



**from the desk of the
PRESIDENT**

Dear Member, 14 March, 2013

FY 2013-2014 will commence in a few days time. In the meanwhile, the economy has rolled on even as the Economic Survey and Union Budget 2013-14 have been announced. By now the Budget has been discussed, debated, dissected, lauded, criticized and commended by the pundits and the "aam jaanta". Everybody is looking towards RBI for its move on the much awaited interest rate cuts even though retail inflation continues to be high.

Overall, the Finance Minister has to be commended for doing a fine balancing act to revive growth by focusing on social sector spending and infrastructure, planned spending while increasing revenue earnings at the same time. However, there is not much tax relief given to the common man, contrary to expectations.

On the State front, the Finance Minister of West Bengal has also presented the State Budget. The Bengal Chamber's considered opinion is that the State Finance Minister has placed a people oriented budget, mostly focusing on social sector development especially health, mother & child care, education, SC/ST development. Though the Minister has increased VAT rates keeping in tune with rates prevalent in other development oriented States like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka & Maharashtra, he has also provided procedural reliefs by simplifying tax procedures and introducing amnesty schemes. The increase in VAT rates is likely to have cascading and all round inflationary effect on all commodities barring gold and silver, and looks as though it would be detrimental to the interest of trade and commerce for the State. However, the abolition and scrapping of purchase tax on works contracts and scrapping of stock registers maintainable for input tax credit will immensely benefit small and medium traders by bringing down transaction costs. Also, there is no specific guideline or proposal as to how industrial infrastructure could be taken forward to lend a further boost to the State's industrial growth, existing and future industries though some reliefs have been provided to the micro, small and medium enterprises.

We have received the draft Industrial Policy for the State from Prof. Saugata Roy, Hon'ble Member of Parliament. We are in touch with the competent authority from the Government and are eagerly awaiting the final version.

Budgets are always studies in contrasts. In all this, the economy and the economic agents have to continue in their task of producing and adding value to the economy. The Bengal Chamber, through its innumerable activities, as this edition of the newsletter would reveal, tries relentlessly to bring to board the issues of importance furthering the cause of Industry and Commerce. Our efforts to position West Bengal as a hub for overseas trading have resulted in our hosting a high profile Partnership Seminar with Eurasian Nations and our recent very successful delegation to Myanmar.

Sd/-
Kallol Datta
President

EVENTS AT 19th February 2013

Myriad Hues : An Art Exhibition organized by Notun Alo in association with Palladian Lounge. Her Excellency Smt. Padmini Narayanan inaugurated the exhibition along with renowned painter Sri. Laxma Gaud & Smt. Neeta Pachnanda.



22nd February 2013

A piano recital by Swiss Pianist Christina Harnisch in association with Calcutta School of Music. Eminent Painter Shri Sunil Das graced the occasion as chief guest.



THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

- Marketing Conclave on "The Changing Face of Brands", 16th March 2013, Chamber premises
- An Interactive session in association with Bandhan on "Right to Education" with Dr. Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee, Ford Foundation International Professor of Economics, MIT, 18th March 2013, The Palladian Lounge, Chamber premises
- Special Felicitation of Dr. Pradeep Ganguly, Senior Vice President, Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, 18th March 2013, The Palladian Lounge, Chamber premises
- Seminar on Direct Taxes, 21st March 2013, Chamber premises
- The Bengal Chamber and the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) partnering Jadavpur University in presenting the Lecture Series on Sustainability of Indian Energy Sector: Prospects and Challenges", Second Session: Lecture on "Solar Photovoltaics – Indian Scenario" by Prof. K. L. Chopra, Former Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; Founder, Thin Film Laboratory, IIT, Delhi, & Microscience Laboratory, IIT, Kharagpur, 22nd March 2013, K P Bose Auditorium, Jadavpur University Campus
- Interactive Session with Hon'ble Minister of ICT, Mauritius, 22nd March 2013, Chamber Premises
- Visit to Ram Krishna Mission Shilpamandir by the Skill Development Task Force, 23rd March 2013
- Interaction with Shri Sumit Bose, IAS, Revenue Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, 5th April 2013, Chamber premises
- Application of IT in Manufacturing - Bringing forward the best solutions, 12th April 2013, Chamber premises
- Seminar on Service Tax, 19th April 2013
- Seminar on IR in India - Shifting Paradigm, 20th April 2013, ITC Sonar
- Sunfeast Health and Lifestyle Quiz, 26th April 2013, Chamber premises
- The Bengal Chamber Annual Sit n Draw for Children (Theme: Sun, Earth & our Future), 27th April 2013, Chamber premises
- The Bengal Chamber Think Session with Ms. Laura Seldman, Beijing based Associate in the Nuclear Policy Program at Carnegie Endowment under the auspices of Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship (on Indo-Chinese strategic relation), 2nd May 2013, Chamber premises

PROGRAMMES

INDIA EURASIA BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP SEMINAR

14TH-15TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES



▲ Session 1: Opportunities of Investment & Trade with Eurasian Countries. From left : H.E. Mr. Doulat O. Kuanyshev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; H.E. Mr. Oleksandr Shevchenko, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Ukraine and Ms. Irina K. Bashkirova, Consul General (Kolkata), Consulate General of the Russian Federation

The Bengal Chamber with the support of Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, organized the “India-Eurasia Business Partnership Seminar” in Kolkata. India’s diplomatic ties with the Eurasian region are about 20 years

old. India enjoys a warm and growing relationship with these countries but the same is yet to be reflected in trade and business. Presently, trade with the Eurasian region stands at nearly 2% of India’s total trade. The region has vast potential with rich mineral resources and well developed agriculture sector. A recent market survey report shows that traditional and non-traditional products produced in the Eastern Region have good demand in the Eurasian market. These diversified products range from jute bags, textiles, small leather goods, tea, pharmaceuticals and herbal products, home decoratives, kitchen appliances, traditional handlooms, handicrafts and gift items to various engineering items used for infrastructure development, road construction machines, transmission line fittings, hospital equipment, chemicals and allied products. Besides, there is demand for IT sector and other services sectors.

The seminar was addressed by Mr. Ajay Bisaria IFS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Mr. Percy Siganporia, Former MD, Tata Global Beverages & Advisor, Tea Board; H.E. Mr. Doulat O. Kuanyshev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; H.E. Mr. Oleksandr Shevchenko, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Ukraine; Mr. Bakur Kvaratskhelia, Charge de Affairs, Embassy of Georgia; Ms. Irina K. Bashkirova, Consul General Kolkata, Consulate General of the Russian Federation; Mr. Toghrul Aliyev, Attaché of the Embassy for Economic Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan; Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Honorary Consul, Kolkata, Republic of Belarus and Mr. S K Ghosh Asst. General Manager, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd & Mr. Subhendu Ghosh, Sr. Manager, Asia Minerals India Pvt Ltd.



▲ Delegates who attended the India Eurasia Business Partnership Seminar



▲ Inaugural Session. From left : Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Percy Siganporia, Former MD, Tata Global Beverages Ltd. & Advisor, Tea Board; Dr. Alok Roy, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Ajay Bisaria, Joint Secretary (Eurasia), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



▲ All the dignitaries of the Seminar

18TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

**THE BENGAL CHAMBER SERVING HUMANITY FORUM PRESENTS
A WORKSHOP ON "ROAD EMERGENCIES AND OUR RESPONSE" ON
THE OCCASION OF WORLD CSR DAY 2013**

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry instituted an annual "Serving Humanity Forum" on the occasion of World CSR Day on 18th February 2012. The inaugural edition of our "Serving Humanity Forum" witnessed a Panel Discussion on "Swami Vivekananda: His ideals for a sustainable India". This year too, the committee organized a workshop on "Road Emergencies and our Response" on the occasion of the World CSR Day, on Monday, 18th February 2013 from 11.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in the Chamber premises.

The workshop had been designed to address road emergency issues and the human factor – guidelines to tackle emergencies without fear, assessing Kolkata's preparedness to mitigate road emergencies, critical emergency care, trauma care and risk and emergency services.

The workshop was addressed by Shri Madan Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Departments of Sports and Transport, Government of West Bengal, Shri D Sengupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Shri Gautam Gupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic among others. The noted neurosurgeon and Chairman, Institute of Neurosciences, Kolkata, Dr. R P Sengupta, Dr. Alok Roy, Senior Vice President of the Chamber and Chairman, Medica Hospitals, Ms. Manjula Singh and Mr. Sudip Bhattacharyya of Karma (the trauma care unit run by Medica and Kolkata Police) were the other eminent speakers. The programme was attended by over sixty delegates representing the civil society, corporates and the media. The Chamber would prepare a note on recommendations arising from the deliberations and present the same to appropriate authorities.



◀ (L-R) Mr. P. Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber during his welcome address along with Dr. Alok Roy, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Shri Gautam Gupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Kolkata Police; Shri D. Sengupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Kolkata Police; Dr. R P Sengupta, Chairman, Institute of Neurosciences, Kolkata; Shri R. Chamaria, Chairman, CSR Committee, Bengal Chamber



▲ Dr. Alok Roy, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber during his special address



▲ Mr. Ravindra Chamaria, Chairman, CSR Committee of the Bengal Chamber delivering the theme address



▲ Shri D Sengupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Kolkata Police



▲ Shri Gautam Gupta, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Kolkata Police



▲ Mr. Samiran Sen, Director, Bengal CES Infratech Pvt. Ltd., during his address



▲ At the dais, Dr. R P Sengupta, Chairman, Institute of Neurosciences, Kolkata



▶ (L-R) Mr. P. Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Shri Madan Mitra, Minister-in-Charge, Departments of Sports and Transport, Government of West Bengal and Mr. Kallol Datta, President, The Bengal Chamber during the press meet



▲ Section of the audience

18TH FEBRUARY 2013,
THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE, CHAMBER PREMISES

THE BENGAL CHAMBER "THINK..." SESSION WITH PROF. (DR.) BIKASH SINHA, HOMI BHABHA PROFESSOR, DEPT. OF ATOMIC ENERGY AT VECC AND FORMER DIRECTOR, SAHA INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS & VARIABLE ENERGY CYCLOTRON CENTRE – "MEETING THE GROWING CLEAN ENERGY NEEDS OF INDIA – A NEW PARADIGM FOR PROSPERITY"

The Bengal Chamber, along with Ballantines, The Telegraph, Chakra Group and Anderson Printing presented another edition of its "Think" Lecture Series with Dr. Bikash Sinha presenting a talk on "Meeting the Growing Clean Energy Needs of India – a new paradigm for Prosperity" at The Bengal Chamber on February 18, 2013.

Dr. Sinha highlighted the grim reality of climate change, and touched upon inconvenient truths while delivering his lecture. Dr Sinha, a Former Director of Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics is a strong advocate of Solar Energy, but is realistic enough to stress the need for an energy mix. He reiterated his belief that there had to be a mix of Solar as well as Nuclear Energy to

PROGRAMMES

THE BENGAL CHAMBER "THINK..." SESSION WITH PROF. (DR) BIKASH SINHA, HOMI BHABHA PROFESSOR, DEPT. OF ATOMIC ENERGY AT VECC AND FORMER DIRECTOR, SAHA INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS & VARIABLE ENERGY CYCLOTRON CENTRE – "MEETING THE GROWING CLEAN ENERGY NEEDS OF INDIA – A NEW PARADIGM FOR PROSPERITY"

18TH FEBRUARY 2013,
THE PALLADIAN LOUNGE, CHAMBER PREMISES

fuel our development. Talking about the global energy usage, Dr. Sinha pointed out that the US consumes about 48 times the energy consumed by Bangladesh. According to him, one felt very opulent if one consumed

more energy. In his deliberations, he also drove home the point of the fate that awaits us all in this world if we do not reduce our dependence on the fast depleting Fossil Fuels.



▲ Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber, delivers the Welcome Address



▶ Mr. Arun Kumar Mukherjee, Chairperson, Energy & Environment Committee, The Bengal Chamber, presents a memento on behalf of The Bengal Chamber to Dr Sinha

◀ A section of the audience during the Q&A Session



BCCI DELEGATION TO MYANMAR

20TH – 23RD FEBRUARY 2013,
YANGON, NPT, MANDALAY

India – Myanmar relationship has always been very cordial. In recent times, Myanmar's announcement of democracy and post election in 2010, India's association with Myanmar has become more crucial from political and bilateral trade and investment angle. To boost up this union between the two countries Dr Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of India also visited Myanmar in 2011 and post PM's visit Myanmar has become one of the most attractive destinations for Indian companies for foreign trade and investment. The bilateral trade volume has increased from USD 1.206 billion in 2009/2010 to USD 1.371 billion in 2011-2012. In the list of foreign investment of existing enterprises in Myanmar, India ranks 9th among 21 countries with an investment of USD 209 million in 7 projects; however this is far short of the actual potential.

BCCI organized, with the help of Indian Embassy in Yangon and Consulate General of India, Mandalay a 16 member delegation to Myanmar to understand the opportunities available there for Indian companies especially from the Eastern Region for trade and investments in Myanmar. The delegation was led by Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik, Chairman, BCCI Skill Development Task Force and also Regional President (East) & National Board Member National HRD Network. The other members of the delegation included Mr. C S Ghosh, CMD, Bandhan Financial Services, Ms Arpita Sen, Asst. GM, Bandhan Financial Services, Mr. A K Nandi, President, McNally Bharat Engg Co Ltd, Mr. Subir Bose, Director, Berger Paints Ltd, Mrs Reshma Kaur, National Business Development Manager & Alternative Director, Berger Paints Ltd, Mr. Kanwardip Singh Dhingra, National Business Development Manager- Industrial Business Line & Alternative Director, Berger Paints Ltd, Mr. Gautam Ghosh, ED, Klystron Electronics Pvt Ltd, Mr. Subhendu Moitra, VP, SBI Capital Markets, Mr. Inderjeet Singh Gill, Regional Manager-South & South East Asia, Roughton International Ltd (UK), Mr. Venkata Krishna Adavi, Regional Manager-South & South East Asia, Roughton International Ltd (UK), Mr. Vishal Kapoor, Director, UGI Engineering Works Pvt Ltd, Mr. S Chakraborti, VP-Marketing, UGI Engineering Works Pvt Ltd, Mr. O P Agarwal, President, Rukhma Investment & Finance Pvt Ltd & Ms. Ivy Majumder, Deputy Director, BCCI.

The delegation visited UMFCCI in Yangon to discuss with the senior office bearers of the Chamber the business scenario of Myanmar and it was followed by a B2B meeting. The welcome address was given by Mr. Aung Lwin, Vice President, UMFCCI. During his speech he had mentioned BCCI and UMFCCI's association was established by a MoU in 1996 and since then both the Chambers are facilitating bilateral trade and investment in both the countries. He also briefed the delegation about Myanmar which has primarily an agro-based economy. However the government in order to build an industrially developed prosperous country in the shortest time

frame possible was implementing plans to develop the industrial sector simultaneously along with the priority agricultural sector. It had promulgated SEZ laws and Dawei deep sea port laws. The old foreign investment law had been revised and re-written in order to be more investment friendly for foreign investors. The new foreign investment law was enacted on 2nd November 2012 and its rules and regulations on 31st January 2013. He also mentioned that new SEZ laws, the Dawei Deep Seaport Law and the changes introduced in the foreign investment law had paved the way for increased participation of foreign investors. There are vast opportunities for trading and investment in the industrial sector particularly in developing value added production industries for food, agro products, labour intensive industries, resource based industries and others.

The delegation also visited Nei Pyi Taw, the capital city of Myanmar and met H.E Dr. Pwint San, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Commerce, H.E Mr. Aye Myint, Hon'ble Minister of Industry and H.E Mr. Kyaw Lwin, Hon'ble Minister of Construction to discuss the opportunities of bilateral trade & Investment policies in Myanmar. The Union Ministers gladly welcomed the delegation and requested them to send their proposals to the concerned department for the evaluations. The ministers also nominated the nodal officers from the Ministry to handle BCCI's proposals. The Industry Minister emphasised on skill development based investments in Myanmar from India and also requested the delegation and BCCI to submit some innovative proposals. Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik proposed an advanced workshop to train Ministry of Construction officials to upgrade the assessment skills of the officials for better town planning, architectural design, technical knowhow, funding criteria etc which the Minister happily accepted and requested for a comprehensive proposal. The delegation also met H.E Dr. V S Seshadri, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, who kindly briefed the delegation about the possible business opportunities in Myanmar.

The delegation's final destination was Mandalay where the Indian delegates got the opportunity to meet H E Mr. Aung Moun, Hon'ble Mayor of Mandalay & Minister for Development Affairs of Mandalay Region. HE Mr. Aung Moun welcomed the delegation and also assured to provide all kinds of support for investment in the Mandalay Region. Consulate General of India, Mandalay organised a seminar with Mandalay Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Monywa Chamber of Commerce in Mandalay which was addressed by H.E. Dr. Myint Kyu, Minister of Electricity and Industry, Mandalay Region Govt & H.E. U Than Htike, Minister of Forestry, Mining & Energy, Sagaing Region Govt. The Bengal Chamber also signed 2 MoUs with Mandalay Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Monywa Chamber of Commerce. The BCCI hosted a Dinner at Mandalay for the local delegates and Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi, Consul General of India also joined the Dinner.

20TH - 23RD FEBRUARY 2013,
YANGON, NPT, MANDALAY

BCCI DELEGATION TO MYANMAR



▲ Mr. Aung Lwin, VP, UMFCFI addressing the BCCI Delegation



▲ Indian Delegation at UMFCFI, Yangon



▲ B2B meeting at UMFCFI, Yangon



▲ B2B meeting at UMFCFI, Yangon



▲ B2B meeting at UMFCFI, Yangon



▲ Meeting with Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of Myanmar in NPT



▲ Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik presenting a memento to H E Dr. Pwint San, Union Deputy Minister of Commerce, Myanmar in NPT



▲ BCCI Delegation with H.E Dr Pwint San, Deputy Minister of Commerce, Myanmar



▲ BCCI Delegation with H.E Mr. Aye Myint, Union Minister of Industry, Myanmar



▲ Meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Industry and other senior officials of the department



▲ Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik presenting a BCCI memento to H.E Mr. Aye Myint, Union Minister of Industry, Myanmar in NPT



▲ Meeting with H E Mr. Kyaw Lwin, Union Minister of Construction & Department officials in NPT



▲ BCCI Delegation with the Union Minister of Construction, Myanmar



▲ Meeting with H.E Dr V S Seshadri, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar



▲ Mr. Sourav Daspatnaik presenting a BCCI memento to the Indian Ambassador

PROGRAMMES

BCCI DELEGATION TO MYANMAR

20TH - 23RD FEBRUARY 2013,
YANGON, NPT, MANDALAY



▲ Meeting with H.E Aung Moun, Hon'ble Mayor & Minister for Development Affairs of the Mandalay Region



▲ Ms. Ivy Majumder & Mr. O P Agarwal presenting a BCCI memento to Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi, CGI, Mandalay



▲ The delegation with the Mayor of Mandalay



▲ H.E Dr. Myint Kya, Minister of Electricity & Industry, Mandalay Region addressing the BCCI Seminar in Mandalay



▲ Delegates attending the BCCI Seminar in Mandalay



▲ Mr. Subir Bose, Director, Berger Paints addressing the Seminar at Mandalay



▲ Mr. Gautam Ghosh, ED, Klystron Electronics addressing the Seminar at Mandalay



▲ MOU Signed between BCCI & Mandalay Chamber



▲ MOU signed between BCCI & Monywa Chamber



MEMBERS' NEWS CORNER

Welcome to the Bengal Chamber family! That's what we would like to convey to Batanagar Institute of Engineering, Management and Science and Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited whose

applications for membership were tabled and approved by the Managing Committee at its meeting on 21st February 2013.

21ST FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

INTERACTION WITH SHRI RAJIVA SINHA, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF MICRO AND SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISES AND TEXTILES, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Shri Rajiva Sinha, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Micro and Small Scale Enterprises & Textiles, Government of West Bengal was present at the Managing Committee meeting held on 21st February. He observed that the State Government was willing to work closely with the Industry. There existed a "Trust Deficit" factor and the Industry Bodies should come forward to bridge this gap. Within the fixed policy framework there were a lot to explore if the Government and the Industry partnered each other. Industry should not become too much dependent on Policy and Subsidies. This Donor and Recipients relationship becomes a stumbling block for growth. Instead, Industry should come forward as one and come up with solid plans so that the State Government can take necessary action on an

urgent basis. He also mentioned that the growth of the Industry could only happen when Industry, the Department of Micro and Small Scale Enterprises & Textiles and Department of Commerce and Industries combined together and considered it as joint initiative. There was also a serious concern regarding skill development of not less than one million unskilled labour and Industry should advise various strategies to meet this demand. Shri Sinha has also recommended that Knowledge Development, Skill Development and Cluster Development were three pillars for sustainable growth. The State Government was willing to take any advice, take necessary actions and formulate plans if there was a proper identification of 5 clusters in the State with identified investors and viable projects.

22ND FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

**APPLICATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION :
BUSINESS SESSION AND EXPOSITION**



▲ Audience at the B2B meet

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with Lemenz organized a B2B meet, 'Application of Information Technology in Education – Business Session & Exposition' on 22nd February, 2013 at The Palladian Lounge. It was

sponsored by Falcon Industries India Ltd, Famocom, Innoraft Solutions Pvt Ltd, Ray Computech, Modular Infotech Pvt Ltd, Indusnet Technologies, Karmick Solutions and Srana Consulting. This programme, a part of a series of such initiatives providing a B2B platform for IT companies with identified sectors, had been organized to know from the sponsors, who were the IT solutions providers, the best-in-class IT products tailor-made for the

Education sector. The sponsors made presentations of their products that were being increasingly used in Education in place of the now dated terms like Education Technology; Computer based education and Technology-Enhanced Learning. Different administrative modules that could be used in schools, colleges and institutions were also showcased by the sponsors.



▲ Sponsor – Srana Consulting

The product presentation was followed by networking cocktails. The B2B meet was a resounding success and was attended by faculty members, administrative heads of different schools, colleges and institutes of Kolkata and around.



▲ Product presentation by a Sponsor



▲ Product presentation by a Sponsor



▲ Networking Cocktails

23RD FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

ANNUAL BENGAL CHAMBER IT QUIZ

The Information Technology Committee of The Bengal Chamber organized the fourth edition of the annual Bengal Chamber IT Quiz on 23rd February in the Chamber.



▲ During the preliminary round. Mr. Charanpreet Singh, QM conducting the Quiz

Over forty teams participated from corporates, colleges and regular quizzers of the city. Mr. Charanpreet Singh was the Quiz Master.

While the theme for the Quiz was 'IT', the questions covered a wide spectrum of interest areas — with each question having an IT angle but not necessarily technically oriented to IT technical issues/processes. This quiz has a unique positioning of its own - a little

away from the more familiar general and business quizzes, which makes it all the more interesting and enjoyable.



▲ During the Final Round

The finalists included teams from mJunction, SAIL, ITC Infotech, TCS and two mixed teams of quizzers – Technologically Challenged and Trivia Unlimited. The Winners were Trivia Unlimited and the 1st Runners Up and 2nd Runners Up were Technologically Challenged and TCS respectively.

The programme was graced by Shri Hirak N Sengupta, Chairman, WEBEL.

PROGRAMMES

ANNUAL BENGAL CHAMBER IT QUIZ

**23RD FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES**



▲ Audience winning prize



▲ Winners receiving the trophy



▲ The finalists with the QM and his team. Dr. Suryanil Ghosh, Key resourceperson, IT Committee, The Bengal; Co-founder and Chief Mentor, TotalinX India is also on the stage (third from the left)

ADDA ON "FELUDA-R-SATHE"

**25TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

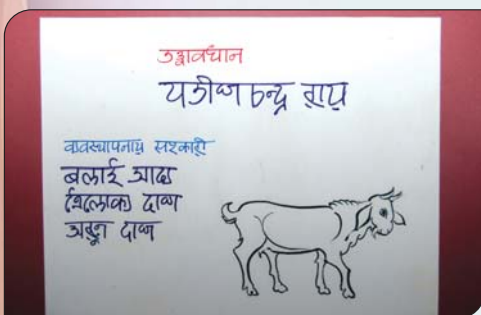
Continuing our tradition of paying homage to and remembering the legend Satyajit Ray, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ananya Onnomon organized an adda session with the director and leading actors of the Feluda movie series. The programme, "Feluda-r-Sathe" organized on 25th February 2013 at the Williamson Magor Hall of the Chamber, was the third such programme following similar adda sessions organized with the leading actresses and actors of the films by the maestro in 2010 and 2012.

Shri Soumitra Chattopadhyay, Shri Sandip Ray, Shri Sabyasachi Chakraborty and Shri Shaheb Bhattacharya were the panelists. Shri Saswata Chatterjee and Shri Siddhartha Chatterjee also shared their views through individual audio recordings. Shri Barun Chanda hosted the panel discussion as the moderator and anchor. The programme was an informal discussion, in the mood of an "adda", with the panelists being the leading actors of the "Feluda" movies. The panelists shared their anecdotes and experiences of working with the maestro and recounted some of the many memories of their days in Ray films.

The programme was attended by over 250 invitees and went on for over 2 hours. The audience was enthralled, to say the least, to hear from the legendary actors and Shri Sandip Ray about how they used to prepare for Ray's films, their interactions with Satyajit Ray and their countless experiences and stories from those days as well as their experiences in the context of the film industry in general. The programme was extensively covered by members of the media.



▲ (L-R) Shri Sandip Ray, Shri Soumitra Chattopadhyay, Shri Sabyasachi Chakraborty, Shri Barun Chanda and Shri Shaheb Bhattacharya on the dais



▲ Sketch drawn by Satyajit Ray, shared by Shri Sandip Ray during the adda



▲ Panelists and their family members along with the audience



▲ Panelists seated with the audience



▲ Mr. P. Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry during his welcome address



▲ Dr Shanta Sen, Secretary, Ananya Onnomon, during her welcome note



▲ Mrs. Anubha Roy welcoming Shri Soumitra Chattopadhyay

25TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

ADDA ON "FELUDA-R-SATHE"



▲ (L-R) Shri Soumitra Chattopadhyay, Shri Sandip Ray and Shri Barun Chanda during the adda



▲ During the adda



▲ Section of audience along with Shri Madan Mitra, Minister-in-Charge, Departments of Sports and Transport, Government of West Bengal



▲ Hon'ble Minister presenting memento to Shri Soumitra Chattopadhyay



◀ Dr. Alok Roy, Senior Vice President, The Bengal Chamber, presenting a memento to the Hon'ble Minister, Shri Madan Mitra



▲ Section of the audience

Interaction between the audience and the panelists

28TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

UNION BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the Union Budget Viewing Session on 28th February 2013 in the Chamber. Senior members and invitees attended the Session and viewed the Budget speech of the FM, which was followed by an interaction with the media. Members of the electronic and print media covered the programme. They took interviews and bytes of Mr. Kallol Datta, President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber and other senior members, invitees and experts present. Mr. P K Choudhury, Chairman and Group CEO, ICRA Limited; Mr. Kamal Parekh, Director, Stewart Securities Ltd; Dr. Barsha Khattry, Former Economic Adviser to the UNDP and Columnist, The Independent and Mr. T.B. Chatterjee (Chairperson, Indirect Taxes Committee, The Bengal Chamber), Senior Executive Vice President & Company Secretary, DIC India Limited were among the invitees present.



◀ Budget Viewing in progress



◀ Budget Viewing in progress

▶ Mr. Kallol Datta, President, The Bengal Chamber being interviewed by the media



PROGRAMMES

UNION BUDGET VIEWING SESSION

28TH FEBRUARY 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES



▲ Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Vice President, The Bengal Chamber addressing the media. Mr. Kallol Datta and Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber (R-L) are seated beside him



▲ Media Set Up



▲ Discussion in progress on Chamber's reaction on the Budget

POST BUDGET SEMINAR ON "UNION BUDGET 2013-14: A THOROUGH ANALYSIS" WITH KPMG

1ST MARCH 2013,
OBEROI GRAND, KOLKATA

KPMG and The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a post budget seminar – "Union Budget 2013 – A Thorough Analysis" on 1st March 2013 at the Oberoi Grand, Kolkata.

Dr. Abhirup Sarkar, Professor, Economic Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute and Mr. Rajive Kaul, Chairman & Managing Director, Nicco Corporation Limited addressed the Inaugural Session and spoke on the Economist's and CEO's Perspectives, respectively. Mr. Girish Vanvari, Co-Head Tax, KPMG (India); Mr. Manish Kapur, Partner, KPMG (India); Mr. Asrujit Mandal, Director, KPMG (India) and Mr. Pratik Jain, Partner; KPMG

(India) addressed the technical session on direct and indirect taxation. The technical session was followed by Panel Discussion and Sectoral Perspectives. Mr. Pallav Gupta, Head –Taxation, ITC Ltd. addressed issued related to Direct Tax. The other panelists were Mr. Harsh Vardhan Patodia, President CREDAI Bengal and Managing Director, Heritage Realty Group of Companies; Mr. Naresh Pachisia, Managing Director, SKP Securities, Mr. Saud Siddique, Joint Managing Director, SREI Infrastructure Finance Limited and Mr. Sumit Mazumder, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Limited. Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber moderated the discussions.



▲ L-R : Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Partner and Head Management Consulting and Eastern Regional Leader, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd. and Vice President, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Rajive Kaul, Chairman & Managing Director, Nicco Corporation Limited; Dr. Abhirup Sarkar, Professor, Economic Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute and Mr. Kallol Datta, President, The Bengal Chamber



▲ Mr. Kallol Datta delivering the Welcome Address



▲ The audience



▲ During the Technical Session. Speakers from KPMG (India) (L-R): Mr. Girish Vanvari, Co-Head Tax; Mr. Asrujit Mandal, Director and Mr. Pratik Jain, Partner

▲ Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta delivering the Vote of Thanks



▲ During the Panel Discussion. (L-R): Mr. Naresh Pachisia, Managing Director, SKP Securities; Mr. Harsh Vardhan Patodia, President CREDAI Bengal and Managing Director, Heritage Realty Group of Companies; Mr. Saud Siddique, Joint Managing Director, SREI Infrastructure Finance Limited; Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Sumit Mazumder, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, TIL Limited and Mr. Pallav Gupta, Head- Taxation, ITC Ltd

THE BENGAL CHAMBER SUPPORTED THE "CEO KNOWLEDGE FORUM" BY ICICI BANK

2ND MARCH 2013,
THE PARK

INTERACTIVE SESSION ON "INDO-DUTCH BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP: ROAD AHEAD" WITH MR. CEES BANSEMA, DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION, EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

4TH MARCH 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES

The Bengal Chamber organised an interactive session with Mr. Cees Bansema, Deputy Head of the Mission along with Ms. Maya Acharya, Senior Advisor-

Trade & Infrastructure of Embassy of The Kingdom of The Netherlands on 4th of March, 2013. Mr. Namit Shah, Hony. Consul of The Netherlands,

**4TH MARCH 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

**INTERACTIVE SESSION ON “INDO-DUTCH BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP:
ROAD AHEAD” WITH MR. CEES BANSEMA, DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION,
EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS**

Kolkata also participated in the interaction. Senior industry players from infrastructure, agriculture, and shipping joined this interactive session and discussed various opportunities for doing business in The Kingdom of The

Netherlands. Around 15 high profile delegates actively participated in this interactive session.



▲ L-R: Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber; Mr. Cees Bansema, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of The Kingdom of The Netherlands and Mr. Namit Shah, Hony. Consul of The Netherlands, Kolkata



▲ Mr. P Roy, Director General, The Bengal Chamber presenting mementos to Mr. Cees Bansema, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of The Kingdom of The Netherlands and Mr. Namit Shah, Hony. Consul of The Netherlands, Kolkata



▲ Delegates present at the Interactive Session

**5TH MARCH 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

B2B MEET WITH OPTURION AND QRIS ANALYTICS

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a business meeting with Opturion (Australia) and Qris Analytics on Tuesday, 5th March 2013 in the Chamber premises.

Hari Machines Pvt Ltd, Seahorse Ship Agencies Pvt. Limited, Marine Container Services India Pvt Ltd, Tide Water Oil Ltd and senior Shipping Industry professionals were some of the Indian companies attending the exclusive B2B Meeting. Ms. Anuradha Ray (CEO, QA), Mr. Steven Godinho (MD, Genix Ventures, Australia) and Mr. Mark Wallace (CEO, Opturion) conducted a presentation on Optimization Applications for Projects in Shipping, Logistics, Manufacturing, Energy and Infrastructure sectors.



◀ Mr. Mark Wallace (CEO, Opturion) making the presentation

▶ The meeting in progress



**7TH MARCH 2013,
CHAMBER PREMISES**

CONSUMER OUTREACH PROGRAMME WITH TRAI

The Bengal Chamber organized an interactive session titled Consumer Outreach Programme (initiatives taken by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to protect interests of telecom consumers) with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 7th March, 2013 at WM Hall in the Chamber Premises.

Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, IAS, Principal Secretary, Consumer Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Ms. Anuradha Mitra, Principal Advisor (F&EA), TRAI, New Delhi also joined this interactive session from the Head Office of TRAI. Ms. R Paul Choudhury, Advisor, TRAI, Kolkata coordinated the entire event. Various Telecom Service Providers and consumers were present at this session. This programme was an initiative of TRAI to reach out to telecom consumers and other stakeholders of the telecom industry. It was intended to create awareness among telecom consumers and other stakeholders about various initiatives taken by TRAI in the recent times to protect interests of telecom consumers and also intended to provide a platform for direct interaction among the stakeholders of the industry regarding various consumer centric initiatives of TRAI. Retail consumers discussed the various problems faced by them and TRAI explained the ways of dealing with their problems. In many of the cases, service providers had actively tried to address the issues from their end. Around 100 participants including senior officials from TRAI, Telecom Service Providers and Retail Customers actively participated in this interactive session.



Senior officials from TRAI, Telecom Service Providers and Retail Customers actively participated in this interactive session.

NEWS FROM THE JIS GROUP

AICTE Sponsored National Seminar Organized by Department of Food Technology of GNIT, JIS Group

A two-day AICTE sponsored National Seminar on Recent Advances in the Development of Natural Antioxidants was organized by Department of Food Technology, GuruNanak Institute of Technology on 12th&13th March 2013. The key substance i.e. antioxidant is a chemical agent or marker which delays or prevents or inhibits the auto oxidation reaction of food lipids. The safety of using synthetic antioxidants like butylated hydroxy toluene (BHT), butylated hydroxy anisole (BHA), propyl gallate (PG), tertiary butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ) etc. to maintain the qualitative improvement of processed foods has resulted towards seeking natural alternatives extracted from plant sources because of their potential negative health effects and as a result of consumer demand. Natural antioxidants play a significant role in protecting cardiovascular diseases, Alzheimer, Parkinson's disease, cancer etc. The prime objective of the National Seminar is to find the protective mechanism against oxidative damage of food materials and qualitative deterioration as well and enrich the knowledge of the scientists, researchers and students, participating regard so many eminent professors, distinguished scientists from leading academic institutions e.g. IIT, their research outputs on antioxidant potentials, their activity determination, mechanism of action, health beneficial effects etc. Such type of discussions also helps the food processing industries to think over the applicability and effectiveness of suitable natural counterparts for the enhancement of shelf stability and keeping quality of food commodities.



from different academic institutions. In this J.U, BESU, W.B.A.U.F.S, BHU etc. shared

Gurunanak Institute of Hotel Management receiving Education Excellence Award - 2013

Gurunanak Institute of Hotel Management is the one and only Hotel Management college in West Bengal which received Education Excellence Award - 2013 by world Famous One Planet Research, an Indo Italian Company, and being selected as Best Management Institute in West Bengal. The survey was based on placement, infrastructure, alumni satisfaction and other bench marks.

We are proud that only Gurunanak Institute of Hotel management have been chosen for this award.



Visit of Japanese chefs in India

Three famous Japanese chefs Jinsuke Mizuno (wrote 32 titles of books about Curry), Shinichiro Noanchi, and Yoshimi Nain, along with Mr. Bharat

Mehta, Director of Anan Co. Ltd, Japan vigorously searched one finest Indian Hotel Management college to learn India's Special and popular dishes, and identified Gurunanak Institute of Hotel Management (Kolkata). These Japanese chefs are not only popular in Japan but also through out the world. They picked only Gurunanak Institute of Hotel Management to learn Indian Dishes, and we are proud of it. They visited the campus and they were amazed to see our high quality infrastructure and teaching staffs. They came here to learn Dab chingri, Fish paturi, Elish paturi, and many more Indian speciality dishes at Gurunanak Institute of Hotel Management.



AICTE Sponsored National Seminar Organized by Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering of GNIT, JIS Group

Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, of GURU NANAK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (GNIT) has successfully completed a National Seminar on "Security Aspects in Modern Communication System" (NSSAMCS-2013) during March 5-6, 2013 at GNIT Campus. The seminar was sponsored by All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) and partly financed by Managing Trustees of JIS group of Educational Trust.

The Seminar was attended by 45 faculty members and 200 students from various engineering colleges of West Bengal and other states.

The Seminar was graced by Prof Asit Guha, Director of the JIS group as Chief Guest, Mr U. S. Mukherjee Dy. Director, JIS Group, and other delegates from different engineering Colleges. Seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Guha after welcome address by Prof, Sisir .K Das, Dean- Research and Administration .Prof Annapurna. Das, Principal of GNIT explained the needs of seminar and the importance of security in communication system. The inaugural session was ended with the vote of thanks to the gathering by Dr. Arun K. Mondal, HOD,ECE GNIT.

The invited lectures were given by Prof.G. Ghosh of Radio Physics and Electronics, C.U and Prof Jaya Sil , BESU and shared their experience on security systems in communication. Around 34 numbers of papers have been presented by the different authors. The seminar was concluded by the Valedictory session and certificate distribution.



JIS Group Educational Initiatives joins hands with Volkswagen Group to set up Volkswagen Group Academy

Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree Engineering College (a unit of JIS Group Educational Initiatives) had collaborated with Volkswagen Group (India), one of the world's largest car-makers, for setting up its Volkswagen Group Academy, Sales & Service, East Region.

Said Mr. Taranjit Singh (MD, JIS Group), "The Academy would specialize in training. It is over an area of 6000 sq. ft. with practice area, classrooms and other office areas."



Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Dietmar Hildebrandt (Director, Volkswagen Group) said, "The Academy will provide technical and non-technical training solutions to the company's service brands and the channel partners. The academy houses two classrooms for theory sessions and has two practice areas where practical sessions would be conducted. The academy has facilities to train around 1,000 participants every year, who would be provided training for over 2-10 days. Training would be imparted in many areas which include sales, after-sales, soft skills, IT, mechatronics, skill contests and skill mapping. This academy would act as the main centre for all the training programmes conducted by the Volkswagen Group in the Eastern part of India."

Dr. Alok Kumar Das (Director, JIS Group) said: "In the automotive industry, Volkswagen is the third largest in the world. Volkswagen has set up a full-fledged Group Service Training Academy in the Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree



Engineering College campus, which will enhance the quality of automobile engineers graduating from it. Industry-oriented education and training are the primary focus of all Colleges under JIS Group."

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2nd Sardar Jodh Singh Trophy, the Annual Cricket Tournament for Employees

2nd Sardar Jodh Singh Trophy, the Annual Cricket Tournament for Employees, took place from 25th – 28th February, 2013 at JIS College of Engineering. This intra JIS Group Educational Initiatives tournament showcased the participation of enthusiastic employees of twelve colleges under JIS Group. It reflected moments of competition, enjoyment, sportsman spirit and last but not the least, unity, not only amongst the employees but also amongst the students, who were applauding and cheering for their respective colleges and professors. This four day tournament was a success with the host college winning the tournament for two consecutive years and Narula Institute of Technology being the runner's up. The tournament ended at a momentous note as Sardar Jodh Singh, Chairman, JIS Group, was present during the finals and congratulated and awarded the winners.



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