal to the economic forefront of our country through the Fairs - by helping to increase the business relations between West Bengal with other States and Countries. This year, this Mega Trade Fair had 16 Foreign Countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Egypt, Myanmar, Thailand, Bhutan, Turkey etc. were some of the Countries participating in the Fair.

The Mega Trade Fair also had Nepal & Netherlands as the Focus Countries, Bangladesh being the Partner Country, Jharkhand & Madhya Pradesh being Partner States with Karnataka & Tripura being the Focus States. We also saw participation from 21 Indian States - Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh etc. being some of the States that participated in this Fair in a large way.

Hon'ble Dr. Mitra and Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, Bengal Chamber, lighting the Inaugural Lamp



Dr. Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister –in-Charge, Departments of Finance, Industry, Commerce & Enterprises and MSME & Textiles, Government of West Bengal inaugurating the IIMTF 2017 along with Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber (to his left) and other dignitaries



Dr. Mitra delivering the Inaugural Address

**20th December 2017,
Chamber premises**

**INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MR MA ZHANWU, CONSUL GENERAL,
CONSULATE GENERAL OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN KOLKATA**

The Members of the Managing Committee of the Bengal Chamber interacted with Mr. Ma Zhanwu, Consul General, Consulate General of People's Republic of China in Kolkata on 20th December 2017 in the Chamber premises.

Mr. Zhanwu said that he had been in the City of Kolkata for two and a half years now and that he loved Bengal and Kolkata which he thought was indeed a city of vitality, knowledge, development, joy and a city of prosperity. He felt that with the growth and development in this part of the world, this City should rank amongst the top cities of the world in the next few years. Mr. Zhanwu stated that he greatly admired the history and heritage of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and felt happy to be at the Chamber.

The Consul General spoke about current Chinese infrastructure and connectivity initiatives spanning continents, trade relations and prospects of trade with India and specifically Bengal, while focusing on the scope of future Chinese investments in Bengal.

He commented that China's growth story is currently transforming from 'high-speed growth' to 'high quality growth'. From an average yearly growth rate of about 9% over several years, China has come down to a growth rate of 6.9% per annum this year and it should settle at around 6.5% with its new thrust on quality and efficiency. Innovation was the new course to be adopted in place of extension of scale. The traditional ties between Bengal and China could provide further scope for expansion of business here.



L-R: Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Ma Zhanwu, Consul General, Consulate General of People's Republic of China in Kolkata; Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Managing Committee Meeting in progress



Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Ms. Sukanya Bose, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry interacting with Mr. Ma Zhanwu.



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting a token of appreciation to Mr. Ma Zhanwu, Consul General of People's Republic of China in Kolkata

PROGRAMME

LAUNCHING OF BCC&I KNOWLEDGE FORUM: BRIDGING THE INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA

27th December 2017,
Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry launched the BCC&I Knowledge Forum: Bridging the Industry and Academia on 27th December 2017 in the Chamber premises.

The Chamber, along with Global Change Program, Jadavpur University, also launched the Special Publication – ‘Sustainable Energy Technology and Policies - A Transformational Journey’, published by Springer.

The forum has been conceptualized to bring on board experts from Industry and Academia to discuss the critical areas of convergence for Industry and Academia especially in the realm of sustainable energy. The publication has contributed significantly in bringing together perspectives of experts from industry and academia across the globe in the realm of the transformational journey of sustainable energy.

The Inaugural Session commenced with the addresses by Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President and Chairperson of Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Mr. Deb A Mukherjee spoke about the Chamber’s special initiative in bridging Industry and Academia and in building a Knowledge Forum with global expertise. His address included creating a supportive ecosystem to nurture innovation and helping in value generation, knowledge dissemination, business led research, benchmarking and application driven skill development through online training on an interactive digital platform.

Prof. Ajoy Kumar Ray, Director, IEST, Kolkata shared his perspectives on Industry-Academia Collaboration. His insights included, importance of energy and environment for humanity, importance of energy saving in today’s life, renewable energy in foreseeable future, focusing on clean coal technology to reduce CO₂ emissions during the process of thermal power generation, importance of biomass and others.

Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna, Director (PMSSS & SWAYAM), Government of India, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) addressed on Inclusive Education – SWAYAM. His address covered issues ranging from importance of energy conservation and convergence in today’s context, comparative importance of thermal energy and renewable energy, teaching citizens through SWAYAM also about saving energy, storing energy and converting energy. He also spoke about Digital India and Automation.

Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna launched the publication titled, ‘Sustainable Energy Technology and Policies- A Transformational Journey’, published by Springer, in the presence of the Editors- Mr. Deb A Mukherjee; Prof. Mohsen

Assadi, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Stavanger; Prof. Santanu Bandyopadhyay, Department of Energy Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay; Prof. (Dr.) Sudipta De, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jadavpur University and Key Resource Member, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; the publisher, Ms. Swati Meherishi, Executive Editor, Applied Science & Engineering, Springer and other dignitaries. The Inaugural Session was moderated by Mr. Arun Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

There was an interaction with the Editors on the publication. During the interaction, the highlights that emerged were, Industry-Academia Collaboration with focus on Energy System in Transition; Utilization of Education / Research outcome in Industry; EU-projects and national programs to stimulate close collaboration; some EU projects with Stavanger University as consortium partner and The Indo-Norwegian collaborative program (INCP). Prof. Mohsen Assadi commented on this.

The forum also featured a Panel Discussion on I:A (Industry to Academia)- The Road Map. Mr. Alope Mookherjee, Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry chaired the Discussion. The Panelists included Mr. Indrajit Sen, Managing Director, International Combustion (India) Limited and President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Shri P. S. Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Ltd. and Dr. Mohsen Assadi. The forum was followed by a Q/A session.



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the formal Welcome Address

**27th December 2017,
Chamber premises**

**LAUNCHING OF BCC&I KNOWLEDGE FORUM:
BRIDGING THE INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA**



Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry moderating the Inaugural Session. (L-R) on the dais: Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna, Director (PMSSS & SWAYAM), Government of India, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE); Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Prof. Ajoy Kumar Ray, Director, IEST, Kolkata; Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and Chairperson of Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and Chairperson of Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry addressing the audience



Prof. Ajoy Kumar Ray, Director, IEST, Kolkata gracing the occasion



Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna, Director (PMSSS & SWAYAM), Government of India, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) gracing the occasion



Launching of the publication titled, 'Sustainable Energy Technology and Policies- A Transformational Journey', published by Springer

PROGRAMME

LAUNCHING OF BCC&I KNOWLEDGE FORUM: BRIDGING THE INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA

27th December 2017,
Chamber premises



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the formal Vote of Thanks



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting a memento to Prof. Ajoy Kumar Ray, Director, IIST, Kolkata



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh presenting a memento to Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna



L-R: Dr. Sudipta De, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jadavpur University and Key Resource Member, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Dr. Mohsen Assadi, Professor, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Stavanger; Ms. Swati Meherishi, Executive Editor, Applied Science & Engineering, Springer; Prof. Santanu Bandyopadhyay, Department of Energy Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay; Mr. Arun Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber



Dr. Mohsen Assadi, Professor, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Stavanger gracing the occasion

**27th December 2017,
Chamber premises**

**LAUNCHING OF BCC&I KNOWLEDGE FORUM:
BRIDGING THE INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA**



Ms. Swati Meherishi,
Executive Editor, Applied
Science & Engineering,
Springer during her speech



Prof. (Dr.) Sudipta De during
his address.



Prof. Santanu Bandyopadhyay, Department of Energy Science and
Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay during his
address



Shri P. S. Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Ltd. gracing
the occasion



Q/A Session in progress.

PROGRAMME

LAUNCHING OF BCC&I KNOWLEDGE FORUM: BRIDGING THE INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA

27th December 2017,
Chamber premises



Panel discussion on I : A (Industry to Academia)- The Road Map : Panelists (L-R) : Dr. Mohsen Assadi; Shri P. S. Bhattacharyya, Former Chairman, Coal India Ltd.; Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Indrajit Sen, Managing Director, International Combustion (India) Limited and President Designate, The Bengal Chamber



Distinguished audience

THINK SESSION WITH DR. AJAY MATHUR, DIRECTOR GENERAL, THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE (TERI) ON "CLIMATE- A NEW PARADIGM!"

10th January 2018, The Bengal
Lounge, Chamber premises

Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) addressed the THINK Lecture of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 10th January 2018. The topic was 'Climate – The New Paradigm!' His address commenced with the key decisions of COP 21 and Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). His narration highlighted the importance of business and social decisions through the climate lens.

Nationally determined contributions are national plans of action, identifying each country's goals to restrict global temperature rise to less than 2°C; as close to 1.5°C.

India also pledged to reduce carbon emission intensity. It was decided that Carbon Dioxide emitted per rupee would be reduced. It allowed India to commit in the line of its development plans. It was determined that 40% of the total installed capacity would be in renewables by 2030.

The summation of INDCs of all the countries which pledged, did not add up to the required reduction. 2030 emissions were expected to reach 54 to 56 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide

equivalent – far above the level of 42 needed to have a chance of limiting global warming to 2°C this century.

The unique feature of COP 21 was that each country would monitor and report its actions and the global community would carry out a "stocktake" in 2023 (and a rehearsal in 2018). Countries would revise their NDCs in the light of their own achievements and global need.

This would cut across all economic activities, of the countries involved, influencing Carbon Dioxide emission. This way, climate became the focal point of all key policies and decisions.

Technology would play a major role for emission reduction. Storage would be a crucial factor. Investments in low carbon technologies would shape demand-supply graph. National goals and public perceptions would together influence investment eco-system.

Interestingly, climate is becoming the rationale in the areas it is not the driver. Dr. Mathur shared some case studies like afforestation solutions for food security and climate change

10th January 2018, The Bengal Lounge, Chamber premises **THINK SESSION WITH DR. AJAY MATHUR, DIRECTOR GENERAL, THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE (TERI) ON "CLIMATE- A NEW PARADIGM!"**

challenges in Africa and gender equality in Peru. In Hasselt, Belgium, and Oslo, Norway, major programmes to promote electric vehicles had been introduced. It has also been reported that climate change is the rationale for foreign policy as well. In the developing world, nature and growth are often at odds. Ugandan geographer Shuaib Lwasa lamented how his hometown of Kampala sees new construction as the best course of action for environmental impact.

Climate has become the rationale to introduce new ideas and actions in the public discourse.



Mr. Deb A. Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the welcome address



Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) addressing the gathering



Audience at the session



Audience at the session

PROGRAMME

THINK SESSION WITH DR. AJAY MATHUR, DIRECTOR GENERAL, THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE (TERI) ON "CLIMATE- A NEW PARADIGM!"

10th January 2018, The Bengal Lounge, Chamber premises



Q & A in Progress



Mr. Anoop Hoon, Chairperson, Marketing and Brand Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the closing remarks



Mr. Anoop Hoon, Chairperson, Marketing and Brand Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting Memento to Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) on behalf of The Bengal Chamber

TRADE & LOGISTICS CONCLAVE - POST GST REGIME

10th January 2018, Chamber premises

GST has a major impact on the logistics sector and thus it has also impacted International Trade. Logistics plays a crucial role in metals industries and thus GST also greatly impacted metals and mining industries. To establish a thread between Logistics, International Trade and Metals via GST, The Bengal Chamber organized the Trade & Logistics Conclave - Post GST Regime on 10th January 2018 in the Chamber premises.

Like all other industries in India, GST impact on logistics and supply chain is bringing some major changes in the way these domains operate. Logistics sector is seen as a major gainer in the GST Regime. Logistics is a small but major part of supply chain management that concerns the administration of goods distribution in an efficient manner.

While costs might rise owing to compliance and adjustment issues with increasing frequency of filing returns, the

operational efficiency in the long run is expected to improve. The impact and overall cost benefits of GST will additionally vary widely across industries. The implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), with effect from July 1, has immensely benefited the domestic steel industry as it has improved the sector's competitiveness and reduced the transportation time by up to 45%. Under the new tax regime, the cost of raw material is set to come down as the GST rate for iron ore, a key steel-making raw material, and other inputs have been kept at 5% from around 11-12% now. This will further add to the competitiveness of the Indian steel sector. Previously, whenever a steel product had to cross a state border, there were a number of check posts which resulted into delay of supply of goods to the customer. Under GST, a unified standard rate of tax has reduced cost and delay.

10th January 2018,
Chamber premises

TRADE & LOGISTICS CONCLAVE - POST GST REGIME

It is estimated that close to 40-45% time-saving will happen in transportation time. The Cabinet has approved the National Steel Policy 2017 that envisages Rs. 10 lakh crore investments to create more capacity in the steel sector. The development is significant as the steel sector is reeling under weak demand and rising raw material prices. The policy also aims at increasing supply of domestic coking coal to cut dependence on imports by half and production of 300 million tonnes by 2030. However, in the non-ferrous segment, the non-ferrous metals industry (Aluminium, Copper, Zinc, Lead, Tin and Nickel) is looking for a level-playing field against the surge in imports due to inverse duty structure as well as dumping of cheap subsidized goods from China. The situation has been aggravated by India having the FTAs with ASEAN countries, which allows duty free imports of finished goods. Technology and innovation will play an important role in achieving sustainable growth and impacting competitiveness. Today, mineral and metal industry across the globe is facing a serious economic crisis due to continuous fall in commodity prices, depleting raw material sources, non-availability of high-grade ores, stringent environmental rules and societal expectations. It is important to understand how trade policies and logistics infrastructure would be instrumental in the growth of various industries including the mining and metals industry of the country.

Shri Anant Swarup, IAS, Joint Secretary (Logistics), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Ms. Sunita Sindwani, Chief General Manager, EXIM Bank and Mr. Shivaji Narvekar, General Manager – National Marketing Division, ECGC joined as Guests of Honour. Other eminent speakers were, Mr. Malay Chatterjee, Safesea Steamship Pvt. Ltd. /Former Chairman KIOCL Ltd. /Adviser, West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Ltd; Mr. P K Mishra, ED (M- Special Initiatives & Steel Processing Units), SAIL; Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee, BCC&I and Chief Corporate Officer, Legal and Corporate Affairs, DIC India Limited; Mr. Sunil Agarwal, Managing Director, Manaksia Aluminium Co. Ltd.; Mr. Kalyan Mitra, Executive Director (Projects), Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.; Col J Akhtar, General Manager, Engineering Projects India Ltd. and Mr. Surajit Majumdar, General Manager - Supply Chain, Exide Industries Ltd. The Summit also witnessed the participation of a large audience and eminent professionals in International Trade and Metals and Mining sectors and was widely covered in different media.



(Extreme left) Mr. Deb A. Mukherjee, Vice President, BCC&I interacting with Ms. Sunita Sindwani, Chief General Manager, EXIM Bank (Extreme right) before the start of the Conclave. Beside Mr. Mukherjee is Mr. Prasenjit Gupta, Consul for Political and Economic Affairs, US Consulate General, Kolkata



(L-R): Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Surajit Majumdar, General Manager - Supply Chain, Exide Industries Ltd. and Mr. T.B. Chatterjee, Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee, BCC&I at the OPENING SESSION Part A, which was an "Experts' Roundtable – Indian Foreign Trade: Post GST Regime- Focusing Bengal"

PROGRAMME

TRADE & LOGISTICS CONCLAVE - POST GST REGIME

10th January 2018,
Chamber premises



Mr. A Mandal, Chairperson, International B2B Cell, BCC&I.



Mr. T.B. Chatterjee, Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee, BCC&I, engrossed in his lecture on "Indian Foreign Trade: Post GST Regime-Focusing Bengal", capturing the full attention of the audience



Shri Anant Swarup, IAS, Joint Secretary (Logistics), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, during Part B of the Opening Session



Mr. A Mandal, Chairperson, International B2B Cell, BCC&I and President - Business Development, Techno Electric and Engineering Company Limited and Ms. Sunita Sindwani, Chief General Manager, EXIM Bank, during Part B of the Opening Session



Audience participating in the Conclave



Shri Anant Swarup, IAS, Joint Secretary (Logistics), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, delivering his address

**10th January 2018,
Chamber premises**

TRADE & LOGISTICS CONCLAVE - POST GST REGIME



Ms. Sunita Sindwani, Chief General Manager, EXIM Bank, delivering her address during the session on Trade Finance

(R-L) Mr. Malay Chatterjee, Safesea Steamship Pvt. Ltd., /Former Chairman KIOCL Ltd. /Adviser, West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Ltd.; Mr. P K Mishra, ED (M- Special Initiatives & Steel Processing Units), SAIL and Mr. Sunil Agarwal, Managing Director, Manaksia Aluminium Co. Ltd. during the Special Plenary Session on "Trade in Mining and Metals Industry: Post GST Regime"



**13th January 2018,
Chamber premises**

MUSICAL EVENING WITH PANDIT HARIPRASAD CHAURASIA

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with SPICMACAY and IIT Kharagpur, for the first time, under the aegis of Media, Music and Films Forum of the Chamber, was honoured to organize a musical evening with the legendary National Award Winning Indian classical flautist, Pandit Shri Hariprasad Chaurasia, on 13th January 2018 in the Chamber premises. SPIC MACAY is a non-political nationwide voluntary movement that organizes programmes of classical music and dance, folk arts, crafts, yoga, classic cinema screenings, heritage walks, etc, throughout the world to make students more aware about Indian and world heritage. This initiative makes education more holistic and meaningful as it highlights all that is abstract, subtle, inspiring and mystical in the world, thus teaching one to look within oneself.

We at the Chamber applaud and encourage any sincere endeavour or project that works to further and preserve all facets of India's rich culture, art and heritage. We were delighted to be associated with such a vibrant social movement like SPIC MACAY.

The musical evening was attended by over 200 guests, and included a Felicitation of Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia.



(Third from left) Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber lighting the lamp along with Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Past President, The Bengal Chamber (fourth from left) and (extreme left) Shri Jawhar Sircar, Former CEO, Prasar Bharati and Former Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India

PROGRAMME

MUSICAL EVENING WITH PANDIT HARIPRASAD CHAURASIA

13th January 2018,
Chamber premises



Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia and his team before the programme sharing moments with Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber and Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Past President The Bengal Chamber



Performance by Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia



Performance by Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia



Section of the audience



Section of the audience enjoying the performance

15th January 2018,
Chamber premises

POLAND - INDIA BUSINESS FORUM: B2B INTERACTION WITH THE DELEGATION FROM INDO POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, WARSAW (IPCCI)

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized B2B Interaction (Poland-India Business Forum) with the Delegation from the Indo Polish Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IPCCI) on 15th January 2018 in The Bengal Chamber premises.

The Delegation of IPCCI also participated in the Bengal Global Business Summit on 16th and 17th January 2018 at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre.

The meeting in the Bengal Chamber was addressed by Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland who was accompanied by Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Hon'ble First Deputy Minister of Energy of Poland and Mrs. Malgorzata Ocheduszko-Ludwik, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of the Silesia Province, Poland. His Excellency Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of Poland to India also graced the occasion.

Other dignitaries gracing the session were, Mr. Maciej Falkowski, Deputy Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland; Mr. Krzysztof Dobrowolski, Deputy Joint Secretary (Asia-Pacific Department), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland; Mr. Bartomiej Pawlak, President, Polish Development Fund; Mr. J. J. Singh, President, Indo Polish Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Shri Prasanta Kumar Barai, Joint Secretary, Industry, Commerce and Enterprises Department, Government of West Bengal and Ms. Kuhuk Bhushan, IAS, OSD, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.

It was a high profile delegation with majority of the representatives from energy and mining sectors. The objective of the programme was to create a platform to facilitate dedicated B2B Meetings with the delegate members of IPCCI. It was the first B2B of the Polish Delegation to BGBS, hosted by The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. There was a positive feedback of taking the relationship forward by organizing a return business delegation to Poland.

The session commenced with the addresses by Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. J. J. Singh, President, Indo- Polish Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Poland. Ms. Kuhuk Bhushan, IAS shared insights on "West Bengal –Emerging growth engine of India". She focused on the opportunities of doing business in West Bengal.

Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland addressed on Poland-India Business and Economic Relationship. Mr. Magierowski highlighted the importance of mining and its contribution to the economic growth of Poland. He showcased Silesia in Poland, famous for

its Coal and Industry, as a potential region for economic partnership with Bengal. He also mentioned that mining, coal, food processing, power, academic, medical, information and communication technologies were the potential sectors for bilateral collaboration between Poland and India.

Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Hon'ble First Deputy Minister of Energy of Poland addressed on Economic collaboration between Poland and West Bengal.

Mr. Maciej Falkowski, Deputy Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland addressed on "Poland and India- towards a business partnership." His address covered topics like Poland-India economic cooperation's state of play, Poland-India trade dynamics, Poland's GDP- past and present, the reasons for investment in Poland, Poland-foreign trade, Poland as an attractive investment market, Poland with a stable financial sector, sound banking system in Poland, Poland-India-perspectives for economic partnership and Poland-India-possible cooperation in the environmental protection sector.

Mr. Daniel Ozon, President, JSW presented an overview of JSW Group. He mentioned that JSW was the largest producer of high quality coking coal and the key independent producer of coke in the European Union. JSW's coking coal was used mainly to produce coke, which in turn was an important element in the steel production process. He also highlighted the investment opportunities in Poland.

Mr. Miroslaw Skowron, President, PeBeka shared his perspectives on PeBeka, one of the largest specialist construction companies in Poland. His address included, galleries and Chamber working; shaft works; infrastructure construction engineering; industrial construction engineering; surface drilling work; innovation directions- mechanical excavation of galleries in hard rock conditions, construction of mining central air conditioning system, utilization of drilling holes as alternative way of connecting surface and underground infrastructure; 22 completed international contracts- wide spectrum of operations from the comprehensive execution of Shaft Sinking through the construction of hydro technical, road and railway tunnels, to construction project in domestic areas; PeBeka's potentiality in Shaft, Tunnel and Horizontal Work.

Mr. Jan Bondaruk, Assistant General Director, GIG shared information on GIG-Central Mining Institute in Poland. He spoke about the basic areas of GIG activity- mining and geoengineering, occupational safety in the industry, environmental engineering, material engineering, socio-economic studies, certification, attestation, integrated

PROGRAMME

POLAND - INDIA BUSINESS FORUM: B2B INTERACTION WITH THE DELEGATION FROM INDO POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, WARSAW (IPCCI)

**15th January 2018,
Chamber premises**

management systems, training and education; R&D staff and infrastructure; Experimental Mine “Barbara”- a unique place for mining investigations in a real scale; Clean Coal Technology Centre; Environmental Engineering Centre (EEC); Silesian Centre for Environmental Radioactivity; International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane; Location of Polish coal basins and coal production in Poland in 2016 and Polish hard coal mining industry in 2016.

The meeting included a very vibrant B2B session during which the local business participants interacted with the Polish participants.



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the formal Welcome Address. (L-R) on the dais: Mr. J. J. Singh, President, Indo-Polish Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Poland; Mr. Bartomiej Pawlak, President, Polish Development Fund; Mr. Krzysztof Dobrowolski, Deputy Joint Secretary (Asia-Pacific Department), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland; Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Hon'ble First Deputy Minister of Energy of Poland; Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland; Mrs. Malgorzata Ochedusko-Ludwik, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of the Silesia Province, Poland; His Excellency Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of Poland to India; Mr. Maciej Falkowski, Deputy Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland; Shri Prasanta Kumar Barai, Joint Secretary, Industry, Commerce and Enterprises Department, Government of West Bengal; Ms. Kuhuk Bhushan, IAS, OSD, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry commencing the session



Mr. J. J. Singh, President, Indo - Polish Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Poland addressing the audience



Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland gracing the occasion

15th January 2018,
Chamber premises

**POLAND - INDIA BUSINESS FORUM: B2B INTERACTION WITH THE DELEGATION
FROM INDO POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, WARSAW (IPCCI)**



Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Hon'ble First Deputy Minister of Energy of Poland gracing the occasion



Mr. Maciej Falkowski, Deputy Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland addressing the audience



Mr. Miroslaw Skowron, President, PeBeka addressing the audience



Mr. Daniel Ozon, President, JSW during his speech



Mr. Jan Bondaruk, Assistant General Director, GIG during his speech

PROGRAMME

POLAND - INDIA BUSINESS FORUM: B2B INTERACTION WITH THE DELEGATION FROM INDO POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, WARSAW (IPCCI)

**15th January 2018,
Chamber premises**



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry with Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland and His Excellency Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of Poland to India at The Calcutta Gallery in the Chamber premises



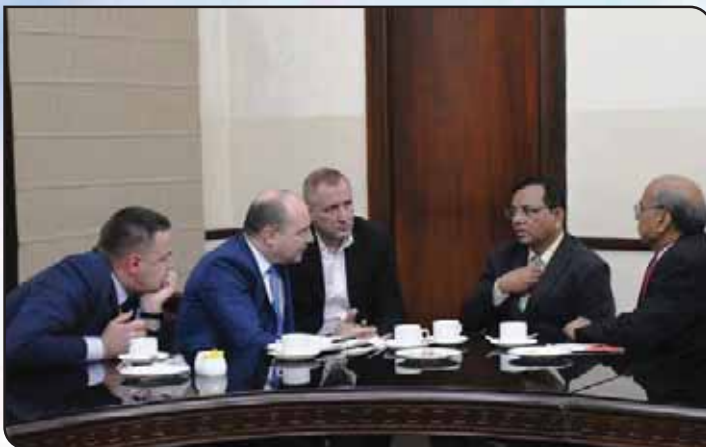
Distinguished audience



Distinguished audience



B2B Networking in progress



B2B Networking in progress.



Ms. Kuhuk Bhushan, IAS, OSD, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited sharing her perspective on Business Opportunities in Bengal

**15th January 2018,
Chamber premises**

POLAND - INDIA BUSINESS FORUM: B2B INTERACTION WITH THE DELEGATION FROM INDO POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, WARSAW (IPCCI)



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber addressing the press conference with Mr. Marek Magierowski, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland; His Excellency Adam Burakowski, Ambassador of Poland to India and Mr. Bartomiej Pawlak, President, Polish Development Fund

23rd January 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises

MEETING WITH MS. FRANCES ADAMSON, SECRETARY OF AUSTRALIA'S DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE (FOREIGN SECRETARY)

An exclusive meeting with Ms. Frances Adamson, Secretary of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Foreign Secretary) was held on 23rd January 2018 in The Bengal Chamber Premises.

Ms. Adamson was accompanied by Mr. Chris Elstof, Deputy High Commissioner, Australian High Commission, New Delhi; Ms. Hilary McGeachy, First Secretary (Economic), Australian High Commission, New Delhi and Mr. Partha Sen, Business Development Manager, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), Kolkata.

Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President; Mr. B B Chatterjee, Senior Vice President; Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Past President and Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General were among the attendees from The Bengal Chamber.

The summary of discussions is as follows: Indo-Australia relationship has three conspicuous areas of importance, which are strategic dimensions, regional connectivity and economic reforms in India. Strengthening of these three areas will lead to a greater strategic partnership and synergy between the two nations. Australia sees enormous opportunity in 10 major

sectors, where both the nations can work jointly. Out of which the 4 lead sectors are:

- Education (inter disciplinary and huge opportunity as there is already inflow of students from India including West Bengal and Eastern India to Australia)
- Agriculture (particularly potato cultivation and cold chain facilities)
- Energy
- Tourism (Eco Tourism)

These sectors are followed by niche skill development in services sectors such as

- Health and IT
 - Financial services
- and subsequently
- Infrastructure (Urban development)
 - Environment management
 - Defense
 - Sports (Sports Management, where opportunities may be created here with Australian expertise)

West Bengal plays a key role as far as the aforesaid sectors are concerned. The State has a pivotal role in trans-national connectivity. The ports, riverine and coastal routes of the State play an extremely significant role in the Sub-ASEAN region.



L-R- Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Chris Elstof, Deputy High Commissioner, Australian High Commission, New Delhi; Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Ms. Frances Adamson, Secretary of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Foreign Secretary); Mr. B. B. Chatterjee, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Ms. Hilary McGeachy, First Secretary (Economic), Australian High Commission, New Delhi; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Past President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber

PROGRAMME

MEETING WITH MS. FRANCES ADAMSON, SECRETARY OF AUSTRALIA'S DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE (FOREIGN SECRETARY)

23rd January 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises



L-R : Mr. Partha Sen, Business Development Manager, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), Kolkata; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta; Mr. Deb A Mukherjee; Mr. Chris Elstoft; Mr. B. B. Chatterjee; Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh; Ms. Frances Adamson; Mr. Smarajit Purkayastha, Assistant Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh; Ms. Hilary McGeachy; Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber; Ms. Sukanya Bose, Deputy Director, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Sambit Dasgupta, Sr. Manager, Market Research & Development, The Bengal Chamber



Interaction with Ms. Frances Adamson, Foreign Secretary of Australia



Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, President, The Bengal Chamber presenting a token of appreciation to Ms. Frances Adamson, Foreign Secretary of Australia

MEETING WITH MR. ROBERT GARVERICK, MINISTER COUNSELOR, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS, EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN NEW DELHI

24th January 2018, Chamber premises

Mr. Robert Garverick was accompanied by Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U. S. Consulate General Kolkata and Ms. Sangita Dey Chanda, Economic Advisor, Consulate General of the United States of America in Kolkata. From The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General and Ms. Angana Guha Roy Chowdhury, Deputy Director were present in the meeting.

The economic strengths of Bengal, the regional dynamics, sectors of focus and cross-border trade and infrastructure issues were discussed.



L-R- Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Robert Garverick, Minister Counselor, Economic, Environment, Science and Technology Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America in New Delhi; Ms. Sangita Dey Chanda, Economic Advisor, Consulate General of the United States of America; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Jonathan T. Ward, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata

24th January 2018,
Chamber premises

**MEETING WITH MR. ROBERT GARVERICK, MINISTER COUNSELOR,
ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS, EMBASSY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN NEW DELHI**



Interaction with Mr. Robert Garverick, Minister Counselor, Economic, Environment, Science and Technology Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America in progress



Mr. Subhodip Ghosh presenting a memento to Mr. Robert Garverick

24th January 2018,
Chamber premises

**INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MR. JAMES C. F. HUANG, CHAIRMAN,
TAIWAN EXTERNAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an Interactive Session with Mr. James C.F. Huang, Chairman, Taiwan External Trade Development Council and former Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Taiwan on 24th January 2018 in the Chamber Premises.

The objective of the session was to discuss about the possible areas of collaboration and business opportunities between West Bengal and Taiwan.

Mr. Huang was accompanied by Mr. Ho-Ching Huang, Vice Chairman, Dairen Chemical Corporation (DCC); Mr. Michael Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center Liason Office in Mumbai; Mr. George Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center, Liaison Office in Kolkata and Mr. Kyle Chiu, Special Assistant to Chairman, General Administration Department, Taiwan External Trade Development Council.

Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Past President, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson Emeritus, Energy and Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. R N Lahiri, Chairperson Emeritus, IT Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. A. B. Guha, Sr. General Manager, Marine Container Services (I) P. Ltd. and Mr. Ashok Mukherjee, Managing Director, Sonodyne were also present at the meeting.

Mr. Huang shared his objectives of visiting Kolkata. He emphasized that there was lack of information about West

Bengal amongst the business fraternity in Taiwan. His principal interest for this trip was to understand the business dynamics in this part of the country and identify the synergies. There was a positive feedback of taking the relationship forward by engaging in preparation of reports, organizing delegations and other possible collaborations.



L-R- Mr. Deb A Mukherjee, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Past President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. James C. F. Huang, Chairman, Taiwan External Trade Development Council; Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. George Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center, Liaison Office in Kolkata

PROGRAMME

INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MR. JAMES C. F. HUANG, CHAIRMAN,
TAIWAN EXTERNAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

24th January 2018,
Chamber premises



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry delivering the formal Welcome Address



Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta sharing his perspectives on West Bengal and its opportunities



Mr. James C.F. Huang, Chairman, Taiwan External Trade Development Council gracing the session



Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President, The Bengal Chamber interacting with Mr. James C. F. Huang, Chairman, Taiwan External Trade Development Council



Interaction in progress



Mr. George Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center, Liaison Office in Kolkata addressing the audience.

24th January 2018,
Chamber premises

**INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MR. JAMES C. F. HUANG, CHAIRMAN,
TAIWAN EXTERNAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



Participants at the Roundtable meet



Participants



L-R: Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. George Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center, Liaison Office in Kolkata; Mr. Ho-Ching Huang, Vice Chairman, Dairen Chemical Corporation (DCC); Mr. Kyle Chiu, Special Assistant to Chairman, General Administration Department, Taiwan External Trade Development Council; Mr. Michael Lin, Director, Taipei World Trade Center Liaison Office in Mumbai



Interaction in progress



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting a memento to Mr. James C.F. Huang, Chairman, Taiwan External Trade Development Council



Mr. James C.F. Huang presenting a memento to Mr. Indrajit Sen

PROGRAMME

MEETING WITH AUSTRIAN DELEGATES

25th January 2018,
Chamber premises

An exclusive meeting with the Austrian delegates - Mr. Gunter Dorflinger, COO, Christof Industries GmbH; Mr. Mag Bobo Ristic, Partner, EPIC and Mr. Heinz Wiene, Sales Director, Oschatz Energy and Environment GmbH, was held on 25th January 2018 in the Bengal Chamber Premises. Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik, Chief Executive Officer, Swach Environment Private Limited and Mr. Rituraj Borah, Lead-Business Development (SWM), India Power Green Utility Private Limited were also present at the meeting. The principal interest of the Austrian delegates was to visit The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry- India's oldest Chamber of Commerce, to understand the business dynamics of West Bengal and West Bengal Industrial Policy and to discuss about the collaboration and business opportunities between Bengal and Austria, especially in the Energy Sector.



L-R: Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik, Chief Executive Officer, Swach Environment Private Limited; Mr. Sambit Dasgupta, Sr. Manager, Market Research & Development, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Mag Bobo Ristic, Partner, EPIC; Mr. Rituraj Borah, Lead-Business Development (SWM), India Power Green Utility Private Limited; Mr. Gunter Dorflinger, COO, Christof Industries GmbH; Mr. Heinz Wiene, Sales Director, Oschatz Energy and Environment GmbH

Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik, Chief Executive Officer, Swach Environment Private Limited presenting a token of appreciation to Mr. Mag Bobo Ristic, Partner, EPIC; Mr. Gunter Dorflinger, COO, Christof Industries GmbH and Mr. Heinz Wiene, Sales Director, Oschatz Energy and Environment GmbH



SEMINAR ON E-WAY BILL & RECENT CHANGES IN GST REGULATIONS

30th January 2018,
Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Half-Day Seminar on E-Way Bill & Recent Changes in GST Regulations on 30th January 2018 in the Chamber premises. Welcome Address was given by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Senior Partner & Mentor, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP. Shri Sumon Ghosh, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW and Shri Sanjay Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW deliberated on E-way Bill and made a presentation on generation, cancellation, validity and various other aspects of E-Way Bill. It was followed by an interactive session on Recent Changes in GST Regulations. The Seminar was attended by more than 100 delegates.



Welcome address by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Senior Partner & Mentor, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP

**30th January 2018,
Chamber premises**

SEMINAR ON E-WAY BILL & RECENT CHANGES IN GST REGULATIONS



Audience at the Seminar



Address by Shri Sumon Ghosh, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW



Address by Shri Sanjay Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW



Dignitaries on the dais (L-R) Shri Sumon Ghosh, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW, Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber & Senior Partner & Mentor, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP; Shri Sanjay Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW; Mr. Vivek Jalan, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP



Address by Mr. Vivek Jalan, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP



Q/A Session in progress

PROGRAMME

SEMINAR ON E-WAY BILL & RECENT CHANGES IN GST REGULATIONS

30th January 2018,
Chamber premises



Q/A Session in progress



Mr. T. B. Chatterjee presenting a memento to Shri Sumon Ghosh,
Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW



Mr. T. B. Chatterjee presenting a memento to Shri Sanjay
Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner, State Tax / DAW

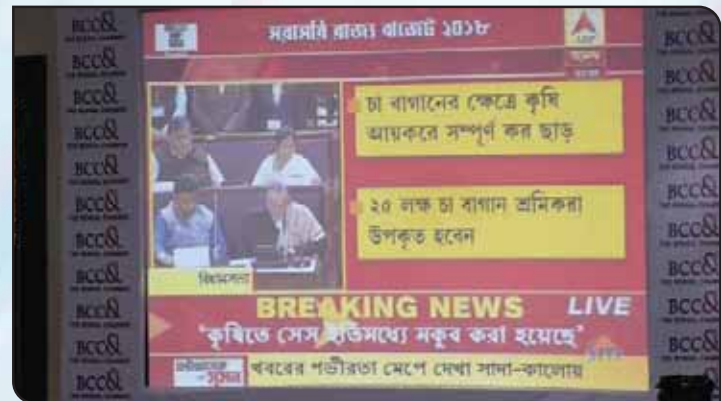
STATE BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

31st January 2018,
Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the State Budget Viewing Session on 31st January 2018 in the ITC Room of the Chamber. Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Senior Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP; Mr. Pulak Saha, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber & Partner - Tax & Regulatory Services, Price Waterhouse & Co. LLP; Mr. Vivek Jalan, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber & Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP and Prof. Nabinananda Sen from Calcutta University attended the Session. The Chamber's reaction to the Budget was televised in the electronic media and reported in the print media.



State Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session in progress



State Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session in progress

31st January 2018,
Chamber premises

STATE BUDGET VIEWING SESSION



State Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session in progress



Media Interaction in progress



Media Interaction in progress: (L-R) Mr. Vivek Jalan, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Pulak Saha, Co-Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Prof. Nabinanda Sen from Calcutta University; Mr. Subhodip Ghosh, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry

1st February 2018,
Chamber premises

UNION BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the Union Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session on 1st February 2018 in the Chamber premises. Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, BCC&I; Shri Sunil Mitra, Chairperson – Economic Affairs Committee, BCC&I & Former Revenue and Finance Secretary, Government of India; Mr. T.B. Chatterjee, Chairperson – Indirect Tax Committee, BCC&I; Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Past President; Mr. S. Radhakrishnan, Past President; Mr. Kallol Datta, Past President; Mr. A Lahiri, Past President and Dr. Abhijit Sen, Past President were present. Members from the Managing Committee, Direct Taxes Committee and Indirect Taxes Committee also attended the Session. The Budget Viewing Session was followed by an analysis of the budget and media interactions. The Chamber’s reaction to the Budget was televised in the electronic media and reported in the print media.



Union Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session in progress

PROGRAMME

UNION BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

1st February 2018,
Chamber premises



Union Budget 2018-19 Viewing Session in progress



Media Interaction in progress



Media Interaction in progress



Media Interaction in progress

POST-BUDGET ANALYSIS SESSION - 'UNION BUDGET 2018-19: AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS'

2nd February 2018,
The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and KPMG India organized the Post-Budget Analysis Session 'Union Budget 2018-19: An In-depth Analysis' on 2nd February 2018 at The Oberoi Grand. Welcome Address was given by Mr. T. B. Chatterjee, Chairperson - Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Mr. Narayanan Ramaswamy, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited delivered the Opening Remarks of behalf of KPMG.

Prof. Anup Kumar Sinha, Director, Heritage Business School and Former Professor of Economics of IIMC commented on the economic perspectives of Budget 2018-19. This was followed by experts' comments on implications of the Budget on Direct & Indirect Taxes respectively by KPMG team - Mr. Tapan Gupta, Partner, Direct Tax, B S R & Co. LLP and Mr. Sanjay Garg, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG.

The session on economic perspectives and taxation was followed by a Panel Discussion on Industry perspectives of the Budget 2018-19 covering Financial Services, Metal & Mining and Healthcare. The panelists were Mr. Narayanan

Ramaswamy, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited, Mr. Deep Jaggi, Director, KPMG and Mr. Rupak Barua, Group CEO, AMRI Hospitals.

The Post Budget Analysis Session was concluded with lunch. The programme was attended by close to 250 delegates.



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

2nd February 2018,
The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

POST-BUDGET ANALYSIS SESSION - 'UNION BUDGET 2018-19:
AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS'



Opening Remarks on behalf of KPMG by Mr. Narayanan Ramaswamy, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited



Prof. Anup Kumar Sinha, Director, Heritage Business School and Former Professor of Economics of IIMC speaking on Economic Perspectives of Budget 2018



Expert Comments on Direct Taxes: Mr. Tapan Gupta, Partner, Direct Tax, B S R & Co. LLP



Expert Comments on Indirect Taxes: Mr. Sanjay Garg, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG



Panel Discussion (L-R) Mr. Deep Jaggi, Director, KPMG; Mr. Narayanan Ramaswamy, Partner, KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited and Mr. Rupak Barua, Group CEO, AMRI Hospitals



Q/A Session in progress

PROGRAMME

POST-BUDGET ANALYSIS SESSION - 'UNION BUDGET 2018-19: AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS'

2nd February 2018,
The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata



Audience at 'Union Budget 2018 -19: An In-depth Analysis'

INAUGURAL SESSION OF INDIA INTERNATIONAL MEGA TRADE FAIR

2nd February 2018,
Bhubaneshwar

His Excellency Dr. S C Jamir, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, in presence of Mr. S Purkayastha, Assistant Director General, The Bengal Chamber, Shri Kantilal Patel, President – Real Estate Developers Association, Odisha, Shri Ananta Narayan Jena – Hon'ble Mayor, Bhubaneshwar Municipal Corporation and other distinguished guests, inaugurated the India International Mega Trade Fair 2018 at Bhubaneshwar.

There was participation from 10 foreign countries – Thailand, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Turkey, Dubai, Bangladesh & Afghanistan - which was also the Focus Country. There was also participation from various agencies and organizations under the Government of India as well as State Government Departments like, MSME, NSIC, IT Departments, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Gujarat and other Indian States.



His Excellency Dr. S. C. Jamir, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, delivering the Welcome Address at the Inaugural Session of the India International Mega Trade Fair, 2018 at Bhubaneshwar



Mr. S. Purkayastha, Assistant Director General, The Bengal Chamber, delivering the Vote of Thanks during the Inaugural Session



HE Dr. Jamir taking a look around the Trade Fair, flanked by Mr. Kantilal Patel, President, Real Estate Developers Association (REDA), Orissa, Mr. Prakash Shah, Chairman, G S Marketing Associates (partly hidden) and Mr. S. Purkayastha, Assistant Director General, The Bengal Chamber

2nd – 3rd February 2018, ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMEs AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I) organized the second edition of its two day Annual Manufacturing and MSME Conclave titled “Competence Building for Manufacturing Emphasizing MSMEs” on 2nd and 3rd February 2018 in the Chamber premises.

The Conclave was organized with the participation of senior representatives from the Central and State Governments, Industry leaders, MSMEs, Academia, Experts, etc. The objective of organizing this Conclave was to create a platform for the large industries as well as for the MSMEs to come and share their best practices, the opportunities and challenges being faced by them in their regular business operations and especially on capacity/competence building for the manufacturing industries, particularly the MSMEs.

The key speakers of the Conclave were:

- Prof. Hamish L. Fraser, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering and Director, Center for the Accelerated Maturation of Materials (CAMP), Ohio State University (OSU)
- Col Sabyasachi Bagchi, Chairman, West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (WBSIDC Ltd.), Government of West Bengal
- Shri S. Bandyopadhyay, Director – Eastern Zone, Weavers’ Service Centre, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
- Shri Virendra Kumar, Deputy Director (Handicrafts) and In-charge - Eastern Region, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
- Air Cmde B. K. Gairola, Principal Director – Indigenization, Directorate of Indigenization, Indian Air Force (IAF)
- Cmdr Ratnakar Ghosh, Former Director – Ship Building, Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE Ltd)

During the Conclave of two days, emphasis was given to the MSME sector since this is a most important segment for the overall development and growth of industry post globalization. The small scale industries play a pivotal role in further industrialization and they are driven by technology, integrated business networks, cluster initiatives, etc.

Apart from the above, the Conclave this year focused on the formation of MSME Clusters in different parts of India with special emphasis on West Bengal and other parts of the Eastern Region. There are different places in West Bengal and other parts of the Eastern Region where the Central Government, with the help of respective State Governments, is planning to set up MSME Hubs for catalyzing development and growth of the MSME sector, which in turn would bring significant development and growth in the Indian economy.

Apart from the above, the Chamber, as part of the two day

annual Manufacturing and MSME Conclave, also organized the tenth edition of the annual MSME Excellence Awards. The objective of organizing this award programme was to acknowledge and reward the MSMEs based on their best Case Study Presentations and also to create a benchmark for them for nurturing their own development and growth.

The panel of judges for this year’s award programme was headed by Dr. Anjan Ghosh, Former Vice President, Total Quality Management, Exide Industries Limited. The other judges were Mr. Pritish K. Sen, Head – Market Research & External Affairs, M&S Division, Tata Steel Limited; Mr. P. N. Gupta, Former Consultant – Industrial Engineering and Productivity, Tata Steel Processing And Distribution Limited (TSPDL); Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das, Professor – Metallurgical & Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT, Kharagpur) and Dr. Suman K. Mukerjee, Director General, Bhawanipur Education Society College (BESC).

The judges selected the two best case study presentations under Steel & Manufacturing Category and one best case study presentation under Service Category out of a series of presentations made by the participating MSMEs. Following were the MSMEs which won the Award along with the Certificates of Best Case Study Presentations.

Steel & Manufacturing Category:

- IMERYS Steel Castings Pvt. Ltd.
- Neogi Technologies and Research Pvt. Ltd.

Service Category:

- Gitanjali Solar Enterprise

Special Recognition:

- I & B Engineers Pvt. Ltd.

The panel of judges awarded the above companies under the Steel and Manufacturing Category because according to the jury these companies had performed “THE BEST” in comparison with other manufacturing companies (who participated for the MSME Award) in areas like General Presentation, Quality Upgradation, Improvement of Services, Enhancement of Production and Productivity, Growth and Profitability and Compatibility of the Best Practices with Sustainability, Ambience, Environment & Pollution control and Energy Management. A similar logic was followed for the Service Category and the Special Recognition awards.

The feedback from the delegates was that the programme was an excellent learning experience and a great networking forum. The Conclave was attended by over 250 delegates across two days representing sectors like engineering, manufacturing, financial institutions, banking and others.

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises



Mr. Indrajit Sen, President Designate, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I) addressing the Inaugural Session. L-R: Seated on the dais - Mr. Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, Manufacturing & MSME Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Col Sabyasachi Bagchi, Chairman, West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (WBSIDC Ltd), Government of West Bengal and Prof. Hamish L Fraser, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering and Director, Center for the Accelerated Maturation of Materials (CAMP), Ohio State University (OSU)



Col Sabyasachi Bagchi addressing the session



Prof. Hamish L. Fraser addressing the session



Mr. Indrajit Sen presenting a memento to Col Sabyasachi Bagchi



A Group photo of the Panelists during Inaugural Session



Prof. (Dr) Siddhartha Das, Sr. Member, Manufacturing & MSME Committee, BCC&I and Professor - Metallurgical & Materials Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur addressing the Technical Session 1 of the Conclave. L-R: Seated on the dais are, Air Cmde B. K. Gairola, Principal Director – Indigenization, Directorate of Indigenization, Indian Air Force; Cmdr Ratnakar Ghosh, Former Director – Ship Building, Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE Ltd); Prof. Hamish L. Fraser, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering and Director, Center for the Accelerated Maturation of Materials (CAMP), Ohio State University (OSU) and Mr. Jayanta Basu, Director, Techo Enterprise

**2nd – 3rd February 2018,
Chamber premises**

**ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING
FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS**



Prof. Hamish L. Fraser addressing the session



Air Cmde B. K. Gairola addressing the session



Cmdr Ratnakar Ghosh addressing the session



Mr. Jayanta Basu addressing the session



Mr. Indrajit Sen presenting a memento to Prof. Hamish L Fraser



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Air Cmde B. K. Gairola

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMEs AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises



Mr. P. K. Sen presenting a memento to Cmdr Ratnakar Ghosh



Mr. P. N. Gupta presenting a memento to Mr. Jayanta Basu



A Group photo of the Panelists of Technical Session 1



Dr. Suman K. Mukerjee, Director General, Bhawanipur Education Society College (BESC) addressing the Technical Session II of the Conclave. L-R: Seated on the dais are Mr. Subrato Sinha, Chief-Manufacturing (Industrial), Exide Industries Ltd; Mr. Vivek Chauhan, Chief of Marketing – ECA, Tata Steel Limited; Dr. Suman K. Mukerjee, Director General, Bhawanipur Education Society College (BESC) and Session Chairperson of Technical Session II; Mr. Thiru Vengadam, India Business Leader and Regional Vice President, Epicor Software Corporation and Mr. Sankalpa Gan, Sr. Project Engineer, Metal Engineering & Treatment Co. Pvt. Ltd. (Elastomet Bearings Pvt. Ltd.)



Mr. Vivek Chauhan addressing the session



Mr. Subrato Sinha addressing the session

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS



Mr. Sankalpa Gan addressing the session



Mr. Thiru Vengadam addressing the session



A Group photo of the Panelists of Technical Session II



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Mr. Vivek Chauhan



Mr. P. N. Gupta presenting a memento to Mr. Subrato Sinha



Dr. Siddhartha Das presenting a memento to Mr. Sankalpa Gan

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

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Chamber premises



Mr. P. K. Sen presenting a memento to Mr. Thiru Vengadam



L-R: Seated on the dais are Dr. Anjan Ghosh, Former Vice President, Total Quality Management, Exide Industries Limited and Chief Judge of the tenth edition of Annual MSME Excellence Awards and Mr Gopal Krishna Saran, Vice President - Corporate Affairs, Super Smelters Ltd. and Chairperson of Technical Session III of the Conclave



Dr. Anjan Ghosh addressing the session



An applicant making a presentation under the Steel and Manufacturing Category at Technical Session III of the Conclave



An applicant making a presentation at Technical Session III of the Conclave



The Panel of Judges along with the audience

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS



An applicant under the Service Category making a presentation at Technical Session III of the Conclave



Mr. Gopal Krishna Saran addressing the session



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Mr. Gopal Krishna Saran



A Group photo of the Panelists of Technical Session III and the Chamber secretariat



Prof. (Dr.) Siddhartha Das, addressing the Technical Session IV of the Conclave. L-R: Seated on the dais are Mr. Debkumar Basu, Chairperson, Manufacturing & MSME Committee, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Sandip Kumar Neogi, Director, Neogi Technologies and Research Private Limited (Formerly Moonlight Engineering Co.) and Mr. Kumaran Ramadass, Product Development Engineer, Supreme & Co. Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Debkumar Basu addressing the session

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMEs AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

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Mr. Kumaran Ramadass addressing the session



Mr. Sandip Kumar Neogi addressing the session



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Mr. Kumaran Ramadass



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Mr. Sandip Kumar Neogi



A Group photo of the Panelists of Technical Session IV



Shri Virendra Kumar addressing the session

**2nd – 3rd February 2018,
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ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS



Mr. Debkumar Basu addressing the Valedictory and Award Distribution Session of the Conclave. L-R : Seated on the dais are Shri S. Bandyopadhyay, Director – Eastern Zone, Weavers’ Service Centre, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India; Shri Virendra Kumar, Deputy Director (Handicrafts) and In-charge - Eastern Region, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India; Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty, Past President, BCC&I and Chairman, T M International Logistics Ltd; Mr. Alope Mookherjea, Past President, BCC&I and Chairman, Howden Solyvent (India) Private Limited and Mr. Kallol Datta, Past President, BCC&I and Former Chairman and Managing Director, Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.



Shri S. Bandyopadhyay addressing the session



Mr. Kallol Datta addressing the session.



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a memento to Shri S Bandyopadhyay

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMEs AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

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Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty addressing the session



Mr. Aloke Mookherjea addressing the session



Dr. Anjan Ghosh sharing the Judges' perspective at the Valedictory and Award Distribution session



Mr. Kallol Datta presenting The Bengal Chamber Annual MSME Excellence Award and Certificate of Appreciation to IMERYS Steel Castings Pvt. Ltd. under Steel and Manufacturing Category



Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty presenting The Bengal Chamber Annual MSME Excellence Award and Certificate of Appreciation to Neogi Technologies and Research Pvt. Ltd. under Steel and Manufacturing Category



Mr. Aloke Mookherjea presenting The Bengal Chamber Annual MSME Excellence Award and Certificate of Appreciation to Gitanjali Solar Enterprise under Service Category

2nd - 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS



Dr. Anjan Ghosh presenting the Certificate of Special Recognition and a Memento to I & B Engineers Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty presenting the Certificate of Participation and a Memento to a participant



Mr. Kallol Datta presenting the Certificate of Participation and a Memento to a participant



Mr. Alope Mookherjea presenting the Certificate of Participation and a Memento to a participant



Mr. Alope Mookherjea presenting a Memento to Shri Virendra Kumar



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a Memento to Mr. Kallol Datta

PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMEs AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a Memento to Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty



Mr. Debkumar Basu presenting a Memento to Mr. Alok Mookherjee



Mr. Alok Mookherjee presenting a Memento to Dr. Anjan Ghosh



Mr. Kallol Datta presenting a Memento to Mr. P. K. Sen



Mr. Sandipan Chakravorty presenting a Memento to Mr. P. N. Gupta



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

2nd – 3rd February 2018, Chamber premises ANNUAL MANUFACTURING AND MSME CONCLAVE ON COMPETENCE BUILDING FOR MANUFACTURING EMPHASIZING MSMES AND ANNUAL MSME AWARDS



A Group photo of the Session Panelists, the Panel of Judges, the Award Winners and the Chamber Secretariat



A Group photo of the Participants for the Award, the Award Winners, the Panel Judges and the Chamber Secretariat



Mr Debkumar Basu addressing the Inaugural Session of the Conclave



A photo of the Awards, Medals and the Mementos presented to the Award winners and the participants in the conclave



The delegates present in the Conclave

The delegates present in the Conclave



PROGRAMME

FELICITATION OF MS. MANUSHI CHHILLAR-MISS WORLD 2017

2nd February 2017, The Bengal Lounge, Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Special "Adda" Session & Felicitation of Ms. Manushi Chhillar, Miss World 2017 on 2nd February 2018 at The Bengal Lounge, The Bengal Chamber Premises.

Ms. Manushi Chhillar was accompanied by Ms. Julia Morley, Chairperson & CEO, Miss World Limited, Ms. Stephanie Del Valle, Miss World 2016 and other Continental Winners of Miss World. Their felicitation was followed by a special 'Adda' session, the discussion topic being "Women in India". The objective of this session was to discuss and promote awareness about Sanitation, Hygiene and Quality of Life.

Eminent panelists at the session were Mr. Sujoy Prasad Chatterjee - Essayist, Poet & Actor; Dr. Rupali Basu, Chairperson

– Women Empowerment Committee, BCC&I; Ms. Agnimitra Paul, Fashion Designer; Ms. Keya Seth, Entrepreneur- Keya Seth Exclusive; Ms. Urmi Basu, Founder – New Light and Mr. Jaydeep Mandal, Founder & Managing Director, Aakar Innovations Pvt. Ltd. and Co-founder & Director, Aakar Social Ventures. Ms. Manushi Chhillar and Ms. Julia Morley also joined the session. Ms. Monideepa Banerjee, Executive Editor East - NDTV moderated the session.

The programme also included a performance by some special children representing APT Centre Kolkata. The programme was very well attended by guests from various walks of life.



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



Presentation of tokens of appreciation to the students of APT centre



Performance by students from APT Centre

2nd February 2017, The Bengal Lounge, Chamber premises

FELICITATION OF MS. MANUSHI CHHILLAR-MISS WORLD 2017



Ms. Manushi Chhillar, Miss World 2017 along with her team enjoying the performance of the students from APT Centre.



Ms. Manushi Chhillar, Miss World 2017 being felicitated by Dr. Rupali Basu, Chairperson – Women Empowerment Committee, BCC&I and Ms. Keya Seth, Entrepreneur- Keya Seth Exclusive



Ms. Stephanie Del Valle, Miss World 2016 being felicitated by Dr. Rupali Basu, Chairperson – Women Empowerment Committee, BCC&I and Ms. Keya Seth, Entrepreneur- Keya Seth Exclusive



Ms. Julia Morley, Chairperson & CEO, Miss World Limited being felicitated by Ms. Keya Seth, Entrepreneur- Keya Seth Exclusive and her daughter



Mr. Sanjay Sen, Co-Chairperson, Information Technology Committee, BCC&I and Senior Vice President, ITC Infotech India Limited presenting memento to one of the winners of the Continental Miss World contest



Mr. Abhijit Hazra, Chairperson – The Entrepreneurs' Committee, BCC&I and Founder and Managing Director, Touchstone Tie-up Pvt. Ltd. presenting memento to one of the winners of the Continental Miss World contest

PROGRAMME

FELICITATION OF MS. MANUSHI CHHILLAR-MISS WORLD 2017

2nd February 2017, The Bengal Lounge, Chamber premises



Special Address by Ms. Julia Morley, Chairperson & CEO, Miss World Limited



Special Address by Ms. Manushi Chhillar, Miss World 2017



Panel Discussion on 'Women in India'. To the left of Ms. Manushi Chhillar - Ms. Julia Morley, Chairperson & CEO, Miss World Limited; Dr Rupali Basu, Chairperson – Women Empowerment Committee, BCC&I; Ms. Agnimitra Paul, Fashion Designer and Mr. Jaydeep Mandal, Founder & Managing Director, Aakar Innovations Pvt. Ltd. and Co-founder & Director, Aakar Social Ventures. To her right -Ms. Stephanie Del Valle, Miss World 2016; Mr. Sujoy Prasad Chatterjee - Essayist, Poet & Actor and Ms. Urmi Basu, Founder – New Light



Ms. Monideepa Banerjee, Executive Editor East - NDTV moderating the session



Team Bengal Chamber with Ms. Manushi Chhillar- Miss World 2017



A section of the audience

UPCOMING PROGRAMME

Interactive Session with US Ambassador to India, His Excellency Kenneth I Juster, 7th February 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises

Certificate Course on Indirect Taxes, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd & 24th February, 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises

The Bengal Chamber Leadership Lecture Series with Dr. Shashi Tharoor, 11th February 2018, Williamson Magor Hall, The Bengal Chamber

Interactive Session with COSO Chairman, Mr. Robert B. Hirth, 20th February, 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises

BCC&I Golf Trophy, 23rd February, 2018, Tollygunge Club

Ratnagarbha, 8th March 2018, The Lalit Great Eastern Hotel

HealthHack as a precursor to the Health Tech, 8th March 2018, Hyatt Regency

Health Tech, 8th-11th March 2018, Hyatt Regency

Next Gen Employability Industry-Academia Networking Meet, 10th March 2018, Hotel Sonnet, Jamshedpur

Seminar on IPR for IT Innovations, 24th March 2018, The Bengal Chamber premises

Marketing Conclave on "Influencer Marketing", 29th March, 2018, The Lalit Great Eastern Hotel

The People Management Conclave, 21st April 2018, Biswa Bangla Convention centre, Rajarhat, Kolkata

PROGRAMME

SPECIAL ARTICLE ON RERA



- Are you going to buy or invest in the Real Estate Sector?
- Do you know that the new statute on Real Estate is going to protect the prospective buyers in many ways?
- Know your rights and obligations.

By TIMIR BARAN CHATTERJEE AND ANINDITA CHATTERJEE

By Timir Baran Chatterjee, B.Com., M.Com, FCS, ACMA, MBA(IIFT), MIIA(USA)
Chairman- Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Introduction:

The real estate sector is one of the most powerful sectors in the world. The real estate sector contributes 5 to 6 per cent of India's Gross Domestic Product (approx \$2.4 Trillion), generating the second largest employment to the country's economy. It is to be noted that the Indian real estate sector is expected to reach USD180 Billion by 2020 and therefore, it was the need of the hour to regularize/formalize (with the primary objective to protect the interest of the buyers/investors) the real estate sector in India as it is one of the most coveted sectors amongst investors. With the objective to secure the rights of customers/investors, the Central Government has enacted the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.

Prior to the above enactment of law, there was no dedicated statute to control and monitor the operation of the real estate sector.

What is RERA?

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 ("the Act") is an Act of the Parliament of India which aims to safeguard the buyers/investors and also targets to enhance investments in the real estate industry.

The Act promulgates establishment of Real Estate Regulatory Authority ("RERA") in each State of India for administration and regulation of the real estate sector. RERA acts as an adjudicating authority for speedy redressal of disputes.

The principal objectives to introduce the Act in India are as follows:

- To promote transparency and efficiency in the transaction of real estate projects (residential projects and commercial projects including shops, offices and buildings), creating a systematic and a uniform regulatory environment, thereby protecting consumers' interest and making real estate developers responsible for timely completion of projects;
- To establish the RERA as an adjudicating authority mechanism for faster settlement of disputes;
- To set up an Appellate Tribunal to hear appeals from the decisions, directions or orders of the RERA

Significance of registration of real estate projects

The Act mandates all commercial and residential real estate projects where the land is more than 500 square metres, or eight apartments, to register with RERA for launching a project with the objective to furnish transparency in project-marketing

and operation. Hence, before proceeding to book any property/properties the buyer must ensure to verify whether the Owner/Developer has the necessary registration with the RERA authority and ask for a copy of the registration certificate. In addition to the above, it is also the responsibility of the customer to verify if the information pertaining to the registration is mentioned in the Development Deed and Agreement to Sale.

Even real estate agents who facilitate selling or purchase of properties (i.e. property brokers) must take prior registration from RERA. Such agents will be issued a single registration number for each State or Union Territory, which must be quoted by the agent in every sale facilitated by him.

How the Act protects the Consumer's interest?

1. According to the provisions of the Act, every consumer has the legal right to obtain the following information about the real estate project:

- Sanctioned plan;
- Approved layout plan;
- Details of stage wise progress of the project;
- Carpet area; and
- Facilitation of basic amenities & services such as drinking water, electricity, sanitation etc.

2. A great benefit for consumers is that builders will have to quote prices based on carpet area and not super built-up area, while carpet area has been clearly defined in the Act to include usable spaces like kitchen and toilets.

Presently and as a matter of general practice, the property developers sell apartments mostly on the basis of covered area which includes common passage etc. However, on possession of the said apartment it is found that there is huge difference between covered area and net carpet area and it differs in every project. However, with the introduction of the new law, the customer would now know the exact information about the carpet size of the apartment at the time of booking the flat itself.

3. According to the provisions of the Act, the property builder is obligated to complete the construction of the property as per the date specified in the agreement of sale. In case the developer does not hand over the property by the date mentioned in the contract or if the registration granted by the Regulatory Authority has been suspended or revoked, the customer would have the following rights:

- (a) To withdraw from the project.
- (b) If the customer opts to withdraw from the project, he/she would have the right to be compensated for

the full amount paid till date along with interest. The customer gets this right as soon as the date has expired. The developer and/or builder is supposed to compensate the customer as soon as the customer makes the request, failing which complaint may be filed with the Regulatory Authority.

- (c) If the customer opts not to withdraw from the project, he/she would have the right to be compensated with interest for every month of delay. The exact interest amount will differ from State to State and depend on the State regulations issued.
- (d) If the builder or developer is not voluntarily compensating, the customer will have the right to file a complaint before the Regulatory Authority. Each State Regulatory Authority is required to appoint an officer who would perform the functions of a judge. The authority shall conduct an enquiry and accordingly pass an order.
- (e) The consumers can claim possession of the property and the association of consumers can collectively claim possession of the common areas as declared by the real estate developer at the time of signing of the contract.
- (f) Wherein, the real estate developer does not meet the timeline or does not deliver what was agreed then the consumer has the right to claim refund of amount paid with prescribed interest and compensation for the same.

What are the duties of a Consumer?

The consumers are also obligated to make payments on time to the real estate developer as per the agreement.

- (a) The customers are also obligated to make payment of the registration charges, municipal taxes, maintenance charges, ground rent, electricity charges, water supply charges etc.
- (b) Once the real estate developer furnishes the occupancy certificate, the consumer is required to take possession within two months.
- (c) The consumer is liable to pay prescribed interest if he/she does not make timely payments for the concerned purchase.
- (d) It is compulsory for a consumer to actively participate in the formation of an association, a consumer federal or any cooperative society.
- (e) A consumer must contribute towards the registration of the conveyance deed of the unit/units purchased.

Opening of an Escrow Account – A Great Saver to the consumer against siphoning of fund?

- (a) As per the provisions of the Act, a real estate developer is required to open an escrow account in a Government recognized bank.
- (b) In order to prevent misuse of funds collected from one project for business expansion, it is mandatory for the developer to deposit 70% of all collections in an escrow account maintained with a scheduled commercial bank. The real estate developer can use the funds solely for the purpose of the construction of the said project in proportion to the progress of construction. The request for withdrawal of the funds is to be certified by an engineer, architect or a chartered accountant. This will give relief to the consumers from the pain of project delays and will ensure them that their payments to the real estate developer are being used for the development of the project where he/she owns a unit/units.

It has been experienced in the past that many developers have diverted the fund collected from the project to different projects without handing over the project to the apartment owners.

How can an aggrieved Consumer register a complaint against a Real Estate Developer?

The Act mandates setting up of an Appellate Tribunal by every State Government within one year of the commencement of the Act.

The aggrieved consumer is required to approach the RERA in the case of disputes and the RERA will prescribe penalty or punishment by acknowledging the nature of the violation.

If in case the consumer is aggrieved by the decisions of the RERA or an adjudicating officer then he/she can appeal to the Appellate Tribunal. This establishment will enhance the process of dispute settlement because it minimizes the involvement of the existing judicial system. Further, if the consumer is not satisfied with the decision of the Appellate Tribunal then he/she can appeal in the High court within 60 days of receiving the decision.

How will the project be completed if the Real Estate Developer is revoked after the registration of the project?

RERA can consult the Government to employ a competent authority to complete the project.

NEWS FROM THE JIS GROUP



One Week MDP on “Quality Management System (TQM Level-1, World Class Manufacturing) By Joint venture of MSME & JISCE, Organized by Mechanical Engineering department from 8/1/18 to 12/1/18 was inaugurated by Mr. Simarpreet Singh , Director, JIS Group in presence of the Director, MSME, Kolkata, The Development Institute.



NEWS FROM THE JIS GROUP



School Teachers' Meet : Evolution 2018

Narula Institute of Technology organized a One day workshop titled Evolution 2018 on 2nd February, 2018 for the school teachers of different Government and private schools across the state. The programme had three unique sessions of which the first guest speaker was Prof. (Dr.) Asit Dutta, former Professor of C. U., whose talk was on Innovative teaching methodologies for school teachers. The second session was graced by a professional psychologist Ms. Smita Singh, who discussed on the topic of "Mental health issues of school children". The last session was a Panel Discussion on "How to motivate school children towards innovative projects", which was chaired by Prof. P.K.Banerjee (Advisor JIS group), Prof. S. K. Sanyal (former Professor of J. U.), Ms. Smita Singh, psychologist & Director of Aftercare, Mahima India and moderated by Mr. A. D. Gomes, Principal, St. Augustine School (Barrackpore).

A total of sixty school teachers from thirty two schools participated in the programme of which few names are:

Shyambazar A. V. School, Our Lady Queen of the Mission (Salt lake), Hooghly Collegiate School, H. M. Education Centre, Kalyani Public School, Secret Heart, Barrackpore Ramkrishna Mission etc. Prof. (Dr.) Asit Dutta discussed various innovative techniques of teaching which were simple yet effective and can be implemented both at school and college levels.

The lecture session by Ms. Smita Singh was very interactive and all the participants agreed on the fact that motivational classes should be an imperative part of the curriculum due to the rising complications among the present generation students. The last session of panel discussion was very engrossing and beneficial in the present context of education. Prof. Banerjee stressed on the fact that individual talent of each student should be nurtured at the grass root level itself, which should comprise of qualities apart from academics.

The session was appreciated by everyone and the house agreed that many such programmes should be organized in future as it is highly beneficial for the teaching fraternity.





Seminar on "**A Computer Aided Digital Controller Design (With Matlab and Simulink)**" was organized by Electrical Engineering Department on 05.02.2018 at JIS University Auditorium.

The topic was covered by honourable speaker **Dr. Siben Dasgupta, Professor of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Technology, Wentworth University, Boston.**





Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree Engineering College has organized a Principals' Meet 2018 on February 07, 2018 in their campus. Principals from various schools in and around Kolkata had participated in the program. The program was a panel discussion on the Theme **"Science as an Emerging Field of Higher Education 4.0"** Mr. Dibya Gopal Ghatak – Deputy Director, School Education, Govt of West Bengal was the Chief Guest. The panelists were Mr. Amiyo Ranjan Sanyal – Director – School Projects, JIS Group, Prof. Arun Baran Samaddar – Advisor, JIS Group, Prof. Malay Kumar Banerjee, Executive Director, Annex Group of Institutions, Prof. Shantanu Kumar Sen, Principal, Guru Nanak Institute of Technology, Maj. Gen. Souresh Bhattacharya - Secretary & Director General, The Institution of Engineers (India). All the principals have participated in an interactive session where they discussed various topics related to today's education scenario.

